

Benedict Klöckner

Spain & Portugal, Latin America, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, Special Projects

Benedict Kloeckner, born in 1989, is one of the outstanding artists of his generation. He has won numerous competitions and awards, most recently the OPUS Klassik 2021.

He performs worldwide as a soloist with renowned orchestras such as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra London, the Deutsche Radiophilharmonie, the Mozarteumorchester Salzburg, the NDR Radiophilharmonie, the MDR-Sinfonieorchester, the Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie, the Kremerata Baltica, the Camerata Oslo, and the Munich Chamber Orchestra. He works with renowned conductors such as Daniel Barenboim, Christoph Eschenbach, Vladimir Fedoseyev, Cristian Măcelaru, Ingo Metzmacher, Michael Sanderling, Clemens Schuldt, Heinrich Schiff, and Sir Simon Rattle.

He has appeared in prestigious concert halls such as the Berlin Philharmonie, Carnegie Hall New York, Kennedy Center Washington, Symphony Hall Chicago, Arts Center Seoul, Suntory Hall Tokyo, Musikverein Vienna, Gewandhaus Leipzig, Tonhalle Zurich, Gasteig in Munich, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Rudolfinum Prague, Athenaeum Bucharest, and the Wigmore Hall London.

The release of his new Dvořák album on Berlin Classics marks a highlight of the 2024-2025 season. The Gramophone magazine praises the album, stating "Clarity of sound and solid architectural grasp are the hallmarks of Dvořák's Cello Concerto, performed by Benedict Kloeckner, conducted by Cristian Macelaru, and the Romanian Chamber Orchestra..." The works for cello and piano, performed with pianist Danae Dörken, complete this opus, which has been widely praised by the international press. The album has already accumulated over 500,000 streams since its release in September 2024. Benedict will reunite with Cristian Macelaru for the recording of Elgar's Cello Concerto, which will feature in his next album.

The 2024-2025 season opens with Haydn's Cello Concerto conducted by Raphaël Merlin, with the IMUK0 Festival Orchestra, of which Benedict has been the Artistic Director for over 10 years. In the autumn, he will play Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations in Norway. In 2025, he will perform Elgar's cello Concerto with the Antalya State Symphony Orchestra and Brasov Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as Schumann's cello Concerto in Ankara and Bogota. On stage, Benedict will reunite with his chamber music partners Kirill Trousov, Alexandra Trousova, and returns to Concertgebouw Amsterdam with pianist Anna Fedorova. With the Sinfonia Rotterdam conducted by Conrad van Alphen he will give his Debut in De Doelen with Dvorak Cello Concerto on a Netherlands tour. He returns as well to Philharmonie Cologne playing Brahms Double Concerto under the baton of Gabriel Bebelessea and to the Portuguese Philharmonic Orchestra playing Beethoven Tripelconcerto. Furthermore he will play Strauss Don Quixote conducted by Oscar Jockel and Tan Dun Crouching Tiger concerto conducted by Tan Dun.

In the 2023/2024 season, he has made his debut at the Philharmonie de Paris and the Kölner Philharmonie and returned to the Kennedy Center Washington, Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, and Philharmonie Berlin multiple times. He has also toured in Europe with the Romanian Chamber Orchestra conducted by Cristian Măcelaru.

In 2023, his recording of the Brahms Sonatas with Yu Kosuge was released by Sony.

Benedict Kloeckner is a welcome guest at festivals worldwide. His chamber music partners have included Emanuel Ax, Lisa Batiashvili, Yuri Bashmet, Christoph Eschenbach, Vilde Frang, Gidon Kremer, Anne-Sophie Mutter, and Sir Andrés Schiff.

Benedict Kloeckner regularly collaborates with leading contemporary composers. In 2018, he premiered Wolfgang Rihm's Double Concerto for Two Cellos and Strings. At the Seoul Arts Center, he premiered Eun Hwa Cho's Cello Concerto with the Korean Chamber Orchestra under Christoph Poppen. He also gave the Austrian premiere of Dai Fujikura's Cello Concerto with the Mozarteum Orchestra under Peter Tilling.

His CD recordings have been highly praised by the international press, earning prizes such as the OPUS Klassik award and the Supersonic Award. These recordings include collaborations with artists such as Gidon Kremer, conductors Heinrich Schiff and Michael Sanderling, pianists Danae Dörken, Anna Fedorova, Yu Kosuge, Mario Häring, Ragna Schirmer, and José Gallardo, as well as violinists Kirill Troussov and Ragnhild Hemsing, and composer Wolfgang Rihm.

Since 2014, Benedict Klöckner has been the founder and artistic director of the International Music Festival Koblenz (IMUKO).

Benedict Kloeckner received his artistic education from Martin Ostertag at the Karlsruhe University of Music and from Frans Helmerson and Gary Hoffman at the Kronberg Academy, supported by the Angela Winkler Scholarship. He received invaluable guidance from Gidon Kremer, Steven Isserlis, Michael Sanderling, and Sir Andrés Schiff.

He teaches masterclasses around the world and has taught at the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe. Benedict Kloeckner plays the “Ex Maurice Gendron” cello by Francesco Rugger