

Christine Schornsheim

Harpsichord & Fortepiano

Biography

With an almost endless sound variety on the different historical keyboard instruments she is familiar with, and an endless musical fantasy, harpsichordist and fortepianist Christine Schornsheim has been fascinating an enthusiastic audience for many years. She has been a guest of various concert series and festivals such as Klavierfestival Ruhr, Schwetzingen Festspiele, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Mostly Mozart New York, Europäisches Musikfest Stuttgart, Konzerthaus Berlin, Tage Alter Musik in Herne, Klavierfestival Ruhr and international Bach Festivals. Among her regular musical partners are Andreas Staier – with whom she performs at two harpsichords, two fortepianos or with four hands -, gamba player Hille Perl, cellist Kristin von der Goltz and traverso player Michael Schmidt-Castorff.

The 2012-13 season saw her perform as a soloist of the Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, in an extended cycle of Haydn sonatas at the Schwetzingen Festival and numerous other recitals. With baroque violinist Mayumi Hirasaki, she was again guest of the Thüringer Bachwochen. She will celebrate C.P.E. Bach's 300th birthday in 2014 with numerous programmes in solo recitals or with her musical partners, for example with C.P.E. Bach's sonatas with gamba player Hille Perl. In the season 2013-14, she will also return to the Freiburg Baroque orchestra.

Among her numerous recordings for CD and radio is the epic project of the complete *Well-Tempered Clavier* by J.S. Bach on one of the few preserved and fully playable harpsichord of the Antwerp master Anton Ruckers dating from 1624 (Capriccio 2012).

In 2005, her milestone recording of Joseph Haydn's complete keyboard solo works was published by Capriccio/WDR, awarded with a "Diapason d'Or" in France, the "Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik" as well as the "ECHO Klassik" in Germany. Furthermore, Christine Schornsheim recorded J.S. Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, rarely played Bach works for harpsichord as well as piano concertos by W.A. Mozart. With traverso player Christoph Huntgeburth she made the first recording of Beethoven works for flute and piano. She received an "ECHO Klassik" in 1999 already for her CD with three harpsichord concerts by C.P.E. Bach, W.Fr. Bach and J. Ch. Bach (Capriccio).

Schornsheim received high critical acclaim for her recording of Mozart works with Andreas Staier on a special Andreas Stein instrument that combines harpsichord and fortepiano (Harmonia Mundi France). 2009 saw the Capriccio/WDR release of the complete keyboard concertos by Joseph Haydn on historic instruments (harpsichord, fortepiano and organ), together with the Düsseldorfer Hofmusik – an extension of the recording of Haydn's keyboard solo works. In the same year, a joint project with Hille Perl was realized: Sony released their recording of Bach's organ sonatas, arranged for viola da gamba and harpsichord. In 2012, Oehms published their recording of Leopold Mozart's sonatas and chamber music. Her most recent CD includes Lieder of Mozart's time (tenor: Markus Schäfer, Crystal Classics). Upcoming CD releases comprise compositions by J.A.P. Schulz and C.P.E. Bach.

Since 2002, Schornsheim has held a professorship for harpsichord at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich.