



## Igor Levit Piano

Igor Levit combines "*tonal charm, intellectual drive and technical brilliance*" (The New Yorker). With an alert and critical mind, he places his art in the context of the civic, cultural and political life surrounding him and understands the two as inseparably linked. The New York Times describes Igor Levit as one of the "*most important artists of his generation*". The *Süddeutsche Zeitung* described him as a "*stroke of luck*" for today's concert scene and the *Zeit*, titling Igor Levit "*does not want to be just the man who presses the keys*".

Born in Nizhni Novgorod in 1987, Igor Levit moved to Germany with his family at the age of eight. He completed his piano studies in Hannover with the highest score in the history of the institute. His teachers included Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Matti Raekallio, Bernd Goetzke, Lajos Rovatkay and Hans Leygraf. Igor Levit was the youngest participant in the 2005 International Arthur Rubinstein Competition in Tel Aviv, where he won silver, the special prize for chamber music, the audience prize and the special prize for the best performance of contemporary compulsory pieces. In spring 2019 he was appointed professor for piano at his alma mater, the University of Music, Theatre and Media Hanover.

For the 2020/21 season Igor Levit focusses on the piano sonatas of Ludwig van Beethoven. The first complete recording of Igor Levit's Beethoven piano sonatas, released by Sony Classical in September 2019, received excellent reviews and immediately reached Number 1 in the official classical charts in 2019. Igor Levit will present the cycles of the complete piano sonatas at the Salzburg Festival, the Lucerne Festival as well as the Musikfest Berlin as well as in renowned concert halls such as at the Elbphilharmonie, the Konserthuset Stockholm and the Wigmore Hall in London. In May 2021 Igor Levit will make his debut tour of Asia with a Beethoven Sonata Program, which will take him to Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Further recital debuts will take him to the Firkusny Festival in Prague and to Disney Hall in Los Angeles.

In the 2020/21 season Igor Levit is "Artist in Residence" of the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks as well as "Portrait Artist" of the Philharmonie Essen. He will make guest appearances with the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia (Antonio Pappano), the Orchestre de Paris (Manfred Honeck), the Cleveland Orchestra (Franz Welser-Möst), the Berlin Philharmonic (Paavo Järvi) and the Concertgebouw Orkest (Antonio Pappano). In the USA he makes debuts with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic - both conducted by Herbert Blomstedt. In addition to working with musicians of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, he performs chamber music on tour with the Hagen Quartet.

Last season Igor Levit was "Featured Artist" at the Barbican Centre in London. Highlights of past seasons include debuts with the Staatskapelle Dresden and the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, European tours with the Vienna Philharmonic, the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

Igor Levit is an exclusive recording artist of Sony Classical. With his debut CD of Beethoven's last five sonatas, he won the BBC Music Magazine's Newcomer Prize 2014 and the Royal Philharmonic Society's Young Artist Prize 2014. Igor Levit's third solo album with Bach's Goldberg Variations, Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations* and Rzewski's *The People United Will Never Be Defeated* received the Instrumental Prize and the Recording of the Year Award at the Gramophone Classical Music Awards in 2016. In October 2018 Sony Classical released Igor Levit's fourth album titled "Life", with works by Bach, Busoni, Bill Evans, Liszt, Wagner, Rzewski and Schumann.

**[Please disregard any pre-existing biographical information. Thank you.]**

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Igor Levit is the winner of the "2018 Gilmore Artist Award" and "Instrumentalist of the Year 2018" of the Royal Philharmonic Society. For his political commitment Igor Levit was awarded the 5th International Beethoven Prize in 2019. This was followed in January 2020 by the award of the "Statue B" of the International Auschwitz Committee on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

In Berlin, where he makes his home, Igor Levit is playing on a Steinway D Grand Piano - a donation of the "Independent Opera at Sadler's Wells" foundation.

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**Exclusive Worldwide Management:**  
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