

Pietromassa

PIETRO MASSA was born on March 6, 1973 in Milan (Italy).

He graduated in Genoa with Luciano Lanfranchi and then in Paris with Aldo Ciccolini. He studied composition in his hometown under Danilo Lorenzini, Adelchi Amisano and Bruno Bettinelli. After gaining a university degree in classical philology, Massa earned his doctorate at the Freie Universität Berlin in Musicology with the dissertation „Carl Orff’s antique dramas and Hölderlin reception in postwar Germany“ (Peter Lang, Frankfurt am Main, 2006). The artist lives in Berlin since 1999. The German capital is the centre of life for him and at the same time the center of his international career as a soloist. Meanwhile, he has been giving concerts worldwide: in many European countries and in the United States, Uruguay, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Japan, Turkey and the Ukraine. As a chamber musician, he has collaborated with members of the Staatskapelle Berlin, the Rachmaninoff String Quartet (Russia), the Lamy String Quartet (Japan) and the Quartetto di Venezia (Italy).

His special interest lies in the Italian piano repertoire of the 19th and 20th century. After painstaking and intensive archival research, he discovered the long-lost score of 2nd Piano Concerto in F major Op. 92 by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco in Philadelphia. The first European performance of the work with Massa took place in September 2009 with the Berlin Symphony Orchestra in the Great Hall of the Berliner Philharmonie. The live recording was then published by the label Capriccio Vienna.

With the release of his live recording of the Piano Concerto No. 3 Rachmaninoff (Genuin Classics, 2007) began a long and fruitful collaboration with conductor Stefan Malzew. With the Neubrandenburg Philharmonic and the Ernst Senff Choir Berlin, Malzew and Massa then recorded the Concerto for Piano, Orchestra and Male Choir by Ferruccio Busoni (Critics’ prize of the „Hessischer Rundfunk 2009“). Their collaboration continued with the recording of Giuseppe Martucci’s Piano Concerto No. 2 (Crystal Classics, 2011) and a double CD set featuring both piano concertos by Castelnuovo-Tedesco in 2014. In 2012, Massa went back to the studio to record the complete works for solo piano by Riccardo Zandonai (Crystal Classics, 2012): a world premiere. The release of three CDs with the 1st Piano Concerto by Martucci, the Piano Concerto in A minor by Ottorino Respighi and the Divertimento „Scarlattiana“ by Alfredo Casella, a cooperation between DeutschlandRadio, the label Myrica Classics and international distribution of Naxos USA is scheduled for 2025.

His repertoire of piano concertos performed with orchestra consists of 28 works. The concert career has taken Pietro Massa around the world for appearances with renowned orchestras under the baton of such conductors as Christoph-Mathias Mueller (Switzerland), Othmar Mága (Czech Republic), Felix Carrasco (Mexico), Ender Sarpinar (Turkey), Vitaly Kutzenko (Ukraine) and Abzal Mukhitdinov (Kazakhstan).

Pietro Massa regularly gives concerts as a soloist in Germany, notably piano recitals in Berlin (Philharmonie and Konzerthaus), Hamburg (Laeiszhalle), Munich (Gasteig), Dusseldorf (Tonhalle and Robert Schumann Hall), Nürnberg (Meistersingerhalle) and Stuttgart (Liederhalle).

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