

biography

ANDREAS HAEFLIGER – PIANIST



“Unlike many virtuosos, Haefliger is a musician first and pianist second... Andreas Haefliger is a pianist to watch. More importantly, he is a pianist to listen to.” *Chicago Tribune*

Andreas Haefliger was born into a distinguished musical family and grew up in Switzerland, going on to study at the Juilliard School in New York. With his formidable technique and musicality, and his innate sense of architecture and phrasing, he was quickly recognised as a pianist of the first rank. Engagements with major US orchestras followed swiftly – the New York Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Pittsburgh, Chicago and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestras among them. In his native Europe too, Haefliger was invited and continues to return to the great orchestras and festivals – such as the Royal Concertgebouw, Rotterdam Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Budapest Festival Orchestra, Deutsche Symphonie Orchester Berlin, Orchestre de Paris, London Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra and Vienna Symphony. He also established himself as a superb recitalist, making his New York debut in 1988, and became frequent performer at premier recital venues and festivals around the world, notably the Lucerne and Salzburg Festivals, the BBC Proms and the Wiener Festwochen.

As a recitalist and chamber musician, Haefliger excels in finding the most immediate expression. He was described in the *Guardian* after a recent recital at the Wigmore Hall as “...one to take risks, which make him a fascinating artist”, and in an earlier review in the *Independent*, “there seems to be no limit to the resources of Haefliger’s touch”. The Wigmore Hall has also presented Haefliger in a three-part series of recitals together with the baritone Matthias Goerne, The Takacs Quartet, Marina Piccinini and the Safri Duo. Further to this, Haefliger has performed a series of recitals in New York, London and Milan, with his late father, the great tenor Ernst Haefliger, in Schubert’s *Die Winterreise*. In recent years Andreas Haefliger has collaborated with the Carmina Quartet, Wolfgang Holzmair, Matthias Goerne and his wife, flautist Marina Piccinini.

Highlights of 2007 and 2008 include appearances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Esa-Pekka Salonen playing Beethoven’s *Emperor* Piano Concerto no. 5, and with the Philharmonia Orchestra and Christoph von Dohnyanyi at the Royal Festival Hall in London playing Beethoven’s Piano Concerto no. 3, a work which he will also perform at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam with the Dutch Radio Philharmonie. He also performs Mozart with the Dallas Symphony, Atlanta Symphony and Milwaukee Symphony, Bartok’s Piano Concerto no. 3 with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Louis Langree, as well as concerts with the Konzerthaus Orchester Berlin, Minnesota Orchestra, Malaysian Philharmonic and Singapore Symphony.

The focus of Haefliger’s recital appearances in recent years has been an ongoing series *Perspectives on Beethoven* in which he performs the complete piano works of Beethoven alongside the music of related composers including Mozart, Bartók, Brahms, Janáček, Schoenberg and Ligeti. The recitals are being recorded for the Avie label, and forthcoming performances include at the Lucerne Piano Festival, the Wigmore Hall London, in Lisbon, Birmingham and Antwerp.

After the enormous success of his first recording of Mozart Sonatas for Sony Classical, Haefliger made three further recordings for Sony of Schumann’s *Davidsbündlertanze* and *Fantasiestücke*, Schubert *Impromptus*, and a disc of music by the distinguished contemporary Russian composer Sofia Gubaidulina. Later Haefliger made recordings for Decca with the Takacs Quartet and Matthias Goerne, the latest Goerne/Haefliger release of Schubert’s *Goethe Lieder* being awarded a *Preis Der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik*. Haefliger has most recently released a series of recital discs on the Avie label, all of which have attracted widespread critical acclaim, including a collection of Mozart’s Piano Sonatas, shortly followed by *Perspectives 1* and most recently *Perspectives 2* with works by Beethoven, Brahms and Bartok.

Andreas Haefliger is represented by Intermusica.

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16 Duncan Terrace, London N1 8BZ
Tel: 020 7278 5455 Fax: 020 7278 8434
mail@intermusica.co.uk www.intermusica.co.uk