

Raphaela Gromes
Violoncello

“... moments of sheer poetry” (Süddeutsche Zeitung)

Highly virtuosic and full of drive, passionate and technically brilliant, versatile and charming – there are hardly any other cellists who are able to captivate their audiences the way Raphaela Gromes does. Whether as a soloist with orchestra, as a duo in chamber music or alongside a wind quartet, the young cellist always leaves everyone spellbound with both her fantastically ambitious and remarkably effortless playing.

Her first appearance as a soloist took place in the fall of 2005 with the *Cello Concerto* by Friedrich Gulda, a performance for which she received resounding acclaim from both audience and press. As a young student, she began her studies at the age of 14 at the University of Music and Theatre Mendelssohn-Bartholdy in Leipzig with Peter Bruns before continuing with Wen-Sinn Yang at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich in 2010 and later with Reinhard Latzko at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna.

Awards to her name include First Prize at both the 2012 Richard Strauss Competition and the 2016 Concorso Fiorindo Turin, as well as the German Music Competition Prize in the solo cello category. Also since 2012 she has held a scholarship from the German Academic Scholarship Foundation and has been supported by Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now.

She gained valuable musical inspiration from master classes with renowned cellists such as David Geringas, Yo-Yo Ma, Frans Helmerson, Jens Peter Maintz, László Fenyő, Daniel Müller-Schott, Kristin von der Goltz, Wolfgang Boettcher, Anner Bylsma and Wolfgang Emanuel Schmid.

Raphaela Gromes celebrated her debut at such renowned festivals as the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, the Jungfrau Music Festival Interlaken, the Vorsprung Festival of the Audi Summer Concerts in Ingolstadt with Kent Nagano, the Munich Opera Festival, the Marvao International Music Festival, the Edinburgh International Festival, the Rheingau Music Festival, the Ludwigsburg Schlossfestspiele and the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, and has given guest appearances at the Tonhalle Zurich, the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, the Elbphilharmonie and Laeishalle Hamburg, and the concert halls of Berlin, Vienna and Dortmund. In 2018, a tour took her to the United States, in 2019 to Korea, and in 2020 to China.

She followed invitations to Isarphilharmonie in Munich, Tonhalle Zurich, the Philharmonie in Essen, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, she played several times at the Elbphilharmonie and Laeishalle in Hamburg and in the concert halls in Berlin, Vienna and Dortmund.

Raphaela Gromes
Violoncello

International
Artists &
Tours

She maintains a close collaboration with the Festival Strings Lucerne, with whom she is on an extensive tour in 23/24.

Furthermore, a number of cello concertos have already been dedicated to her: Dominik Giesriegl's *Cello Concerto* in 2012 and Valentin Bachmann's *Cello Concerto* in 2013. Her third world premiere, the double concerto *Chroma* composed for Raphaela Gromes and Cécile Grübler by Mario Bürki in 2014, teamed the young cellist up with the Swiss Military Orchestra.

In 2022, she premiered Igor Loboda's concert "*L'Arcobaleno della vita*" for cello, piano and string orchestra with the Georgian Chamber Orchestra and Julian Riem.

Raphaela Gromes has been an exclusive artist with Sony Classical since 2016. Her albums are distinguished by creative programming and an explorative spirit. In fact, Gromes features a world premiere recording, such as Jacques Offenbach's *Hommage á Rossini*, Klengel's *Cello Concerto No. 3* (with the RSB Orchestra and Nicholas Carter on "Romantic Cello Concertos") or, in 2020, the original version of the *Sonata op. 6* by Richard Strauss.

Her albums have won a number of awards: in 2019 she received the German Record Critics' Award for the CD "Offenbach" as well as the Bavarian Arts Promotion Award in the category "Music and Dance". In 2020 she received the OPUS KLASSIK in the category chamber music/duo for her CD "Offenbach" together with pianist Julian Riem and was awarded the Diapason Nouveauté for her album "Richard Strauss – Cello Sonatas". In February 2021 her album "Klengel – Schumann: Romantic Cello Concertos" received the Diapason d'Or.

Her last album "Femmes" in which Gromes presents works by 23 female composers spanning 9 centuries, stayed in the classical charts for months in 2023.

Raphaela Gromes plays a cello by Carlo Bergonzi provided to her from a private source.

She is a cultural ambassador for SOS Children's Villages worldwide.

season 2023/2024

Please contact Weigold & Böhm if you wish to make changes to the biography.