

Konstanze von Gutzeit

Cellist Konstanze von Gutzeit is one of the most high-profile and versatile instrumentalists of her generation.

As soloist, chamber musician, and principal cellist of Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, she enjoys an active and multifaceted presence on the international stage.

In all of her concerts she makes it her goal to build bridges between each work and the audience, enabling the listener to completely engage with the music. The conviction that this will best be achieved through the tireless search for the music's essence and the composer's message is an important driving force in her artistic work.

Born into a family of musicians, Konstanze von Gutzeit started playing the cello at the age of three. At only twelve years of age, she began her studies with Heinrich Schiff. During seven formative years, he both fostered her intellectual approach to music and imparted the solid practical skills that have since enabled her to approach any technical challenge with ease.

From 2005, von Gutzeit continued her studies in Berlin with Jens Peter Maintz. In parallel with a burgeoning performing career, she later undertook postgraduate study in Weimar with Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt, gaining the highest distinction for her concert diploma in 2016.

Further significant musical inspiration came in the form of masterclasses with David Geringas, Frans Helmerson, Gary Hoffman and Ferenc Rados.

Thanks to early success in numerous international competitions, Konstanze von Gutzeit made a name for herself from the very outset of her musical career.

She was winner of the Grand Prix Emanuel Feuermann in 2010 and the International Prague Spring Competition in 2012. In 2013, she was awarded both first prize in the Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy Hochschule Competition and the interdisciplinary Mendelssohn Award.

Furthermore, she has won the Domenico Gabrielli Competition in Berlin, the Gradus ad Parnassum competition in Austria, the International Gianni Bergamo Classic Music Award in Switzerland, and the International Suggia Prize in Portugal. In the Deutscher Musikwettbewerb 2010, she was awarded a scholarship by the German Music Council and chosen for their Federal Selection of Concerts for Young Artists.

Since 2012, Konstanze von Gutzeit has held the position of principal cellist of the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Alongside this, she is regularly invited to guest as principal cellist with Germany's most renowned ensembles, such as the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra and Frankfurt Radio Symphony. She believes working with the most renowned conductors and soloists on the endless wealth of orchestral repertoire from a leading position within the orchestra invaluable broadens her experience and musical horizons. For Konstanze von Gutzeit there is no distinction between being an orchestral player, chamber musician and soloist, and with this conviction she leads a musical life of the greatest possible diversity.

As a soloist, she performs with ensembles including Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, Bochumer Symphoniker, Vienna, Munich and Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, Kammerakademie Potsdam and the Bruckner Orchestra Linz, under conductors such as Marek Janowski, Kurt Masur, Michael Sanderling, Alexander Shelley and Yuri Bashmet.

As a guest at renowned festivals such as the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Lucerne Festival, Verbier Festival and the Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, she has given numerous recitals and chamber music concerts.

Konstanze von Gutzeit plays a Gioffredo Cappa cello from 1677, and also a new instrument by Berlin luthier Ragnar Hayn from 2017.