

Hanno Dönneweg

Bassoonist · Biography

Hanno Dönneweg, born in 1977, received his first bassoon lessons at the age of nine at the Jugendmusikschule St. Georgen in the Black Forest.

From 1993 to 1997 he studied at the Badisches Konservatorium Karlsruhe, the Musikhochschule Köln/Aachen and the Musikhochschule Stuttgart, before moving in 1998 to the Hochschule für Musik “Hanns Eisler” in Berlin. His teachers were Prof. Klaus Thunemann, Prof. Sergio Azzolini, Stefan Schweigert and Oscar Bohórquez.

He was a scholarship holder of the Herbert von Karajan Foundation of the Berlin Philharmonic and of the Deutscher Musikwettbewerb, and a member of the Bundesauswahl “Konzerte junger Künstler”.

He has appeared at the festivals of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern and Schleswig-Holstein, at the Schwetzingen SWR Festspiele and at the Ittinger Pfingstkonzerte (Switzerland). He performs regularly with the Ludwig Chamber Players, the Stuttgart Winds, the SWR Swing Fagottett, and in duo with Steffen Mark Schwarz and Hsiao-Yen Chen.

As a soloist he has played with the Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR, the Schwarzwald Kammerorchester, the Folkwang Kammerorchester Essen, the Kurpfälzisches Kammerorchester Mannheim, the Südwestdeutsches Kammerorchester Pforzheim, the Bayerisches Kammerorchester Bad Brückenau and the Arcata Kammerorchester Stuttgart, under conductors including Eiji Oue, Tatsuya Shimono, Sigiswald Kuijken, Michael Sanderling, Johannes Moesus and Sir Roger Norrington.

At the invitation of the Japan Mozart Society he gave a concert in Tokyo, appearing as both soloist and conductor.

In recent years he has made numerous CD and radio recordings for tacet, cpo, Hänssler, Organum, Coviello, NDR, Deutschlandradio and SWR.

He also teaches masterclasses in Germany, Japan (Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya), Taiwan and the USA (Cincinnati). Since 2008 he has been a faculty member of the renowned Affinis Festival in Japan. In September of the same year the first Bergstadtsommer took place in St. Georgen, a music festival he co-founded, which has been held annually in the Black Forest town ever since. In 2026 he was invited to the MICMF Festival in China.

He received the first Excellence Prize of the Verein der Freunde und Förderer des Radio-Sinfonieorchesters Stuttgart des SWR e.V. The prize money made it possible to commission new arrangements of pieces for bassoon and orchestra by Andreas N. Tarkmann, which are presented for the first time on the CDs “bassoon/FAGOTT!/basson” Vol. 1 and 2.

Since August 2002 he has been principal bassoonist of the Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR, and since 2016 in the same position with the new SWR Symphonieorchester, where he is also a member of the orchestra board.

Since 2020 he has been arranging a large number of new works for “his” instrument to broaden the bassoon’s narrow repertoire. These works are published by Fahora Verlag and are thus available to all bassoonists.

As a guest principal bassoonist he has also played with the Berlin Philharmonic, the Munich Philharmonic, the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, the Bayerisches Staatsorchester, the Hessischer Rundfunk orchestra, the Elbphilharmonie Orchester, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester, the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, the Camerata Salzburg, the Württembergisches Kammerorchester Heilbronn, the SWR Sinfonieorchester Baden-Baden/Freiburg, the WDR Sinfonieorchester Köln, the Gürzenich Orchester Köln and the Tonhalle Orchester Zürich, under conductors including Kurt Masur, Simon Rattle, Gustavo Dudamel, Franz Welser-Möst, Paavo Järvi, Herbert Blomstedt, Teodor Currentzis, Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla and Robin Ticciati.