

Kathrin ten Hagen, Violinist

The violinist Kathrin ten Hagen is characterized by the virtuosity and the passion of her playing: »The audience was totally astonished and enchanted by the sounds she elicited from her instrument, by the high-graded impulsiveness and impressive precision« (DEWEZET, March 2014). The Aachener Zeitung described her playing with these words: »moving purity, tonal expressiveness, and technical perfection« (Aachener Zeitung, February 2013). Kathrin ten Hagen plays concerts all over the world. In spring 2014, she performed as a soloist with the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra under the conductor Dmitry Orlov in Russia and Germany. She has also toured in the USA, in Argentina and Uruguay, in China and throughout Europe. Kathrin ten Hagen played her debut with the Nürnberger Symphoniker at the age of 14. Since then, she has appeared with the Deutsche Symphonieorchester Berlin, the Hamburger Symphoniker, the KlassikPhilharmonie Hamburg, the USC Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of the Republic of Belarus, the Kammersymphonie Leipzig, Arcata Stuttgart, and the Baroque Ensemble Boston. Her first CD Eastern Impressions, which she recorded together with Canadian pianist Christina Wright-Ivanova, was released in March 2014 by the label ARS Produktion. She had previously participated in the CD Musique Romantique, which features works for violin, viola and two violoncellos and was released by ARS, as well. She performs a wide array of repertoire and has been invited to play at the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, the Rheingau Musik Festival, the Festspiele Mecklenburg- Vorpommern, the Zermatt Festival, and the Yellow Barn Festival in the USA. Kathrin ten Hagen played in concert halls such as the Berliner Philharmonie, the Eurogress Aachen, the Tonhalle Düsseldorf, the Laeishalle in Hamburg, the Liederhalle in Stuttgart, the Jordan Hall in Boston, the Weill-Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and the California Center for the Arts. Her concerts have been broadcasted by Deutschland Radio, WDR 3, and Bayern 4 Klassik.

Kathrin ten Hagen is prize winner of several international competitions. In 2009, she won the first prize at the Donald Portnoy International Violin Competition in Augusta/Georgia. She was also the first prize winner at the California International Young Artists Competition 2007 in Escondido/San Diego. Her other awards include first prizes at the International Wolfgang Marschner Competition 2005, the Ibolyka Gyarfás Competition 2002, and the German Youth Competition Jugend Musiziert. Furthermore, she was awarded prizes at the Corpus Christi International Competition in Texas, the International Max-Rostal-Competition, and the Ruggiero Ricci Competition. Already at the age of 14, she won the second prize and the Mozart-prize at the International Yfrah-Neaman-Competition as well as the second prize at the Jakob-Stainer-Competition. She was a scholarship holder of the Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben, the Zeit-Stiftung, and the Ottilie-Selbach-Redslob-Stiftung.

Ms. ten Hagen is a passionate chamber musician. She has performed together with Gerald Fauth, Peter Frankl, Riccardo Bovino, Silke Avenhaus, Gustav Rivinius, Wen-Sinn Yang, and the Hyperion Trio. With the TenHagen Quartett, she was awarded the special prize for chamber music at the Oberstdorfer Musiksommer in 2011, as well as the prize of the Interpretationswettbewerb of the Hochschule für Musik Detmold. In 2014, the quartet played its debut at the Kammermusiksaal of the Berliner Philharmonie. In the USA and in Germany Ms. ten Hagen commits herself to outreach concerts in order to further broaden the classical music audience. She frequently plays for the project Rhapsody in School, founded by Lars Vogt.

Contemporary music is a particular interest of Kathrin ten Hagen. Alongside the repertoire of the classical modernists, she plays a broad range of works written after 1970 by composers such as Balassa, Eliasson, Henze, Lutoslawski, Marschner, Suslin, Vasks, Widmann, Yun, and Zimmermann. In the Ruggiero Ricci Competition 2007 she received a special prize for the interpretation of the contemporary work Etude IV by Jörg Widmann.

Kathrin ten Hagen studied with Antje Weithaas at the Universität der Künste Berlin and with Igor Ozim in Salzburg, where she completed her Bachelor of Arts degree with honours. As a scholarship holder of the DAAD she became a student of Donald Weilerstein at the New England Conservatory in Boston in September 2007 and was awarded her degree Master of Music with honours in 2009 and the Graduate Diploma in 2010. She received additional training in international master classes with Thomas Brandis, Zakhar Bron, Robert Mann, Wolfgang Marschner, and Christian Tetzlaff. Kathrin ten Hagen has worked as an assistant of Donald Weilerstein at the New England Conservatory. In addition, she was a teacher at the Young Artist Program of the Yellow Barn Festival in the USA in 2009 and 2010. In the summer of 2012 she taught a master class at the International Music Academy Chernihiv.

Since 2011 Kathrin ten Hagen has been on faculty at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater »Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy« Leipzig.