

Benno Schachtner

Countertenor

Countertenor **Benno Schachtner** is continually gaining attention as a respected artist in the international music scene. His refreshing spontaneity and the pleasure he takes in the unpredictable art that is created in the spark of the moment are qualities that are particularly favoured by his audience as well as his colleagues.

Musical intelligence, emotional depth and a warm soothing timbre characterize this extraordinary singer.

His new Solo recording *Clear or cloudy* featuring songs of Dowland, Purcell & co. was released on the international market in the fall of 2017. Further CD productions (harmonia mundi france, Sony Classical, Accent) with René Jacobs, Stefan Temmingh, Christoph Spering or the Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin show the wide range of Benno Schachtner's artistic activities.

Highlights of the season 2017/18 include performances at the opera in Leipzig and the title role of the opera *Echnaton* by Philip Glas performed at the Oper Bonn. In addition he will be in Berlin, under the direction of René Jacobs, singing at the Staatsoper in Purcell's *King Arthur*. Other events coming up: at the Bach Festival in Montreal he will be singing Bach's *mass in b-minor* under the direction of Václav Luks and his Ensemble 1704. With this highly praised ensemble Benno Schachtner will also be part of an international tour performing Händel's *Messiah*.

At the beginning of 2019 he will have his debut at the opera in Paris.

International critics praise his brilliant technique, the thrilling interpretation of his singing and, above all, his artistic diversity. Numerous awards honor the singer: *ICMA Musikpreis 2017* for the recording of Bach's St. Johns Passion under the direction of René Jacobs, *ECHO Klassik-Preis 2017* for the recording of the complete Luther-cantatas with Christoph Spering, *Bayerischer Kunstförderpreis 2016*, *ECHO Klassik-Preis 2016* for the CD *Water Music* with *Capella de la Torre*, *Bachpreisträger 2012*.

Since 2016 he is teaching historical performance practice at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Mannheim.

Schachtner has a broad academic and practical background as well. In his first course of studies at the Music University in Detmold he studied church music, and completed his Master's degree under the tutelage of Prof. Gerhard Weinberger in 2009.

Following his penchant for Early Music, he continued his studies at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Basel, Switzerland, and completed a further Master's degree in vocal studies with Prof. Ulrich Messthaler.

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