

Marcus Sterk | Biography

Marcus Sterk channels his own special energy into his unmistakable interpretations of organ music from various epochs. His mastery of multi-layered timbral facets takes Sterk on concert tours of Europe and Asia as an organist and conductor. He has already demonstrated how manifoldly radiant the hues and nuances of his chosen instrument can be in Munich Cathedral and on the Cavallé-Coll organs at St. Madeleine and Notre-Dame in Paris.

Marcus Sterk has a particular passion for Classical and Romantic organ music. His CD recordings of him playing the Link organ in the Church of the Holy Ghost in Neuburg a.d. Donau as well as the CD, “Heroic Music”, which he co-released with the English trumpet-player Matthew Sadler, are dedicated to music from his favourite epochs.

Sterk has performed as a member of well-known orchestras in Germany and abroad. Radio and TV recordings adorn his CV – collaboration with conductors like Franz Welser-Möst, Mariss Jansons and Lorin Maazel has left its mark on his expressiveness and verve.

The panoply of conductor Marcus Sterk’s talent ranges from classical recitals through to contemporary music. His premiere of Narine Khatchatryan’s piece, “Bitter Moon”, won him the ‘Günter Bialas Interpretation Award for Contemporary Music’.

As artistic director of “Denken & Beten” [Thinking & Praying], a series of performances initiated by the Munich School of Philosophy, he fostered a spiritual repertoire, such as Gregorian chants and the major works of the First Viennese School. Marcus Sterk has, for example, conducted the Munich Symphony Orchestra and the ‘Georgisches Kammerorchester Ingolstadt’. He has been Master of the long-established ‘Münchner Männerchor’ [Munich Male Choir] since 2015. At the same time numerous engagements opened his mind to the new and unconventional that he encountered in film music, traditional folk music and crossover programmes.

Marcus Sterk was awarded a scholarship by YEHUDI MENUHIN Live Music Now München e. V. for his artistic achievements.

Musician Marcus Sterk was born in 1977 and studied the organ at Munich’s ‘University of Music and Performing Arts’, attending Edgar Krapp’s master classes. He also studied conducting and was taught by such famous tutors as Bruno Weil, Konstantia Gourzi and Michael Gläser. He followed up his musical education by studying Law and Economics at the University of Augsburg from 2005 to 2009.

So Marcus Sterk has a philosophy similar to that of Georg Philipp Telemann amongst others, who devoted himself to jurisprudence as well as music. He lives in particular by the words of virtuoso Yehudi Menuhin, for whom he has performed at many Live Music Now München e.V. concerts. “The music speaks just for itself, provided we give it a chance to do so.” He wants more than just to let the music play – that is a given to Sterk’s mind – he wants to let the music speak for itself. That’s because there is plenty to say.