

# Lachenmann Music

## Christoph Heesch, Cello

Christoph Heesch is one of the most outstanding and promising cellists on today's music scene. With exceptional artistic maturity and technical brilliance, he impresses both as a soloist and as a chamber musician, captivating audiences and critics alike. His concert career takes him to national and international stages, where he consistently enjoys great success and has established himself as a defining voice of his generation. At the heart of his artistic work lies a profound and reflective engagement with music, which he illuminates from a stylistically nuanced and critically questioning perspective. In doing so, he combines the highest instrumental mastery with interpretative clarity and expressiveness.

His playing is also characterised by an immediate, captivating stage presence, underpinned by an intense interaction with the audience, which makes every concert a memorable experience.

Born in Berlin in 1995, the cellist received his first lessons at the age of six, thus laying the foundations for a remarkable artistic career at an early age. His training took him to leading institutions such as the renowned Julius Stern Institute, where he received crucial impetus for his musical development. This was followed by a formative period of study lasting several years with Jens Peter Maintz and Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt, supplemented by numerous masterclasses with renowned figures such as David Geringas, Wolfgang Boettcher and László Fenyő, who had a lasting influence on shaping his artistic style. Christoph Heesch is currently continuing his studies at the Berlin University of the Arts in Jens Peter Maintz's class, where he is refining his interpretative and technical mastery to the highest standard. A significant milestone in his career to date was his appointment as Principal Cellist of the SWR Symphony Orchestra in May 2023 – a position that underscores both his outstanding skill and his high standing within the international orchestral landscape.

The artist focuses particularly on classical concerts, which he aims to make accessible to a wide audience. The innovative concert and other music education formats of the TONALi project thus provide an ideal home for his musical and conceptual ideas.

Christoph Heesch is a prize-winner at national and international competitions: among other honours, he received 2nd prize and the Audience Prize at the 2022 Grand Prix Emanuel Feuermann. Christoph is also the first-prize winner of the 12th Domenico Gabrielli Competition and the recipient of the Mieczyslaw Weinberg Prize as well as the Special Prize for the best music education initiative at the TONALi Music Competition. He was a semi-finalist in the Queen Elisabeth Competition 2017. In 2021, he was awarded the "Carl Flesch Prize" as part of the Carl Flesch Academy.

He is a scholarship holder at the Liechtenstein Academy of Music. Since 2022, he has been playing a cello by Giovanni B. Grancino (Milan, c. 1700) from the German Musical Instrument Fund of the German Music Foundation.