

Frank Gerstmeier - Profile

Frank Gerstmeier was born in 1961 in Dortmund. His studies enclosed pedagogy, chamber music and solo lessons. He received his concert-grade in Cologne after studies with Hubert Käppel. Early he started to teach, play concerts and had engagements as a theatre and studio musician. Since that time he is well known as a soloist and chamber musician, giving concerts and classes in Germany and in abroad. Teaching students from many countries, his class is well respected.

Frank Gerstmeier gives solo recitals as well as duo concerts with his partners Thomas Haberkamp/saxophon (Reeds & Strings) and well known guitarist Nora Buschmann (Duo Nofrete). Improvisations as a result of his contacts with jazz can be parts of the programs. These programs enclose a great width from most sensitive sounds to complex virtuosity. Beyond these combinations Frank Gerstmeier appears on stage with flute, mandolin, singer, speaker, three or four guitars (with amadeus guitar duo) and in chamber music ensembles like Continuum Ensemble or Concerto Dortmund.

Frank Gerstmeier can be heard on about 20 CDs. He makes recordings for broadcast stations and studios. His arrangements for guitar or different complements are well respected. Together with Canadian guitarist Dale Kavanagh he played the first German performance of “Lorca-concerto” and as a soloist the first night of “Le Gracie”, both pieces written by the well known British composer Gerald Garcia.

For some time Frank Gerstmeier also appears a composer. His pieces for ensemble show his pedagogic demands whereas his solo pieces consist of a bride variety of timbres and complex sounds. His works are published by well known publishers in Germany.

Since 2001 Frank Gerstmeier additionally profiles as a conductor of guitar ensembles. He conducted the festival ensembles of important festivals with first performances of well known composers like Domeniconi or Zenamon. In 2005 he is invited to conduct the first performance of a piece of Gerald Garcia at “musica-sacra” festival at Paderborn/Germany.