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Christophe Sturzenegger- BIOGRAPHY

Born in Geneva, musician Christophe Sturzenegger has won a number of awards given by advanced conservatories (Horn, Piano, Music Theory, Harmony).

As a **HORN PLAYER**, he studied under Gregory Cass and Bruno Schneider. Sturzenegger then joined the **GUSTAV MAHLER JUGEND ORCHESTRA** and played with orchestras such as the **Zurich Opera – academy- and the Basel Symphony Orchestra** for four years before deciding to pursue a career as a chamber musician and freelance performer. He thus rubbed shoulders with some of the greatest conductors including **Abbado, Levine, Santi, Marriner, von Dohnanyi and Ashkenazy** and he appeared as a soloist under the direction of **Emmanuel Krivine**. Sturzenegger won Second Prize in the Concours National d'Exécution Musicale de Riddes (Riddes National Musical Performance Competition) and was a semi-finalist in the Concours International de Trévoux (International Trévoux Competition) (France). He was also awarded a Migros Scholarship (Ernst Göhner) and won the Kiefer-Hablitzel Award given by the Swiss Musicians' Association.

As a **PIANIST**, he studied under Elisabeth Athanassova and Marc Pantillon and was encouraged by such leading instructors as Sebok, Badura-Skoda, and Starkmann. Sturzenegger won several competitions (Friedl Wald, Dénééréaz), in addition to the Neumann and Dumont Awards. As part of the **Trio Fortunate**, he also received an award at the Whittaker competition. He has taught piano as a secondary instrument and keyboard harmony at **Haute Ecole de Musique de Genève** (Geneva School of Advanced Music Studies) since 2003. He performs regularly as a soloist with orchestras, at recitals, and with chamber music ensembles (primarily as one half of **Duo Sforzando**, which released a CD in 2004 on the Vde-Gallo label). He recorded a second CD in 2007.

As a **COMPOSER**, Sturzenegger has been published by **Woodbrass Music** and has a catalogue of about fifteen works, including various commissioned compositions (primarily for the Concours Suisse de Musique pour la Jeunesse [Swiss Musical Competition for Youth]).

Sturzenegger has already performed at a number of festivals in Europe, Canada and Japan (Salzburg, Verbier, Istanbul, London, Budapest, Tokyo, and Aix-en-Provence,...) and has made frequent radio appearances (concerts, broadcasts, round tables,...). He has also collaborated on a regular basis with the **Orchestre de la Suisse Romande** (Orchestra of French-Speaking Switzerland), the Orchestre de Chambre de Lausanne (Lausanne Chamber Orchestra), and a number of other Swiss orchestras. In 2006, Sturzenegger was a finalist in the international Web Concert Hall competition.

DUO SFORZANDO -Biography

This young chamber music duet stemmed from the meeting of two alumni of the Conservatoire Supérieur de Musique de Genève (Advanced Music Conservatory of Geneva): **Christophe Sturzenegger (piano and horn) and Julie Fortier (piano)**. Formed in 2001, the duet started performing at various Fête de la Musique de Genève (Geneva Music Festival) shows and Radio Suisse Romande's (French-Speaking Swiss Radio's) Schubertiades festival. They subsequently began to appear at such concert halls as the **Institut National Genevois** (Geneva National Institute), Studio E. Ansermet, Victoria Hall, and the Fondation Gianadda (Gianadda Foundation). The Duo sforzando plays also in France and in Canada. Audiences have responded warmly to them at every performance. In fact, the creation of this duo was a bit out of the ordinary: **"Horn-Piano" and "Piano Four Hands" or "Two Pianos"**. This approach has enabled these musicians to tackle a vast repertoire ranging from classical to contemporary music, with an emphasis on the music of Romantic composers who were so skilled at capturing the very essence of the French horn and lending credibility to piano duets. Upon finishing their studies in June 2002, Julie Fortier and Christophe Sturzenegger decided to continue appearing as duo, to perform for audiences and introduce them to classic masterpieces and a few forgotten musical treasures.

In December 2004 **DUO SFORZANDO** released its first CD, which was critically acclaimed, on the Lausanne-based **Gallo label**. The second CD **About GLIERE** has been released in December 2007.

In 2006 DUO SFORZANDO was a finalist in the international **"Web Concert Hall" competition**.

Christophe Sturzenegger –Chamber Music

Piano

Piano 4 mains

BEETHOVEN

Sonate op.6

BIZET

Jeux d'enfants

BRAHMS

16 Valses, Variations sur un thème de Schumann

DEBUSSY

Petite suite

HONEGGER

3 Contrepoints, Pastorale d'été

LIGETI

5 Klavierstücke

MARTIN

Pavane couleur du temps

MOZART

Sonates

POULENC

Sonate

RAVEL

Ma Mère l'Oye

SCHUBERT

Fantaisie
Lebensstürme

SCHUMANN

Bilder aus Osten

STURZENEGGER Kurt

Matthew's twenty years ragtime

2 Pianos

SCHUMANN

6 Etudes canoniques

POULENC

Concerto pour deux pianos

Piano-violon

BEETHOVEN

Sonate "Le Printemps"

STURZENEGGER Hans

Sonate en fa # mineur

Piano-cello

BRAHMS

Sonate op.38

STURZENEGGER Christophe

The two Léa's songs

Piano-voice

GINASTERA

5 chansons argentines

SCHUBERT

Winterreise et divers lieder

Divers airs, lieder et mélodies
(SCHUMANN, DEBUSSY, MENOTTI,
MOZART, BRAHMS, STRAUSS,...)

Trio

ARENISKY

Trio

BEETHOVEN

Trio en Sib M, op.11

BRAHMS

Trio en do min.

HAYDN

Sonate en Trio (Sol Maj.)

Trio en Do Maj,(Hob.XV 21)

LALO

1er Trio en do min.

MARTIN

Trio sur des mélodies irlandaises

RACHMANINOV

1er Trio élégiaque en sol mineur

SCHOSTAKOVITCH

2ème Trio op.67

SCHUBERT

Sonatensatz

TURINA

Circulo

Quatuor

TURINA