

duo imPuls

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Barbara and Sebastian Bartmann have performed together as duo imPuls for eleven years, playing both music for four hands on one piano and on two pianos. They have appeared in various European concert halls, such as in Berlin (Konzerthaus), Lisbon (Gulbenkian), Brussels (Palais des Beaux-Arts), Ljubljana (Cankar Hall), and Cracow (Philharmonic), as well as at festivals, including the Ludwigsburg Palace Festival, the Stuttgart Music Festival, the Oberstdorf Music Festival, the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern Festival, and the Edvard Grieg Festival in Oslo. They made their debut at the Merkin Concert Hall in New York City in October 2010.

The duo has also won numerous international competitions. It achieved a historic success at the Dranoff Competition in Miami in 2013, where it received all the best performance prizes, the Bronze Award, and the audience prize. In August 2009 it won first prize at the International Contemporary Chamber Music Competition in Cracow, appearing as the Flügelschlag Quartet together with percussion colleagues Ákos Nagy and Claudius Heinzemann. The previous year duo imPuls won first prize at the Valberg Competition in Nice, the first time the prize was awarded, and at the Edvard Grieg Competition in Oslo in 2007, where, in addition to first prize, it also received the Grieg Prize and the special award for contemporary music. Both musicians are scholarship winners of the Richard Wagner Society and the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation Live music now!.

In addition to classical and romantic literature, their repertoire also includes works by Sebastian Bartmann, who composes in a wide range of styles within the areas of experimental improvisation, sound installation, film and stage music, and media projects. His compositions have been performed in a number of European countries and the US and have received several awards: IBLA Foundation (Sicily/New York), the Composition Award of the City of Düsseldorf (IDO Festival).

The duo has drawn artistic inspiration from its work with the Stenzl Piano Duo, the Tal-Groethuysen Duo, and Genova & Dimitrov as well as André Marchand, Konrad Elser, Michael Seewann, Mauricio Kagel and Sian Edwards.

duo imPuls has appeared in various radio and television productions with ZDF, SWR, WDR, ARTE and Deutschlandfunk as well as foreign broadcasting companies.

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