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Benedek Horváth

“Here, there is no ostentatious virtuosity, no relentless pounding, but rather intelligent and captivating playing, full of nuance, revealing the complete richness of the composition.”

Remy Franck, Pizzicato Magazine

BENEDEKHORVATH.COM

Swiss-Hungarian pianist **Benedek Horváth** is based in Basel. Known for the expressive clarity of his interpretations and the breadth of his repertoire, he has performed in more than twenty countries. His career has taken him on tour through China, with concerts in Beijing and Shanghai, and in 2017 he made his New York debut at Merkin Hall in Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2. He has also appeared at two of Switzerland's leading festivals, the Gstaad Menuhin Festival and the Lucerne Festival.

Horváth's recent artistic work reaches beyond the traditional recital format. In 2025, he placed Bach's Goldberg Variations at the centre of an interdisciplinary project entitled *Die goldenen Berge*. For this concert-film, he conceived, filmed and directed an expressive visual work to be projected alongside the live performance. Rather than illustrating the music, image and sound enter into a shifting dialogue, opening a new space around Bach's score.

In September 2026, he returned to the historic Reitstadel in Neumarkt to record his forthcoming album *Bagatelles* for the French label Artalinna. The programme brings together miniature worlds by Beethoven, Bartók, Sibelius and Tchernyakin. During the months of preparation, three bagatelles of his own gradually emerged and found their place within the recording.

As a soloist, Benedek Horváth has performed with ensembles including the Sinfonieorchester Basel, the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, the Musikkollegium Winterthur and the Montenegro Symphony Orchestra. Chamber music is equally central to his artistic life. For more than eight years, he was a member of Trio Eclipse, which received distinctions at the Osaka International Chamber Music Competition and the Migros Culture Percentage Competition. His chamber-music partners have also included Dmitry Smirnov, the Casals String Quartet and Zakhar Bron.

His distinctions include First Prize at the Kiefer-Hablitzel Competition and the Rahn Music Prize. He was also a finalist at the Clara Haskil Competition and the Paloma O'Shea International Piano Competition, and is a recipient of Hungary's Junior Prima Prize.

His discography includes albums devoted to Janáček, Bartók and Kurtág for Artalinna Records; Bach's Goldberg Variations for IAN Records; and works for piano and orchestra by Liszt with the Sinfonieorchester Basel for Prospero Classical. In April 2025, Hungaroton released his solo album featuring works by Ravel, Scriabin and Rachmaninoff.

Having lived in Switzerland for more than a decade, Horváth studied at the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest and subsequently at the Musik-Akademie Basel with Claudio Martínez Mehner. Since 2021, he has served as assistant professor in Martínez Mehner's class at the Hochschule für Musik Basel. During his studies and artistic development, he also worked with such distinguished artists as András Schiff, Dimitri Bashkirov, Menahem Pressler, Ferenc Rados and Zoltán Kocsis.