



Mats Lidstrom

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Mats Lidstrom- BIOGRAPHY

Born in Stockholm, Sweden, currently living in London, Mats Lidstrom combines performing with teaching and composing. As an international soloist and chamber musician, he has gained a reputation for performances of great insight and virtuosity. The line of his own teachers goes straight back to Luigi Boccherini via Leonard Rose, Felix Salmond, Bernard Whitehouse, Alfredo Piatti and Gaetano Zanetti, his first teacher being Maja Vogl of the music conservatory in Gothenburg.

His ancestor Rickard Dybeck wrote the Swedish national anthem.

Compositions include Rigoletto Fantasy for cello and orchestra on Verdi's opera, Interlude for string Quartet and orchestra, Maze of Love for voice, piano and orch., I Vántan På Audiens - René Descartes in Stockholm 1650 for solo recorder (for Dan Laurin), Carnival in Venice for violin and two cellos, My Heart Is In The East Raoul Wallenberg In Memoriam for solo cello, The Sea Of Flowers Is Rising Higher Elegy for solo cello in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, Suite for solo cello, and for cello and piano: Spooky Pieces, Traffic, Hotel Suite, Ballroom Dances and Suite Tintin – 9 scenes from The Adventures of Tintin

Mr Lidstrom has written many transcriptions for cello as well as for other instrumental combinations. These transcriptions include works by Rameau, Schumann, Kreisler, Skryabin, J Strauss, Gershwin and Cole Porter. For his Suite de Pulcinella (cello and piano version of the 1949 orchestral score), Mr Lidstrom has obtained a performance license from the Stravinsky estate.

Mats' recent compilation for Boosey&Hawkes, The Orchestral Cellist, prompted the founding of his own publishing company, CelloLid.com. Besides his own compositions it includes the series "If Bach was a cellist" which lives the fantasy that everything Bach wrote, he wrote for the cello.

Appointed professor at the Royal Academy of Music in London in 1993 (Honorary Associate in 1998), Mats Lidstrom has given master classes at the conservatories in San Francisco, Cleveland and Oberlin, as well as in Australia, England, Denmark, Spain, South America and Sweden. He has also presented master classes for the British NYO (National Youth Orchestra). Prior to the Royal Academy, he taught at the Gothenburg University, Sweden.

He has appeared regularly on TV and radio throughout Europe, Japan, the U.S (including two appearances on Andy Warhol's TV show Interiors) and South America. Mr Lidstrom has participated in festivals such as Aspen, Kingston, Pensacola (USA), Cello Encounter (Rio de Janeiro), Open Strings (Denmark) and Aurora (Sweden).

As soloist he has performed with some of the world's leading orchestra, including the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Deutsche S.O. Berlin, Czech Philharmonic and the Dallas Symphony,

with conductors such as André Previn, Andrew Litton, Vladimir Ashkenazy, and Leif Segerstam.

He has performed in many of the major halls as chamber musician, including Alice Tully Hall (Chamber Music Soc. of New York City), The Y (New York City), Théâtre du Châtelet and Cité de la Musique (Paris), Musikverein (Vienna), Gulbenkian (Lisbon) and the Wigmore-, Queen Elizabeth- and Royal Festival Halls of London.

He has worked as Principal Cellist with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, LSO, Philharmonia and St. Martin's-in-the-fields of London, BBC SSO and Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Los Angeles and Oslo Philharmonic orchestras, and the major orchestras of Sweden.

His passion for research of, neglected but beautiful music for his instrument has resulted in several highly acclaimed CD's. He appears on EMI, Deutsche Grammophone, BIS, Hyperion, ASV, Musica Sveciae, Opus 3, Caprice Records, as well as on his own label, CelloLid.com
Recording projects for CelloLid.com includes the release of the Brahms sonatas with Bengt Forsberg on DVD and the spring 2011 project Lidstrom for kids, a DVD of his compositions aimed for younger players.

During the 2004-05 season, Mats Lidstrom was the Artistic Director of the festival From Sweden in London, the greatest undertaking for Swedish classical music abroad by the Swedish Government.

Mats Lidstrom-Critical Acclaim

Mats, a great composer

Groucho Marx , 1976

Mats is one of the most exciting cellists of his generation. His technique is superb, and he is fanatically interested in quality.

E-P Salonen

It is always a joy to hear Mats play. He is a very imaginative musician and his artistry very special indeed.

