

REINHOLD FRIEDRICH - Biography

Born in Weingarten / Baden, Reinhold Friedrich has been a guest of all major stages around the world since his success at the ARD International Music Competition in 1986. Strongly influenced by his teachers Edward H. Tarr (Schola Cantorum Basiliensis, Basel) and Pierre Thibaud (Conservatoire Supérieure de Musique Paris). He has always considered that old and new music belong together. The re-discovery of forgotten works of the Romantic period and the classical modern era lie particularly close to his heart, as does his interest in avant-garde music.

He gave his debut performance at the Berliner Festwochen with "Sequenza X" by Luciano Berio. This was followed by his first appearance as a soloist at the Musikverein in Vienna with the Vienna Academy under Martin Haselböck, playing the trumpet concerto by Joseph Haydn on the historic keyed trumpet. His involvement with historical performance practice has brought him together with a variety of orchestras such as the Orchestre des Champs-Élysées, La Stagione Frankfurt, Kammerorchester Basel, L'arte del mondo, Concerto Melante, the Berliner Barock Solisten as well as the Cappella Andrea Barca under Sir András Schiff. The focus of this collaboration was often on the 2nd Brandenburg Concerto by J.S. Bach, whose rendering is near and dear to Friedrich.

As part of his engagement with contemporary compositions, Reinhold Friedrich premiered a large number of significant works. This includes pieces by Wolfgang Rihm, Carola Bauckholt, Luciano Berio, Edison Denisov, Peter Eötvös, Hans Werner Henze, Adriana Hölszky, Nicolaus A. Huber, Luca Lombardi, Benedict Mason, Sir Peter Maxwell Davis, Hilda Parèdes, Matthias Pintscher, Jan Rääts, Rebecca Saunders, Nina Šenk, Enjott Schneider, Daniel Schnyder, Gerhard Stäbler, Eino Tamberg, Caspar Johannes Walter, Christian Wolff, and Benjamin Yusopov. Solo concerts such as "Eirene" by Herbert Willi (Wergo) and "Nobody knows de trouble I see" by Bernd Alois Zimmermann, whose CD recording won an ECHO Klassik in 1994, form an important part of his broad repertoire.

As a soloist, Reinhold Friedrich performed with ensembles such as the Bamberger and Wiener Symphoniker, the Staatsoper Berlin and Stuttgart, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, the Frankfurt Museum Orchester, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra Prague, the orchestra of the Teatro Colon, Buenos Aires and all German radio symphony orchestras; conducted amongst others by Semyon Bychkov, Dennis Russell Davies, Peter Eötvös, Vladimir Fedevichev, Adam Fischer, Michael Gielen, Philippe Herreweghe, Christopher Hogwood, Manfred Honeck, Elisha Inbal, Krystjan and Neeme Järvi, Dmitri Kitaenko, Sir Neville Marriner, Ingo Metzmacher, Andris Nelsons, Jonathan Nott, Kazushi Ono, Matthias Pintscher, Trevor Pinnock, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski, and Hans Zender.

From 1983 to 1999 Reinhold Friedrich held the position of solo trumpeter at the Radio Sinfonieorchester Frankfurt. In 2003, Claudio Abbado appointed him permanent solo trumpeter of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra, which has been conducted by Riccardo Chailly since 2017. Furthermore, Reinhold Friedrich is the Artistic Director of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra Brass Ensemble. Present chamber music partners of Reinhold Friedrich are Thomas Duis, Bernd Glemser, and Eriko Takezawa (piano), Robyn Schulkowsky (percussion), Iveta Apkalna, Sebastian Küchler-Blessing, Martin Lückner, and Christian Schmitt (organ).

Reinhold Friedrich is a professor of trumpet at Karlsruhe University of Music, a sought-after lecturer for master classes, and honorary professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London, Escuela Superior de Musica REINA SOFIA in Madrid, and as well as in Hiroshima / Japan. His former students are winners in almost all major international competitions and hold leading positions or professorships throughout Europe, Tokyo, Tel Aviv, Moscow, and Rio de Janeiro.

Reinhold Friedrich was awarded another ECHO Klassik for the recording of the "Russian Trumpet Concerts" (MDG) with Göttinger Symphony Orchestra conducted by Christoph-Mathias Mueller. Numerous other CD recordings document his multifaceted work, including the first recording of the trumpet concerto "Pieta" by Christian Jost (Coviello) and the recording of the second Brandenburg Concerto (Sony) with the Berlin Baroque Soloists under Reinhard Goebel, which won the OPUS Classical prize of 2018. His recordings "Time Travels – from Siddharta, Marco Polo to Bach" and "The Art of Trumpet", featuring works by Enjott Schneider, were nominated for the ICMA (International Classical Music Awards) in 2024 and 2025.

The spectacular performances of Igor Stravinsky's **The Soldier's Tale** by the Salzburg Marionette Theatre, featuring violin soloist Isabelle Faust and narrator Dominique Horowitz, were a resounding success at the Salzburg Festival in the summer of 2025; not least thanks to the magnificent newly crafted puppets, designed by none other than Georg Baselitz. This project will be staged in many European cities in 2026, including Berlin, Munich, Amsterdam, Brussels, Ghent and Luxembourg.

Another highlight of 2025 was the performance of Mieczysław Weinberg's concerto – Friedrich performed with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra in Tel Aviv and the NHK Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo; in 2026, he will perform this work with the Sinfonietta Hong Kong. Further performances are in the pipeline, including a US tour with the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society, a tour with the Berliner Barocksolisten and the Hiroshima Symphony Orchestra.