

Martin Stadtfeld | Biography

Piano



"It is a piece reminiscent of a bourgeois salon. A neo-Romantic round dance. Saved by a veil of earnestness and emotion from slipping into vintage-style pianism. Virtuositic and fragile. A feast of tone colors."

states the German newspaper WELT AM SONNTAG in reference to Martin Stadtfeld's new piano sonata *Memory of an old Song*.

His successful compositions are in the tradition of the great composers and follow the credo: 'Creating something new from the old'.

The guiding principle is the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Stadtfeld's fascination with preludes and fugues began during his early piano lessons. In his youth, he spent nights playing the *Well-Tempered Clavier*, laying the foundations for a special kind of relationship with Bach and exploration of his music. At the age of 15, Stadtfeld discovered the *Goldberg Variations* and memorized them in just a few days. This pivotal moment marks the beginning of his career: at just 22, he wins first prize at the Leipzig Bach Competition. Soon afterwards, his recording career gets off to an acclaimed start with the *Goldberg Variations*.

By now, Martin Stadtfeld has been collaborating with Sony Classical for over 20 years and this artistic cooperation has resulted in dozens of albums, all of them bestsellers and decorated with awards such as the *ECHO KLASSIK*. Continuing into the streaming age, Martin Stadtfeld is also one of the world's most listened-to classical pianists with over 100 million clicks. Particularly successful: the genre of free arrangements initiated by Stadtfeld with albums such as *Handel Variations*, *German Folk Songs*, *Baroque Colors* and recently with *Return to Warsaw*.

As a soloist, Martin Stadtfeld is invited to perform with orchestras all over the world and fills major concert halls with his recitals. Audiences appreciate his original interpretations of piano concertos from Mozart to Rachmaninov, as well as his exciting programs in recital, which resemble journeys through music history.

After performing as a concert pianist since the age of 9, Martin Stadtfeld has also found his passion in teaching and was appointed professor for piano at the University of the Arts in Bremen.