

### ***Essentials of the oboe studies at the HfMDK Frankfurt***

First of all, it is a matter of optimally developing the oboistic abilities in coordination with the individual circumstances.

The profile of each student is further defined by the wide range of repertoire.

The personal studies and individual lessons are supplemented by group lessons and chamber music in the oboe class.

The aim is for students to be able to play an active role in musical life at the end of their studies.

See also an introduction and impressions from the oboe class concert in February 2019:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGt1PyYxv-k>

UPDATE:

Fabian Menzel - Oboe

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMz5Fxfjx9reey2UgiuVRI-A>

Oboe Methodology on Youtube

NEWS:

The oboe class live in concert:

- **Vivaldi**, Concerto RV 580 op 3 Nr 10, arranged for oboe ensemble and b.c.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WvThTlwHiLQ>

The oboe solists are Bachelor students in their 2nd - 4th semester

- **Mozart**, "Entführung aus dem Serail" KV 384, arranged for oboe ensemble

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uBZqpACH6yw&t=1s>

- **Konzertmatinée** - Impressions on 2.9.2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-07MP5tiWBQ>

FABIAN MENZEL in LIVE-VIDEO-CONCERT:

"Schlosskonzerte Neuenburg" with Maria Conti Gallenti on 15.11.20:

"Schubert, Rossini und..."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jEhQ1sLuKBI>

### **BIOGRAPHY PROF. FABIAN MENZEL**

Fabian Menzel, born in 1961 in Grebenstein, Hesse, began his oboe studies with Ingo Goritzki in Hanover even before graduating from high school. Meanwhile he was a member of the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie in Frankfurt. At an early age he began to give concerts worldwide - both as a soloist and with his orchestra, the hr-Sinfonieorchester Frankfurt, which engaged him as the first solo oboist at the age of 21. He filled this position until 2004.

Menzel received the Prize of Deutscher Musikrat in 1985 and was laureate of the International ARD Competition and the Brüder-Busch-Gesellschaft in 1986.

In the 1980s Fabian Menzel was active for the chamber music studio of Hessischer Rundfunk and performed as soloist at the Mozartfest Würzburg, the Weilburger Schlosskonzerte and the Saarland Festival "Musik im 20. Jahrhundert", among others.

His "dazzling technique, but above all his rare musicality" made concerts "an event". His "phenomenal playing" attracted him a lot of attention and led to the 25-year-old's engagement at the Frankfurt Musikhochschule. His mission: to create an oboe class of international importance.

From 1983 to 2004 Fabian Menzel served as first solo oboist of the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra under the principal conductors Eliahu Inbal, Dimitri Kitajenko and Hugh Wolff.

He has also appeared in the same position in other acclaimed orchestras under renowned conductors such as Erich Leinsdorf, Sergiu Celibidache, Lorin Maazel, Wolfgang Sawallisch and Günther Wand.

From 2005 to 2008 Fabian Menzel held the position of solo oboist in the Konzerthausorchester Berlin. From 2010 - 2015 he was solo oboist in the Nordic Symphony Orchestra Tallinn under the baton of Anu Tali. In 2010 he was also a founding member of the Skyline Symphony Kammerorchester Frankfurt under the baton of Michael Sanderling, where he was also regularly active. Fabian Menzel is continuously in demand as guest solo oboist in the prestigious German Radio Orchestras.

### **Recordings:**

One of Menzel's main focuses are the composers of the 20th century. In 2003, the Hessische Rundfunk published a double CD with his oboe concertos of the 20th century. *Col legno* released the three oboe concertos by Bruno Maderna with the Saarbrücken Radio Orchestra and Menzel as soloists in 2006. From 1996 to 2004 Fabian Menzel and his duo partner Bernhard Endres recorded an anthology for oboe and piano for Antes /Bella Musica on a total of seven CDs, which has not been available to this extent to date and which has received much attention. In addition, numerous other radio and CD productions underline his broad musical spectrum and his outstanding position in the oboe scene.

### **Teaching:**

Since 1987 Fabian Menzel has successfully taught his own oboe class at the HfMDK, since 1998 as professor. The many top positions his students hold in German and European orchestras document his outstanding pedagogical importance.

Already during their studies, his students gain professional experience: on the one hand with youth and festival orchestras such as the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, the Baltic Sea Youth Orchestra, the European Union Youth Orchestra, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra and the Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra as well as on the other hand with orchestra internships and temporary contracts in opera houses such as Essen, Koblenz, Kassel, Cologne, Dortmund, Duisburg, the Gürzenich Orchestra Cologne, the SWR Radio Orchestras Stuttgart and Baden-Baden/Freiburg, the Thessaloniki State Orchestra, the Finnish National Opera Helsinki and the Milan Scala.

Former students of Fabian Menzel have received contracts with the symphony orchestras of the WDR and MDR as well as the theatre orchestras of Stuttgart, Mannheim, Karlsruhe, Kassel, Gärtnerplatz Munich, Chemnitz, Magdeburg, Weimar, Osnabrück, Kaiserslautern, Ulm, Augsburg, the Stuttgart Philharmonic and the Brandenburg Orchestra.

His former students hold also positions in international orchestras such as the Bruckner Orchestra Linz, the State Orchestra Thessaloniki, the Opera Cairo, the Bucheon Philharmonic Orchestra Seoul, the Radio Orchestra Pilsen, the Orquesta Classica da Madeira, the Scala in Milan and the Royal Opera Copenhagen.

### **Special news from the oboe class:**

Petros Mavrommatis won the audition for a permanent oboe position with the Thessaloniki State Symphony Orchestra in March 2019. He will take up the position after completing his master's degree in March 2020. In September 2017 Fabian Menzel's former student Juliana Koch was awarded the Audience Prize at the International ARD Competition and was the first woman in the history of the competition to receive a second prize in the oboe category.

The London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Simon Rattle engaged Juliana Koch as solo oboist at the beginning of June 2018.

Further information can be found at the following link: [iso.co.uk/more/blog/968-welcome-to-our-new-principal-oboe-juliana-koch.html](http://iso.co.uk/more/blog/968-welcome-to-our-new-principal-oboe-juliana-koch.html)

### **German Award: "Instrument of the Year 2017 - the Oboe"**

The awarding and appreciation of "his" instrument in 2017 was the occasion for Fabian Menzel to provide a profile of his decades of work as a soloist as well as both orchestral and chamber musician for the non-commercial Youtube channel "defo-17", thus giving all interested parties easy access to the enormously broad and varied repertoire of Oboe and Englishhorn literature. The spectrum ranges from famous oboe solos in orchestral works and solo concertos to standard works and rarities of chamber music, from Viennese classical composers to classical modernists including some premieres.

On the one hand, this channel can serve as a perspective extension and stimulus for current students to develop their own repertoire. It is also an opportunity for both current applicants and potential students to get to know the teacher Fabian Menzel as an active artist.