Lynn Harrell

The passion and imagination of Mats' playing, the phrasing and seemingly endless array of tone colour, gives me the greatest pleasure. He is an inspiring colleague.

Anne Sofie von Otter

Mats Lidström is the most creative and unique musician I have ever known. Throughout many years, he has been a constant source of inspiration to me.

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg

Mats is a superb cellist and an unusual, captivating musician.

Vladimir Ashkenazy

Mats Lidström is more than an excellent cellist, he's a wonderful musician. His immaculate technique and wonderful instincts make him a pleasure to hear and work with.

André Previn

Mats is a wonderful musician, full of fanaticism and love for music, and a great master of his instrument. He is also an extraordinary personality with much energy, and it is always a pleasure to have him as a soloist.

Neeme Järvi

Mats Lidström is not just a wonderful cellist, he has a searching and curious mind that informs his music-making. The care and generosity of his personality come through clearly to the listener.

Yo-Yo Ma

When Lidstrom turns on the heat, the excitement comes from the musicality of interpretation as from his impressive dexterity and astonishing dynamic range.

Washington Post

The cello: a toy, sounding like magic. The interpreter: a “Teufel Cellist”, displaying all the facets of the music, with linguistic instinct.

Berliner Zeitung

This is wonderful. Performed with compelling advocacy and stunning bravura, let me repeat that this is the release of highest distinction and significance, faultlessly played and atmospherically recorded.

Fanfare, USA, on Hyperion CD Godard/Boëllmann

The Strauss was a literal performance with a cello solo that had to be experienced to be believed. By the end, one knew that this was programme telling at its most faithful, a singular, if somewhat controversial accomplishment.

South China Morning Post, Hong Kong

Mats Lidström is that rare thing, an original musician. The sheer mercurial energy which drives his performances can be both engaging and disturbing, but there is always a searching intelligence at work.

BBC Music Magazine

Mats Lidstrom-Program Samples

With Chamber Orchestra:

A Vivaldi

Concerto in C minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

Concerto in A major and F minor

C Ph E Bach

Concerto in A major

J Haydn

Concertos in C and D major

D Shostakovitch

Concerto no. 1, op.107

M Lidstrom

RFK Concerto for cello and orchestra,
Robert F Kennedy in Memoriam

With Symphonic Orchestra:

A Dvorak

Concerto in B minor op.104

C Saint-Saëns

Concerto in A minor op.33

E Bloch

Schelomo

E W Korngold

Concerto in C op.37

D Kabalevsky

Concerto no.2 op.77

A Khatchaturian

Concerto in E minor (1946)

M Lidstrom

Rigoletto Fantasy

Solo and Chamber music programs

1) If Bach was a cellist

J S Bach

Italian Concerto

M Lidstrom

Hotel Suite

J S Bach

Capriccio on the departure for a beloved brother

-intermission-

J S Bach

Badinerie

Siciliano

Recitative and aria

M Lidstrom

Ballroom dances

Samba - Rumba - Quickstep - Waltz - Bolero - Pasodoble

J S Bach

Partita in C minor

2) Not one Swan, but four !

C Saint-Saëns

The Swan

C Debussy

Sonata in D (1915)

M Lidstrom

Suite Tintin, 9 scenes from the Adventures of Tintin

C Saint-Saëns/L Godowsky

The Swan

- intermission -

S Palmgren

The Swan

F Chopin

Sonata in G minor op.65

M Lidstrom

The Swan

3) Swedish-American Recital

J A Hägg

Sonata in E minor op.1 (1870)

W Bolcolm

Capriccio

R Martinsson

Exposé, concert fantasy for cello solo

- intermission -

M Lidstrom

The Stamp King, concert suite

S Barber

Sonata op.6 (1936)

or

D Diamond

Sonata no.1 (1938)

4) No Intermission Recital

J S Bach

Prelude from Suite no.1 in G major

M Lidström

Paraphrase on Bach's Prelude in G major

J S Bach

Presto from Sonata in G minor

M Lidström

My Heart Is In The East, Raoul Wallenberg In Memoriam

S Prokofiev

March in C major from Music for children

Paul Tortelier

Déjà-vu, Waltz

A Piatti

Caprice in D major op.25 no.9

A Franchomme

Caprice in C major op.7 no.12

R Huguet y Tagell

Aragonesa, from Suite no. 2

M Lidström

The Sea Of Flowers Is Rising Higher, Elegy

Diana, Princess of Wales In Memoriam

J S Bach

Postludium from Suite no.3

