

Biography

Dejan Lazić

Piano & Composition

<https://www.dejanlazic.com>



"Lazić plays with palpable heart, with genuine spirit that derives entirely from the music itself, with dexterity, subtlety and insight that make this recital thoroughly compelling." (The Telegraph)

Dejan Lazić's fresh interpretations of the piano repertoire have established him as one of the most unique and unusual soloists of his generation. The Spiegel magazine noted of his Liszt recording for Onyx Classics: *"Grandiose technique, dedicated and witty, whilst full-bodied and thoughtful: this longitudinal section through Liszt's oeuvre is a gift, both for beginners and connoisseurs."*

In the 2024/25 season Dejan Lazić will debut with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra under Krzysztof Urbański and returns to Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Düsseldorfer Symphoniker, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, NDR Radiophilharmonie Hannover, Netherlands Philharmonic, Pannon Philharmonic, Residentie Orkest Den Haag, RTV Slovenia and Stuttgarter Philharmoniker.

Lazić enjoys a significant following in the Far East touring China with Budapest Festival Orchestra and Iván Fischer, and appearing with NHK Symphony and Yomiuri Nippon, as well as Seoul and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestras. He has built close collaborations with conductors including Marc Albrecht, Giovanni Antonini, Iván Fischer, Michael Francis, Andris Nelsons, Daniel Rasikin, Thomas Søndergård, Robert Spano, John Storgårds, Krzysztof Urbański, Jan Willem de Vriend and Kazuki Yamada.

Chamber concerts and recitals take him to venues such as Teatro Colón (Buenos Aires), Lincoln Center (New York), Melbourne Recital Centre, Forbidden City Recital Hall (Peking) and to festivals such as the Schubertiade Schwarzenberg and the Gstaad Menuhin Festival with chamber music partners such as Joshua Bell, Sol Gabetta, Andreas Ottensamer and Benjamin Schmid. He is the designated Artistic Director of the 2026 Toujours Mozart Festival in Munich.

Dejan Lazić is also active as a composer and has been under contract with Sikorski Music Publishers since 2015. His compositions receive increased recognition, most recently "Piano Concerto in Istrian Style", Op. 18 and "Alterations on the Istrian Folk Anthem", Op. 29 recorded 2023 with the Münchner Rundfunkorchester under Ivan Repušić for the BR Klassik label under the title "Istrian Rhapsody" which was on the Opus Klassik 2024 Shortlist in two categories: Composer of the Year and Concert Recording of the Year.

Other recent works include two new compositions for violin: "Chinese Fantasy" for violin and orchestra Op. 22 and Variations on a Kanding Love Song for violin solo. His "S.C.H.E.rzo" for Orchestra, Op. 25, commissioned by the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra was premiered with Krzysztof Urbanski in 2020. Lazić's Mozart adaptation, "Rondo Concertante" for piano and orchestra (after the 3rd movement from Mozart's Piano Sonata in B-flat major, K. 333) was premiered in 2018 at the "Mainly Mozart" Festival in San Diego, USA. His first major orchestral work, a tone poem entitled "Mozart and Salieri" (after Alexander Pushkin), Op. 21, was commissioned and premiered by Indianapolis Symphony and Krzysztof Urbanski in 2017. Lazić has performed his "Piano Concerto in Istrian Style", Op. 18, many times since its premiere at the Aspen Music Festival in 2014. His arrangement of Brahms' Violin Concerto as a piano concerto was premiered with Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Robert Spano in 2009.

In the 2024/25 season he will release two new recordings: Mozart Piano Concertos Nos 20 & 12 (Jan Willem de Vriend/ Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra - Challenge Records) and Gstaad Recital Live Recording (Onyx). His recording with Mozart's chamber music, released by Onyx in 2020 was awarded the Opus Klassik 2021 in the category Chamber Music Recording. In autumn 2017 he performed on tour and recorded Beethoven's own arrangement of his Violin Concerto as Piano Concerto in D major, Op. 61a, with Netherlands Chamber Orchestra and Gordan Nikolić. This CD was released in May 2018 by Onyx Classics. A recording of the Beethoven Triple Concerto was released for Sony Music in 2015. His live recording of Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2 with London Philharmonic Orchestra and Kirill Petrenko received the German Echo Klassik Award 2009. Dejan Lazić has previously released many recordings with Channel Classics, including a critically acclaimed Liaisons series; the latest of which couples together C. P. E. Bach and Britten.

Dejan Lazić was born in Zagreb, Croatia, into a family of musicians. He grew up in Salzburg, where he studied at the Mozarteum (clarinet, piano and composition). The early encounter with Zoltán Kocsis and Imre Rohmann at the Bartók Festival in Hungary was decisive for his artistic career, as well as the significant influence from Peter Eötvös. Dejan Lazić lives in Amsterdam.

2024/2025

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