

VALENTINO WORLITZSCH

First prize of the jury, prize of the audience, music prize of the Rotary Club Bonn and a year's scholarship from the German Foundation of Musical Life: This is the impressive result of cellist Valentino Worlitzsch at the German Music Competition 2016 in Bonn.

Born in Hanover in 1989, he attended his first cello and piano lessons at the age of four. From his early teenage years, he has won numerous national and international prizes, both as cellist and pianist, as soloist as well as chamber musician. These include the International Grotrian-Steinweg Piano Competition and the Eduard-Söring Prize of the German Foundation of Musical Life for his outstanding successes on both instruments.

By now he has earned many national and international awards. Besides receiving first prize at the German Music Competition, he was given first prize and two special prizes at the International Music Competition 'Pacem in Terris', Bayreuth, as well as attaining special prizes at the Grand Prix Emanuel Feuermann, Berlin, and at the Leoš Janáček International Competition, Brno. Furthermore, he became semi-finalist at the ARD International Music Competition in Munich as well as at the prestigious International Tchaikovsky Competition in St. Petersburg and was honoured as best competitor ex aequo at the Pierre Fournier Award in London.

Valentino Worlitzsch commences his studies under Bernhard Gmelin, Hamburg, and Michel Strauss, Paris. In 2013 he continued his master studies and in 2016 his concert exam studies in Weimar under Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt, where he became his teaching assistant in 2015. In addition to this, he also studies piano under Karl-Heinz Kämmerling and Johanna Wiedenbach, as well as conducting under Nicolás Pasquet.

Further inspiration came through masterclasses and lessons with Wolfgang Boettcher, László Fenyő, David Geringas, Frans Helmerson, Jens Peter Maintz, Johannes Moser, Philippe Muller and Wen-Sinn Yang.

As a soloist, Valentino Worlitzsch has performed with leading orchestras, among them the Düsseldorfer Symphoniker, the Beethoven Orchester Bonn, the Munich Chamber Orchestra and the Nürnberger Symphoniker, and has graced famous venues such as the Wigmore Hall in London, the Philharmonie Berlin, the St. Petersburg Philharmonia, the Beethovenhalle Bonn and the Tonhalle in Düsseldorf. Beyond this, he is a dedicated chamber musician – his partners include Elisabeth Brauß, Nils Mönkemeyer, Eldar Nebolsin, Christopher Park, Natalia Prishpenko, Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt and William Youn – and he regularly participates at prestigious festivals such as the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and the Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele.

Valentino Worlitzsch has enjoyed longstanding scholarships from the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, the Oscar and Vera Ritter Foundation, the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation 'Live Music Now' and has received the Masefield Fellowship of the Alfred Toepfer Foundation. Since 2015, after being an award winner of the German Musical Instruments Fund, Valentino is fortunate to perform on a violoncello with the label 'Grancino' (Roman school, 18th century), graciously lent to the trust from private ownership.