

## **Oliver Kern**

### **Curriculum Vitae**

Oliver Kern, born in 1970, graduated with a first-class degree in piano, orchestral and choral conducting from the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart, under the guidance of Wan Ing Ong. He then went on to specialize in piano with Rudolf Buchbinder and Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, at the Musik-Akademie in Basel and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg.

Throughout his career, he has won a considerable number of awards in international piano competitions. He has attracted attention and positive reviews from critics by winning two prestigious competitions: the “ARD” competition in Munich, in 1999, and the “Beethoven” competition in Vienna, in 2001, having been the first German pianist to have won this award. He is much appreciated for his performance of Beethoven’s and Brahms’ music – critics have recognised his noteworthy possession of technical virtuosity that is not an end in itself, but rather oriented toward a thorough research into timbre and expression. His profound interpretation has led him to the realisation of seldom undertaken cultural projects such as the performance of Brahms’ complete works for piano solo on different continents: “With great intensity and poetry Oliver Kern is modelling the Brahms cycle.” (Braunschweiger Zeitung).

Right now he is finishing the performance of all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in Sicily before playing it again in Germany in spring 2025.

He has performed in important festivals and in famous halls throughout America, Asia and Europe, and has been acclaimed by audiences at esteemed concert venues such as: Musikverein and Konzerthaus Wien, Schauspielhaus Berlin, Musikhalle Hamburg, Herkulessaal Munich, Salle Gaveau Paris, Teatro alla Scala Milan, Auditorium St. Cecilia Rome, Century Hall Beijing, Saitama Arts Centre Tokyo, Seoul Arts Center. He has played with famous orchestras including the New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, the Seoul Symphony Orchestra, the China National Symphony Orchestra, and most of the German Radio Symphony Orchestras. In 2024 he has been invited to perform several times with Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. He has recorded for the German, Austrian, French, Italian, Korean and Japanese radio and television.

After having taught at the Hanyang University Seoul, Oliver Kern taught at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater, Hamburg as professor of piano, before taking his current position as professor of piano at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Frankfurt where he is head of piano faculty.