



**Jörg Michael Thomé** already brought attention to himself at an early age when he won 1st prize in national competitions in Germany. He was a member of his state youth orchestra and the National German Youth Orchestra and received scholarships from the German Music Council and from the Newspaper Hörzu.

He studied bassoon at the State Academy of Music in Freiburg under Professor Karl-Otto Hartmann and also chamber music under Professor Heinz Holliger and Professor Dieter Klöcker. Following his studies, he won the position of deputy 1st solo bassoonist in the orchestra of the state theatre in Darmstadt and then the position of 1st bassoonist in the German State Philharmonic Orchestra Rheinland-Pfalz in Ludwigshafen on the Rhein. In these positions he took part in numerous CD recordings and concert tours.

In addition to this, during his (nearly) ten year freelance employment in the German Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra in Bremen, he worked with many big names in the music world. For example Sándor Végh, Mikhail Pletnev, Gidon Kremer and Thomas Hengelbrock. Through working with these great musicians, he developed and broadened his musical horizons. Consequently, in the many solo and chamber music concerts and radio recordings (Hessian Radio and South West Radio) that followed, he moulded himself into a soloist and chamber musician.

In February 1991 he was offered a teaching position for bassoon at the Academy of Music in Darmstadt and in June 2000, he was offered the position of Professor for bassoon and chamber music at the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Academy of Music in Leipzig, beginning work there in the summer term of 2001.

His lesson concept promotes working in a relaxed and cheerful atmosphere. This, together with his reliable methodical competence and his ability to bring this across to his students, means that he is very successful as a teacher and very much in request. For example, he has given master classes in Germany, Austria, South Korea, Turkey, Ireland, Finland, Portugal and France and has been a member of the jury for national and international competitions.

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