

Mélo die Zhao

The 25-year-old Swiss-born pianist and composer Mélo die Zhao has proven herself to be one of the most talented musicians of her generation throughout her numerous recordings - including Beethoven Complete Sonatas, Tchaikovsky and Haydn Piano Concertos, Chopin Complete Etudes, Liszt Transcendental Etudes, among others - and international tours.

At 9 she entered the Geneva Music Conservatory to study with Mayumi Kameda and at 13 the Geneva Music University where she received the Bachelor and Soloist Master degrees at 16 in the class of Pascal Devoyon. She then followed her professor to Berlin where she is presently based and obtained a second Master at the University of Arts. She also received lessons from Paul Badura-Skoda in Paris and Vienna.

Mélo die Zhao is accustomed to the stage since the age of 6. She played with major orchestras such as the Moscow Tchaikovsky Symphony, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Deutsche Radio Philharmonie, Mozarteum Salzburg, China National, Shanghai Philharmonic etc., under conductors like Vladimir Fedoseyev, Howard Griffiths, Michail Jurowski, Gustav Kuhn or Muhai Tang and performed worldwide in prestigious concert halls such as Lincoln Center NYC, Tonhalle Zurich, NCPA Beijing, Victoria Hall Geneva, Theatre du Châtelet Paris, LAC Lugano and the festivals of Merano, Budapest, New Ross, Gstaad, Palermo, Valldemossa, Tiroler Festspiele and Davos.

In parallel, Mélo die Zhao began to study composition at 15 with Jean-Claude Schlaepfer in Geneva and Nicolas Bacri in Brussels. She is regularly commissioned by orchestras and troupes such as Rudra Béjart Ballet or China National Opera. She has a very personal and distinctive style and language and recently started to explore film music, original songs and electronic music. Her works include chamber, orchestral and religious music, as well as solo piano pieces where she often brings the virtuosity to a challenging level. She has a regular collaboration with the Swedish "Camerata Nordica" who performs with her in special concert projects combining classics and Mélo die's own compositions and arrangements.

She regularly conducts orchestras from the piano in many major piano concertos (Chopin 1 and 2, Beethoven Choral Fantasy etc.) as well as her own compositions.

Her **discography** includes :

- **Chopin 24 Études** (indépendant/Claves 2008)
- **Liszt Études d'exécution transcendante** (Claves 2011)
- **Beethoven Complete Piano Sonatas** (10 CDs box, Claves 2014)
- **Tchaikovsky Concertos 1 & 2** (Michail Jurowski, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Claves 2015)
- Album "**Wanderer**" (NCPA 2018)
- **Haydn Complete works for Keyboard and Orchestra** (Howard Griffiths, Schweizer Camerata, CPO 2020).

Mélo die Zhao is founder and artistic director of the des SPECTRUM CLASSIC-ELECTRONIC FESTIVAL in Saint-Prex, Switzerland.