

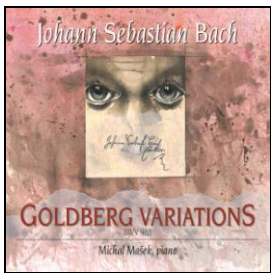

MgA. Bc. **Michal Mašek** (1980), the pianist and Steinway Artist, graduated from the Prague Conservatoire and the Academy of Performing Arts in the class of Prof. Emil Leichner. He was the winner of several international piano competitions and was awarded the **"Classic 98"** award. When he was 17, Michal recorded his first CD of the famous J. S. Bach´s Goldberg Variations and Two-Part Inventions. One year later, he recorded Bach´s Concerto in D Minor accompanied by the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Jiří Bělohlávek. The joint concerts with Josef Suk resulted in a CD called "Josef Suk and 3 Pianists". To date Michal has recorded a total of seven CDs. In recent years he has performed in concerts together with the pianist Igor Ardašev (four hands and two pianos), the violinists Václav Hudeček and Jiří Vodička and the sopranos Tereza Mátlova and Vanda Šípová. Michal's favourite composers include Beethoven (Mašek & Svárovský, Piano Concerto No. 5 "EMPEROR"on CD) and Bohuslav Martinů (Mašek, EMI Classics "Mašek-Martinů"). In 2011 he founded the music festival "Hudební setkání (Meetings with Music) (http://www.hudebni-setkani.cz/). During the COVID pandemics he recorded a series of five video concerts called "Concert for an Empty Castle". After these video concerts, he produced sixteen "Concert Video Invitations ". Michal is an external teacher at the University of J. E. Purkyně (UJEP) and Janáček Academy of Performing Arts (JAMU). Czech Television has featured Michal in several music programmes including a programme called "The 13th Chamber" in which artists share their private lives, achievements and failings with viewers. Today professional music critics refer to Michal as an exceptional and **distinctive pianist,** not only for his brilliant technique, but also for his delivery and refined tone.

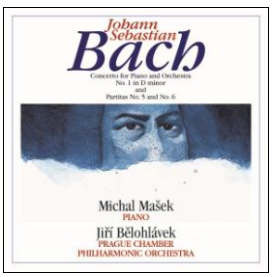
*... The highlight of the concert was Mašek's first and only encore: Chopin's Mazurka No. 4, Op. 17, was a real treat. I have never heard such a sensitive performance, full of interesting details (e.g. in the dynamics with unusual, almost jazz-like accentuation of notes on the up beat) and colourful tone*

*... Today's piano recital by Michal Mašek was an unforgettable experience. His mastery and passion for music were felt in every single note that came from the keys. His interpretation of pieces ranging from Mozart's elegant melodies to Beethoven's powerful force to Chopin's sensitive lyricism was breathtaking... Michal not only excelled in technical performance, but also managed to fill his playing with emotions, which added authenticity to each piece. The standing ovation was a well-deserved recognition of his talent and dedication to music.*

*... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos and Orchestra in E flat major No. 10 K. 365 (316a) is one of those works that require the highest virtuosity from both soloists and a sense of mutual cooperation in every detail. That's how great it sounds. The performance with the Chamber Philharmonic was undertaken by two men whose technical abilities and individual mastery could not be doubted in advance. Although Igor Ardašev and Michal Mašek each follow their own interpretive path, this time they acted as a pair whose interplay convinced with absolute perfection. Humility in front of the author and exemplary cooperation with the accompanying orchestra filled each note, and in the cadenzas they enjoyed, individually and together, their boundless experiences. A pleasure to listen to. Conductor Zbyněk Müller seemed to recede into the background, but everything was firmly in his hands.*

- Video presentation of Michal Mašek - **play**
- ČT 13. komnata Michala Maška – **play**



















- Goldberg variations - *play*
- Bach Concerto - *play*
- Suk - *play*
- Duo Morpheus - *play*
- Bach & Mozart - *play*
- Martinů - *play*
- Beethoven - *play*