

SILVER-GARBURG | Piano Duo

In the great and often underappreciated art of piano duo playing, Sivan Silver and her partner Gil Garburg are setting a new standard: acclaimed by audiences and critics alike, the duo has been invited time and time again by top orchestras, festivals, and concert organizers. They have performed in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Vienna Musikverein, the Sydney Opera House, and the Berlin Philharmonie; they have concertized in approximately 70 countries on five continents; and they collaborate regularly with such orchestras as the Israel Philharmonic, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, and the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie.

Their recording of Mendelssohn's concertos for two pianos and orchestra, with the Bavarian Chamber Philharmonic under Christopher Hogwood, has been called "breathtaking" (Bayerische Rundfunk), "extremely exciting" (Süddeutsche Zeitung), and "brilliant" (Rondo). The Frankfurter Allgemeinen Zeitung raved about the "lyrical sensitivity and the ravishing technical mastery" of the duo, noting that only rarely does one experience "such spontaneous shouts of 'bravo'" at the end of a concert. The Independent concluded: "What a wondrous evening!"

The two Israelis, who live in Berlin with their son, can be heard all over the world during the 2014-15 season – both with orchestra and in recitals. Upcoming engagements include tours with the Munich Chamber Orchestra, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, and the Brno Philharmonic. The duo's most recent recording, Stravinsky's Petrushka and The Rite of Spring for four hands, is about to be released on the Berlin Classics label. An additional CD will be dedicated to the last works of Schubert.

In their late thirties, after 17 years of playing together, Sivan Silver and Gil Garburg are establishing themselves as a presence at the top echelon of the music world – which, as a piano duo, requires a rare sense of oneness and of the ever-changing roles of the four hands. The avowed perfectionists rehearse for six hours each day, and the instinctive understanding between them is so deep that the two even breathe together. "We express our own emotions and, at the same time, a combined sensibility. We are one, and yet we're in dialogue with each other – that's the magic," says Silver.

In 2014, the Graz University for the Arts unanimously chose the Silver-Garburg Duo to occupy one of the few extant professorships for piano duo. Previously, the pair taught at the Hannover Musikhochschule, where they themselves completed their studies in 2007 under Arie Vardi.

Silver and Garburg are invigorated by the need to constantly adapt to the demands of duo recitals and orchestral engagements, moving between intimate pieces that require unity, dialogic works, and those in which they evoke the grand power of an entire orchestra at the two pianos. "As a piano duo, it's easy to make effects with virtuosity. But that alone is far too little. We want to move our listeners emotionally and bring them to the core of the music."

For further information please visit www.silvergarburg.com.

2014-2015: Changes and abridgements must be approved by June Artists Management.