

Manuel Druminski – a fresh, new artistic profile on the horizon of a well-defined musical landscape of violinists

Following his time with the *Regensburg Cathedral Choir (Regensburger Domspatzen)* in Pielenhofen Germany, Manuel Druminski was awarded a scholarship and joined a programme for musically gifted young people at the *Academy for Music and Theatre in Munich* in 1994.

Educated in Munich, starting 1997 as a young protégé in Prof. Kurt Gunter's class, and continuing 2003 as a full student in Prof. Ana Chumachenco's class, the repeatedly awarded scholarship holder successfully started his career 2009 at the young age of 26 years old as 1st concertmaster of the *Philharmonic Orchestra Freiburg*, switched as concertmaster to the *Munich Symphony Orchestra* 2017 and as concertmaster to the *Mozarteumorchester Salzburg* 2022.

Manuel Druminski regularly gives classical guest performances at well-known festivals, such as the *Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival*, the *Rheingau Music Festival*, the *ZMF (Zelt-Musik-Festival Freiburg)*, the *Lucerne Festival* and many more.

Since 2016/2017, Manuel Druminski has received regular invitations to give masterclasses and chamber music classes at the *Teatro del Lago in Frutillar (Chile)*, the *Universidad de Talca (Chile)*, the *Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá (Colombia)* and *MUSON in Lagos (Nigeria)*, where he achieved triumphant success, working with young students as well as graduate students.

Since 2017/2018 Manuel Druminski has been teaching at the Opera in Kuwait, the *Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Cultural Centre* and from 2022 as professor of the *University For Musical Arts Kuwait* as well as director of the music department of *Harmony Academy*.

Manuel Druminski appears as a soloist as well as a member of various chamber music groups. He is particularly successful in a duo with the Russian pianist Tatiana Chernichka, with whom he recorded several CDs with the renowned Bayerische Rundfunk (Bavarian Broadcasting, BR) of sonatas for violin and piano (Beethoven, Franck, Janacek, Bartok).

Coming from the world of classical music, Manuel Druminski successfully combines his classical musical roots with the world of modern music, such as pop, rock, hip hop and gospel, appearing on stage across Europe, Africa and South America.

Outside of the classical world, he follows invitations of numerous well-known festivals world-wide and connects with prominent people of all kinds of different musical styles, from Julia Fischer and Misha Maisky (classical genre) to Giora Feidman and Brenda Boytkin (world music genre), from Lutz Krajenski and Thomas Rabitsch (world class producers) to Donnie McClurkin, Travis Greene, Don Moen (gospel genre) and many more.

In cooperation with Maryam Anita Khosravi and her *MAK Company*, Manuel Druminski fuses the classical sphere of his roots with the hip hop street dance environment. Project *Free Vivaldi* emerges, in which Manuel Druminski performs as part of the choreography whilst playing the virtuoso *Four Seasons* by Vivaldi.

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Apart from that, he regularly joins the improvisation band *Drumaturgia and Friends* with unbroken success.

Outside the classical world, Manuel Druminski recorded a selection of his own compositions 2016 in Thomas Rabitsch's studio.

At an event at the German consulate in Lagos, Manuel Druminski meets Pastor Paul Adefarasin, Senior Pastor of the *House On The Rock Cathedral* in Lagos (Nigeria). Since then, Manuel Druminski has given regular guest performances there, with a broad programme of gospel music. The apex of his activities in Nigeria to date is his participation at the biggest open air concert of Africa, *Experience Concert 12* (2017), in front of an audience of over 600.000 people and millions of TV-viewers.

Apart from gospel songs, Manuel Druminski was honored to be asked to contribute to the interpretation of the Nigerian national anthem. Manuel Druminski performed together with well-known Nigerian artists, such as Segun Obe, Dupe Ige Kachi and Chi, as well as with American Music Award and Grammy Award winners Don Moen and Donnie McClurkin.

In June 2017, Manuel Druminski visited the *Musical Society Of Nigeria (MUSON)* in Lagos for the first time. The experiences at *MUSON*, together with earlier experiences of projects in Chile and Colombia 2016, made a lasting impression.

In May 2018, collaborating with the sponsors Michael Hoffmann (*Chantal GmbH*), Stefan Wörz (*Wörz Geigenbau GmbH*) and the German Embassy in Lagos, Manuel Druminski managed to lay the ground for providing sound standard equipment to the *MUSON* Institute, by securing instruments, repair material and other equipment worth 45.000 USD, an epic sum for local conditions in Nigeria.

In February 2019, Manuel Druminski received the honor of playing for Pope Francis at the Vatican's *World Bishop's Conference*.

In November 2019, Manuel Druminski received the commission from *Hollywood* to record the part of the solo violin of the soundtrack for the movie *Francesco*.

The *Zeltmusik Festival Freiburg* named Manuel Druminski the *2023 ZMF Prize Winner* in July 2023.

Manuel Druminski plays a violin by Pierre Hel, built in France in 1918, and a violin by Jakob Stainer in 1672, on loan from *Wörz Geigenbau GmbH*.