

PLAY BACH RELOADED & CROSSOVER BEETHOVEN

Marcus Schinkel - piano, synth

Wim de Vries - drums

Fritz Roppel - bass

As a tribute to the classical crossover pioneer Jacques Loussier, who died in 2019, Schinkel and his trio present the new programme **Play Bach Reloaded**.

All of the pieces from Loussier's 1959 hit album *Play Bach* serve as a template for their own contemporary jazz interpretations: Schinkel uses the monumental melodies of the Preludes and Fugues from the Well-Tempered Clavier and the Toccata by Johann Sebastian Bach, breaks them up, adds his own elements to the individual parts and reassembles them.

In this way, Bach's flow and meandering harmonies are organically moulded into a still open form.

The predecessor programme *Crossover Beethoven* (Beethoven Meets Jazz) gave concerts around the world, premiering in Bonn in 1999 for the German Bundestag.



MUSIC THAT CREATES WORLDS

Engagements in Honduras with a classical youth orchestra and a rock band followed in 2017 and 2019. In 2018, Schinkel was invited to China as a cultural ambassador for the state of North Rhine-Westphalia to perform his Beethoven jazz arrangements together with Chinese jazz musicians in the province of Szechuan.

In 2020 and 2021, Schinkel and his trio gave concerts in Rome at the invitation of the German Embassy, and in 2022 concerts in Romania, the Netherlands, Germany and France.

In 2023, he travelled to Panama and Costa Rica at the invitation of the Goethe Institute, and in 2024 to Nepal, Honduras and El Salvador.

Schinkel is also a regular guest at the Beethovenfest in Bonn: the world premiere of the jazz mass *Credo In Unum Mundum* for 130 participants took place on 9 September 2022, a recomposition based on Beethoven's *Credo* from the *Missa Solemnis* for choir, orchestra, jazz trio, classical solo singing and 4 world music singers from India, Mongolia, Syria and Israel.

Schinkel is a border crosser between all styles, who has worked with a wide variety of artists such as Grammy award winner and saxophone legend Ernie Watts, Markus



Stockhausen, Charlie Mariano, Eric Vloeimans, gypsy guitar star Joscho Stephan, cabaret artist Nessi Tausend-schön, the Munich Symphony Orchestra and the WDR Funkhausorchester.

The long-time co-musicians are Wim de Vries on drums (Jazzpoll best drummer Benelux), known throughout Europe through the drum duo Drumbassadors, and the extremely versatile electric and double bass player Fritz Roppel, active in the classical, jazz and tango scene.

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Marcus Schinkel is a crossover pianist, composer and arranger, composer and arranger for many years on international on international stages between the genres of classical music, jazz and rock. His style is characterised by lyrical piano playing and synthesiser sounds, interwoven with with rhythmic-harmonic jazz elements.

(PRESS) REVIEWS

'Marcus played Für Elise with a lot of sex!'
(Maestro Kurt Masur)

A '...balancing act across epochs, between classical and modern, between inspiring model and original contemporary realisation (...) acts subliminally with the charm of a rock band' (JAZZPODIUM), whereby 'ideas from the great classics are interwoven with his own ideas to create a sensual listening pleasure' (STERN).

'Tradition is not the keeping of ashes, but the passing on of fire!'
(Thomas Morus)