Christian Tetzlaff, violin

J. S. Bach: The Sonatas and Partitas for Solo Violin

PROGRAM

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750) Sonata No. 1 in G minor, BWV 1001
  Adagio
  Fuga: Allegro
  Siciliano
  Presto

Bach Partita No. 1 in B minor, BWV 1002
  Allemande — Double
  Courante — Double
  Sarabande — Double
  Bourrée — Double

  PAUSE

Bach Sonata No. 2 in A minor, BWV 1003
  Grave
  Fuga
  Andante
  Allegro

INTERMISSION

Bach Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004
  Allemande
  Courante
  Sarabande
  Gigue
  Chaconne

Bach Sonata No. 3 in C major, BWV 1005
  Adagio
  Fuga
  Largo
  Allegro assai

  PAUSE

Bach Partita No. 3 in E major, BWV 1006
  Preludio
  Loure
  Gavotte en Rondeau
  Menuet I and Menuet II
  Bourrée
  Gigue

Please note that each pause will last approximately ten minutes and that intermission will be for one hour.

Funded by the Koret Foundation, this performance is part of Cal Performances’ 2010–2011 Koret Recital Series, which brings world-class artists to our community.

This performance is made possible, in part, by Patron Sponsors Michele and Kwei Ü.

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 ABOUT THE ARTIST

AN ARTIST KNOWN FOR his musical integrity, technical assurance and intelligent, compelling interpretations, Christian Tetzlaff is internationally recognized as one of the most important violinists of his generation.

From the beginning of his career, Mr. Tetzlaff has performed and recorded a broad spectrum of the repertoire, ranging from Bach’s unaccompanied sonatas and partitas to 19th-century masterworks by Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Brahms; and from 20th-century concertos by Bartók, Berg and Shostakovich to world premieres of contemporary works. Also a dedicated chamber musician, he frequently collaborates with distinguished artists, including Leif Ove Andsnes, Lars Vogt, Alexander Lonquich and Tabea Zimmermann, and is the founder of the Tetzlaff Quartet, which he formed in 1994 with violinist Elisabeth Kufferath, violist Hanna Weinmeister and his sister, cellist Tanja Tetzlaff.

Music occupied a central place in Mr. Tetzlaff’s family, and he and his three siblings are all professional musicians. Born in Hamburg in 1966, Mr. Tetzlaff began playing the violin and piano at age six, but pursued a regular academic education while continuing his musical studies. He did not begin intensive study of the violin until making his concert debut playing the Beethoven Violin Concerto at age 14. Mr. Tetzlaff attributes the establishment of his musical outlook to his teacher at the conservatory in Lübeck, Uwe-Martin Haiberg, who placed equal stress on interpretation and technique. Mr. Tetzlaff came to the United States during the 1985–1986 academic year to work with Walter Levine at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and spent two summers at the Marlboro Music Festival in Vermont.

Christian Tetzlaff has been in demand as a soloist with many of the world’s leading orchestras and conductors, establishing close artistic partnerships that are renewed season after season. Mr. Tetzlaff has performed with the orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, Philadelphia, New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Toronto, among many others in North America, as well as with such major European ensembles as the Berlin Philharmonic, London Symphony, Orchestre de Paris, Vienna Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.

Mr. Tetzlaff is a 2010–2011 Carnegie Hall Perspectives artist. Now in its 11th season, the Perspectives series is an initiative in which musicians are invited to curate a personal concert series in Carnegie and Zankel halls through collaborations with other musicians and ensembles. Mr. Tetzlaff’s Perspectives include an appearance with the Boston Symphony led by James Levine, during which he plays concertos by Mozart, Bartók and the New York premiere of a new concerto by Harrison Birtwistle; a play/performances with the Orchestra of St. Luke’s; a performance with the Ensemble ACJW led by Sir Simon Rattle; a concert with the Tetzlaff Quartet; and a duo recital with violinist Antje Weithas. He also leads a professional training workshop for young violinists and pianists, culminating in a young artist concert.

Additional highlights of Mr. Tetzlaff’s 2010–2011 season include appearances with the National, Toronto, New World and City of Birmingham symphonies, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, London’s Philharmonia and the NDR Hamburg Sinfonie-Orchestra, as well as concerts with the London Philharmonic in Leipzig, Helsinki and London and a European tour with the San Francisco Symphony. He also performs the complete cycle of Bach’s sonatas and partitas in Lisbon, Dresden and at Cal Performances at UC Berkeley; all of the Beethoven sonatas for violin and piano with Alexander Lonquich in Tokyo; and tours with the Tetzlaff Quartet throughout North America and Europe.

Mr. Tetzlaff’s highly regarded recordings reflect the breadth of his musical interests and include solo works, chamber music and concertos ranging from Haydn to Bartók. His recent recordings include Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto with the Russian National Orchestra and Kent Nagano for PentaTone Classics; Beethoven’s Violin Concerto with the Tonhalle Orchestra and David Zinman for Arte Nova; the complete Bach sonatas and partitas for the Musical Heritage and Hänssler labels; Berg’s Chamber Concerto for piano, violin and 13 wind instruments with Mitsuko Uchida and the Ensemble Intercontemporain led by Pierre Boulez for Decca; and Schumann’s three piano trios with Leif Ove Andsnes and Tanja Tetzlaff for EMI/Virgin. Mr. Tetzlaff’s upcoming recordings include Szymanowski’s Violin Concerto No. 1 with the Vienna Philharmonic led by Mr. Boulez for Deutsche Grammophon; the Schumann and Mendelssohn violin concertos with the Frankfurt Radio Orchestra and Paavo Järvi for Edel Classics; and Schoenberg’s String Quartet No. 1 and Sibelius’s Quartet, Op. 56, with the Tetzlaff Quartet for AVI.

Christian Tetzlaff makes his home near Frankfurt with his wife, a clarinetist with the Frankfurt Opera, and their three children. He currently performs on a violin modeled after a Guarneri del Gesù by German violin maker Peter Greiner. In honor of his artistic achievements, Musical America named Mr. Tetzlaff “Instrumentalist of the Year” in 2005.