



# LEIPZIGER STREICHQUARTETT

## BIOGRAPHY

The **Leipzig Quartet** has become one of the most sought-after and versatile ensembles of this genre in the 35 years of its existence.

Founded in 1988, three of its members were active in the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra until they left the orchestra in 1993 upon completing intensive studies with Gerhard Bosse and Karl Suske in Leipzig, the Amadeus Quartet in London and Cologne, Hatto Beyerle in Hanover and Walter Levin in Lübeck. From then on, they devoted themselves exclusively to the art of chamber music.

Since then, the ensemble has received numerous international honors and awards. In 1991, they won the prestigious international ARD competition in Munich and the Brüder Busch Prize. The following year the ensemble was awarded the Siemens Music Prize, and also received a scholarship from the Amadeus Scholarship Fund and the Stiftung Kulturfonds.

For more than 25 years, the ensemble arranged its own concert series "Pro Quatuor" in Leipzig. In addition, they are regularly invited to perform at renowned festivals in over 40 European countries, as well as in the United States and South America, Australia, Japan, Israel, Africa and Asia. The ensemble keeps an active concert schedule.

Longstanding collaborations with musical partners have enriched the ensemble's repertoire over many years. These collaborations include clarinetist Karl Leister, cellist Michael Sanderling, violists Barbara Buntrock and Hartmut Rohde, pianists Alfred Brendel, Menahem Pressler, Andreas Staier and Christian Zacharias, sopranos Juliane Banse and Christiane Oelze, baritone Olaf Bär as well as the "King of Klezmer", Giora Feidman.

Since 1992, the ensemble records its extensive repertoire on CD exclusively for the company Musikproduktion Dabringhaus und Grimm. These include complete recordings of works by Ludwig van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the entire Second Viennese School.

To date, the ensemble has released around 100 recordings, which are highly acclaimed by international critics and have received numerous awards, such as the Diapason d'Or, the Premios CD-Compact, the Indie Award and five ECHO-Klassik Prizes.

Currently, the ensemble is devoting itself to the string quartet oeuvre of Joachim Raff as well as to the complete recording of Haydn's string quartets, which is due to be completed in 2024.

Another important focus has always been the work with contemporary composers – this has resulted in numerous world premieres of works by Beat Furrer, Jörg Widmann, Wolfgang Rihm, Steffen Schleiermacher, Christian Ofenbauer, Siegfried Thiele, Bernd Franke, Cristóbal Halffter and many others. Last year, the ensemble performed Thomas Agerfeldt Olsen's "Plappergeist" at the WDR Funkhauskonzert in Cologne.

Invited by Claudio Abbado, the LSQ served as a member of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra for ten years and held a fellowship at Tokyo University of the Art (Geidai) for many years.

# MEMBERS

## STEFAN ARZBERGER VIOLIN

received his first violin lessons at the age of four at the Robert Schumann Conservatory in Zwickau. By the time he started College, he had won numerous prizes and awards.

In 1989 he began his studies in Leipzig with Prof. Klaus Hertel. He became a member of the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra in 1992. Until he joined the Leipzig String Quartet in 2007, he worked with the Bayreuth Festival Orchestra and as visiting first chair of major European cultural orchestras. Stefan has been a member of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra since 2003.

In addition to his position in the quartet, Stefan Arzberger has taught and continues to teach at music conservatories in Leipzig, Nuremberg, Tokyo, and Mannheim. Most recently, he worked as a professor of violin and early music education in Regensburg. Other passions besides music are diving and aviation.

Stefan Arzberger plays an instrument built by Domenico Montagnana in 1746.

## TILMAN BÜNING VIOLIN

was born in 1968 in Bergen on the island of Rügen. He received his first violin lessons at the age of seven at the Robert Schumann Conservatory in Zwickau. He attended the University of Music "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" (Hochschule für Musik und Theater) in Leipzig, where he studied violin and chamber music with Prof. Gerhard Bosse and Prof. Karl Suske. While still a student, he was appointed first chair of the 2nd violins at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig. His deep interest in chamber music led to the formation of the Leipzig String Quartet in 1988.

Alongside the ensemble's busy concert schedule, Tilmann Büning has also taught international chamber music master classes in Europe, Canada, Mexico, the USA and Japan. From 2009 to 2012 he was a visiting professor at the Tokyo University of the Arts. In recent years he has been increasingly involved in orchestral projects, including the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestra Mozart and the Lucerne Festival Orchestra.

Since 2020, Tilmann Büning is a permanent member of the Staatskapelle Dresden.

Tilmann plays instruments by Michele Deconet, Venice 1763, and Joachim Schade, 2016.

## IVO BAUER VIOLA

was born in Leipzig in 1967 and received his first violin lessons at the age of five. He attended the Spezialschule für Musik in Halle/Saale, where he was taught by Prof. Gerhard Bosse and others. He then took up viola studies at the University of Music (Hochschule für Musik und Theater) in Leipzig with Prof. Dietmar Hallmann.

While still a student, he was one of the founding members of the Leipzig String Quartet in 1988. In 1989 he won an award for viola at the Markneukirchen International Instrumental Competition.

After completing his studies in 1990, he joined the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. After three years, he left the orchestra to devote himself exclusively to chamber music.

From 1988 to 2006 he was a member of the Ensemble Avantgarde, dedicated to the nurturing of New Music. For several years he was solo violist with the Leipzig Chamber Orchestra, and from 2009 to 2016 he was a member of the Lucerne Festival Orchestra.

Since 2019 Ivo Bauer is once again a permanent member of the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig.

He plays on a viola by Giuseppe Scarpella, Genoa, ca. 1860.

## PETER BRUNS VIOLONCELLO

studied in Berlin with Peter Vogler. From 1988 to 1998 he was first chair of the violoncellos at the Staatskapelle Dresden.

Solo concerts and recitals have taken Peter Bruns to the most renowned music centers on all continents as well as to the largest festivals.

He is a soloist with many important orchestras and has worked with conductors such as Giuseppe Sinopoli and Herbert Blomstedt.

His exploration of the musical language of various eras has led to solo collaborations with renowned ensembles, such as the Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin.

Peter Bruns is a member of the Leipzig String Quartet since 2019.

At the University of Music (Hochschule für Musik und Theater) in Leipzig, Peter Bruns oversees a professorship for violoncello. He is also artistic director of the Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra Leipzig and the festival "Con Spirito Leipzig".

His numerous published CDs have received many awards, including the "Cannes Classical Award" for "Best CD of the Year".

Peter Bruns plays on a cello by Carlo Tononi, Venice 1730, which used to belong to Pablo Casals.