



German pianist **Frank Dupree** has recently come to international prominence as the laureate prize winner of the 2014 Deutscher Musikwettbewerb in Bonn, having enamoured the judges with his musical maturity, refined technique, and ability to draw a wide spectrum of sound and colour from the keyboard. Renowned pianist Emanuel Ax has remarked that he is "a sincere, feeling, and enormously interesting artist, whom no doubt will be a major presence amongst the leading musicians of his generation".

Initially trained as a percussionist, Frank celebrates the breadth and depth of the piano repertoire, ranging from baroque to classical to contemporary. He is an enthusiast for new music especially, having already worked closely with composers such as Péter Eötvös and Wolfgang Rihm, the latter of whose work *Con Piano? Certo!* was given its world premiere by Frank with conductor Justin Brown and the Badische Staatskapelle Karlsruhe in June 2015.

Highlights of Frank's past engagements include concerts with the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, Minnesota Orchestra, Bern Symphony Orchestra, Beethoven Orchestra Bonn, Vestfold Symphony Orchestra (Norway), and other orchestras in Germany including the Badische Staatskapelle Karlsruhe, Baden Baden Philharmonic, and the Meininger Hofkapelle. Frank is also an active chamber musician and was most recently invited on scholarship to the Chamber Music Academy of the Heidelberg Spring Festival and the Verbier Festival Academy.

Throughout the 2015-2016 season and beyond, Frank will give concerts in more than 30 cities across Germany as the winner of the 2014 Deutscher Musikwettbewerb, including solo recitals or chamber music concerts in Bayreuth, Frankfurt, Hanover, Heidelberg, and Cologne. He also performs at the Schleswig Holstein, Ludwigsburg, and Heidelberg Spring festivals and the Septembre Musical festival in Montreux-Vevey (Switzerland), and will make his debut appearances with the Duisburg Philharmonic (Germany), Kristiansand Symphony (Norway), and Malmö Symphony (Sweden) orchestras.

2015-2016 will also see Frank commence a highly anticipated three-season residency with the Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfalz, where he will take curatorial lead in a concert series entitled *CONNECT IT!*, featuring him play/directing all five Beethoven concerti from the keyboard. Simultaneously, Frank will also launch his new **SIX**change initiative this season, allowing him to find new and creative ways to connect with and more fully engage audiences around his performances.

Combining his fine pianism and musicianship with the art of direction is increasingly of great interest to Frank. In 2012, he was awarded 1st prize at the International Hans-von-Bülow Competition in Meiningen for his play/direct performance of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor, and soon after was invited to take part in the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris Play-Direct Academy with Joseph Swensen, Stephen Kovacevich, and François Leleux. In a conducting only capacity, he has also worked as assistant to Sir Simon Rattle, François-Xavier Roth, and Mario Venzago.

Frank's debut recording was released in the summer of 2015 under the GENUIN classics label, featuring works by Beethoven, Berg, Berio, and the world premiere recording of Eötvös' *Erdenklavier – Himmelklavier*.

Born in 1991 in Rastatt, Frank has been a student of Sontraud Speidel since the age of five, and with whom he is currently continuing his studies as part of a Master of Music degree at Karlsruhe University of Music. Over the years, he has played in masterclasses with Emanuel Ax, Ralf Gothóni, Klaus Hellwig, Alexander Braginsky, Cyprien Katsaris, Ferenc Rados, Gábor Takács-Nagy, and Stephen Kovacevich.

In Summer 2013, Frank was awarded the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes scholarship, and in 2014 was the recipient of the Deutschen Stiftung Musikleben scholarship in support of his studies.

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This is Frank Dupree's official biography for the 2015/16 season. Please replace all previously dated materials.