

CREDO IN UNUM MUNDUM

An interfaith and genre-crossing concert experience

Credo in Unum Mundum („I believe in one world“) is a powerful musical statement of unity. The Marcus Schinkel Trio invites audiences on an extraordinary journey: In this groundbreaking project, Beethoven's Missa Solemnis—often referred to as the „Mount Everest of Western music“ (conductor Riccardo Muti)—is reimagined in a unique fusion of classical music, jazz improvisation, and world music. Set in the movements Agnus Dei, Credo, and Benedictus, the work brings together a jazz trio, a classical orchestra (or alternatively church organ), choir or vocal ensemble, classical soloists, and voices representing four major world religions. These newly arranged and partially recomposed segments come together in a 90-minute work that transcends musical and spiritual boundaries.

The global faith traditions are represented by:

Jan Issa, **Islamic tenor from Syria** / Alexander Morogovski, **Jewish baritone from Ukraine** / Prashanti Sankaran, **Hindu alto from India** / Enkhtuya Jambaldorj, **Buddhist singer from Mongolia** / Igor Epstein - **Jewish violinist from Lithuania**.

Depending on the performance location, local and regional cultural elements are also integrated. For example, the planned 2025 performance in San José, Costa Rica, will include representation of indigenous communities.

HIGHLIGHTS & COLLABORATIONS

- World premieres of Credo and Benedictus were recorded by German national broadcaster WDR in 2022 at the Beethovenfest Bonn.
- Agnus Dei premiered in 2024 at Musiktheater Gelsenkirchen.
- Collaborations with renowned ensembles such as the Munich Symphony Orchestra, Beethoven Orchestra Bonn, Duisburg Philharmonic, WDR Funkhaus Orchestra, Youth Orchestra Victoriano López (Honduras), and the New Philharmonic Westphalia.
- In a special 2025 performance in Germany, British church organist George Warren performed in place of the full orchestra.
- This concert is more than music—it is a call for harmony, dialogue, and shared humanity across cultures and creeds.



Marcus Schinkel is a crossover artist between musical genres such as jazz, classical, rock and world music and as a pianist and cultural ambassador for the embassies of the Federal Republic of Germany and cultural institutions such as the Humboldt Institute:

2018 in China, 2017 and 2019 in Latin America, 2020 and 2021 in Italy, 2021, 2022 in France and Romania, 2023 in Costa Rica and Panama and 2024 in Nepal.

The Marcus Schinkel Trio can already look back on a 30-year history and was founded at the beginning of the in the early 90s during the studies of Marcus Schinkel - piano, synthesiser and Wim de Vries - drums Fritz Roppel - fretless bass has been part of the trio since 2014.



PRESS RATINGS

'When pianist Marcus Schinkel takes up a Beethoven theme to spin it out in garlands or prepares a Beethoven phrase by improvising, succeeds quite astonishingly. The highlight is his Ba-Rock variations on the keyboard at the end of the Credo!'

Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung 2024 on the performance with the Neue Philharmonie Westfalen

'Schinkel has taken the monumental Credo out of the mass composition from the mass composition, broke it up and and reassembled the individual parts with his own additions reassembled(...). The so differently functioning jazz and classical elements, notated and free elements and free elements together and coordinating them requires a great deal of sensitivity, which Marcus Schinkel brought to the musical interfaces. In the middle section, after the classical soloist quartet of the intimate 'Et incarnatus' as a response in Schinkel's Schinkel's arrangement, the expressive worlds of five world religions to motifs from Beethoven's Credo.'

Generalanzeiger 2022 on the premiere