

## Gunther Rost

Aged 16, Gunther Rost performed the complete organ works of Johann Sebastian Bach in public. Aged 26, he had already been awarded more than a dozen international prizes, for example at the Leipzig Bach Competition, the Nuremberg, Speyer and Erfurt Organ Competition or the Dallas International Organ Competition. He studied in Paris with Marie-Claire Alain. He held the distinguished scholarships of the “Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes” and the “Cité Internationale des Arts de Paris”, in 2002 he was awarded the “Bayerischer Kunstförderpreis” (Bavarian state award for the advancement of arts).

From 1998 to 2002 he taught organ performance and improvisation at the Conservatory and University of Music in Würzburg (Germany). At the age of 27 he received an appointment as professor of organ at the University of Music and Dramatic Arts Graz in Austria, where he has been head of organ studies since 2008. At his Graz university, he engages himself in research and development in the field of modern organ building. He was the first to project a digital concert organ at a Western European Music University and he acquired the first modular pipe organ ever.

Besides teaching at Graz Music University, he has acted as jury member in international organ competitions and has taught master classes, e.g. at the Royal Academy of Music London, the Chopin Academy Warsaw, the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory St. Petersburg or the Tchaikovsky Conservatory Moscow.

Solo, chamber music and orchestra recordings for labels like OehmsClassics or Deutsche Grammophon document his versatile artistic work. German, Austrian, Russian and American radio stations have broadcast live recordings of his solo concerts.

In close cooperation with the composer, Gunther Rost was the first to record Petr Eben's complete organ works, featuring amongst others the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra for the two great organ concertos. The American Record Guide comments, that “*Rost is by far the best player of this music*”.

His discography also comprises solo productions with works by Vivaldi, Chopin, Dupré and Alain. His recording with Bach's Goldberg Variations has been praised as “*the most distinctive recording on the market, including harpsichord and piano versions*” by Fono Forum, one of the leading German classical review magazines.

The artist performed with orchestras such as the Dallas Symphony Orchestra or the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. From 2012 until 2014 he was Organist in Residence with the Bamberg

Symphony Orchestra. Solo engagements lead the artist to the Konzerthaus Berlin, the Leipzig Bach Festival, the Rheingau Music Festival or the Mariinsky Theatre St. Petersburg.

Gunther Rost has worked with artists such as Tine Thing Helseth, Christoph Prégardien, Elīna Garanča or the Leipzig String Quartet.

Current engagements include the Polish first performance of Chopin's 24 Préludes op. 28 on the organ and recitals at the Mozart Festival Wurzburg, the Leipzig Gewandhaus or the Vienna Konzerthaus.

May 2016

[www.kkmanagement.at](http://www.kkmanagement.at)

---