



## Biography

### Dénes Várjon

*Pianist*

Dénes Várjon started studying at the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in 1984. He received tuition in piano from Sándor Falvai and chamber music from György Kurtág and Ferenc Rados finishing his studies with concert diploma in 1991. Parallel to his studies he has been a regularly participant of International master classes with András Schiff. Dénes Várjon is first prize winner of the Concours Géza Anda in Zürich.

Dénes Várjon is a regular guest at the most prestigious International Festivals such as Salzburger Festspiele, Lucerne Festival, Schleswig-Holstein Musik-Festival, Biennale di Venezia, Marlboro Festival (USA), Klavierfestival Ruhr, Kunstfest Weimar, and Edinburgh Festival. He is invited to András Schiff's and Heinz Holliger's Ittinger Konzerttage in Switzerland every year and enjoys a longstanding relationship with the Open Chamber Music-Prussia Cove (UK).

He has performed with major orchestras such as The Camerata Salzburg, the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, the Wiener Kammerorchester, the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra Budapest, the Camerata Bern, the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne, the Hungarian State Symphony Orchestra, the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, the Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin, the Athens State Orchestra, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Bremen Philharmonic, the American Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, the Budapest Festival Orchestra, Gidon Kremer's Kremerata Baltica, a.o. He has worked together with conductors like Sándor Vegh and Horst Stein and is currently working with conductors such as Heinz Holliger, Adam Fischer, Leopold Hager, Iván Fischer, Hubert Soudant, Peter Rundel, Thomas Zehetmair and many more.

The concert series "Solti Celebrates Bartók" at the Barbican Centre, London, included Dénes Várjon's performance of Concerto for two pianos and percussion together with András Schiff and Evelyn Glennie under the baton of Sir George Solti.

Dénes Várjon is deeply committed to chamber music and is partner of artists like Lukas, Clemens and Veronika Hagen, Steven Isserlis, Leonidas Kavakos, Miklós Pérenyi, András Schiff, Carolin Widmann, Christoph Richter, Joshua Bell, Radovan Vlatkovic, Tabea Zimmermann, the Carmina, the Takács, the Keller and the Endellion quartets, as well as the Ensemble Wien-Berlin. He also appears regularly with his wife Izabella Simon playing four hands and two pianos recitals together. Dénes Várjon enjoys a very intensive cooperation with the German composer Jörg Widmann, just as with the oboist and composer Heinz Holliger. They look retrospectively at a lot of triumphant projects and look forward to some in the following seasons.

He has recorded for Naxos, Capriccio and for Hungaroton Classics with critical acclaim. Teldec released his CD with Sandor Veress's "Hommage à Paul Klee" (a production with András Schiff, Heinz Holliger and the Budapest Festival Orchestra). His recording "Hommage à Geza Anda", (PAN-Classics Switzerland) has received very important international echoes. In 2008 the CD with the Sonatas of Robert Schumann for violin and piano that he recorded together with Carolin Widmann was released and also very well reviewed by the critics. In the same year he also recorded for ECM the Holliger Romancendres with Christoph Richter. His latest recording of Schumann pieces together with the cellist Steven Isserlis was issued in 2009 on the Hyperion label. His first solo CD with pieces of Berg, Janáček and Liszt will be released by ECM in January 2012.

Dénes Várjon is professor at the Ferenc Liszt University of Music in Budapest and has been awarded by Hungarian Government, the Ferenc Liszt and Sándor Veress Prize. From the season 2010/2011 on he has a guest professorship in Bard College.

**2011 / 2012**

**This biography is to be reproduced without any changes, omissions or additions, unless expressly authorized by artist management.**