

Reto Bieri – Clarinet

www.retobieri.ch



BIOGRAPHY 2020/2021

„An eccentric sonic wizard on the clarinet.“

– Magazin Ensemble

„His playing captivates from the first note (...) It is rare to hear such manifest interpretations, borne by such high musical intelligence.“

– Neue Musikzeitung

„He is a gifted programmer who can convert unusual ideas, which may indeed seem bizarre at first glance, into musical gold.“

– Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

The Swiss clarinetist and improviser Reto Bieri has been playing solo and chamber music for over 20 years. The former artistic director is currently bringing a fresh concept to the classical music scene with his brilliant, poetic theme evenings *à la DAVOS FESTIVAL* in cooperation with various chamber orchestras and accompanied by long-standing chamber music partners – in particular violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja.

In the **2020-2021 season**, Reto Bieri will perform together with the WDR Sinfonieorchester, the Camerata Bern and in the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg. Furthermore, he will be again on stage with various chamber music projects: together with Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Meesun Hong, Thomas Kaufmann, Julia Gallego, Jonas Ahonen and members of the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, he is going to play in the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London as well as in the Bamberg Concert Hall and in the Alte Oper Frankfurt. Other artists Reto Bieri will be working with this season are Paulina Leschenko, Dominik Susteck, Sarah Maria Sun, Lin Liao and David Philip Hefti.

Reto Bieri regularly performs with renowned orchestras, and at various festivals and prestigious institutions. He releases CD recordings with the Munich-based cult label ECM, most recently the highly praised album *quasi morendo* with string quartet meta4 from Finland.

Reto Bieri grew up with Swiss folk music. Following formative experience playing dance music in taverns and training as a primary school teacher he initially attended music academies in Basel and Zurich, before studying at the prestigious Juilliard School of Music in New York. He was particularly influenced by the composer György Kurtág and his encounters with the writer Gerhard Meier, musician Eberhard Feltz and the clown Dimitri.

In 2001, Reto Bieri was the winner of the Tribune International des Jeunes Interprètes, the competition for European radio stations. Since this success he has worked internationally as a soloist and chamber musician. He is a regular guest at various festivals and well-known institutions.

Reto Bieri played with numerous orchestras, including the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra of Moscow Radio, the Bruckner Orchester Linz, the Münchner Kammerorchester, the Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra, the Oxford Chamber Players, the Brandenburgische Philharmonie, the Borusan Orchestra, the Züricher Kammerorchester, the Camerata Zürich, the Basler Sinfonieorchester, the Kammerorchester Basel, the Kremerata Baltica, the Sinfonieorchester Luzern and the Orquesta Sinfonica de Navarra under well-known conductors such as Vladimir Fedoseyev, Kurt Masur, Dennis Russel Davies and Kristjan Järvi.

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Highlights of the past seasons included Concerts in the Wigmore Hall in London, in the Concertgebouw Amsterdam and at Schloss Elmau.

Bieri's passion is primarily chamber music. He is regularly working together with renowned artists like Heinz Holliger, Gidon Kremer, Zoltan Koscis, Alexander Lonquich, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Sol Gabetta, Ilya Gringolts, Pekka Kuusisto, Nicolas Altstaedt, Herbert Schuch and Fazil Say, as well as with various string quartets such as the Quatuor Ardeo (Paris), the Amaryllis Quartet (Cologne), the Szymanowski Quartet (Warsaw), the Borusan Quartet (Istanbul), the Meta4 Quartet (Helsinki), the Quatuor Hermès (Paris), the Quarteto Casals (Barcelona), the Casal Quartet (Zurich) and the Rosamunde Quartet (Munich).

Reto Bieri served as Artistic Director of the Swiss DAVOS FESTIVAL – young artists in concert between 2013 and 2018. Since 2012 he has taught at the University of Music in Würzburg, Germany as Professor of Chamber Music. He lives with his family in a remote Swiss Alpine location in the Bernese Oberland.

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