

Seda Röder | Biography

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„Making contemporary music more approachable for everyone“ is the artistic vision of the Turkish pianist Seda Röder. In addition to her podcast series *Blackbox* about New Music, she puts this vision into realization in form of lecture recitals and carefully chosen, coherent concert programs. Through numerous world premieres and workshops, Seda became known to audiences, critics, and composers alike as an engaging performer of contemporary music.

Having a wide repertoire of solo and chamber music that ranges from Couperin to Stockhausen and beyond, Seda has performed frequently in Turkey, Austria, Germany, and the USA.

As a Visiting Fellow at Harvard University, Seda researches Viennese piano music from the contemporaries of Alban Berg and Arnold Schoenberg. Her debut album—inspired by her interest in scholarship and performance—brings together music of three centuries by composers who were active in Vienna: Mozart – Brahms – Berg.

Before arriving at Harvard University in 2007 Ms. Röder graduated from the *Mozarteum* in Salzburg and worked intensively with the world-renowned Beethoven and Brahms specialist Gerhard Oppitz at the *Musik Hochschule* in Munich. In addition to her formal piano studies she focused on the study of period instruments and performance practice, explored orchestral repertoires as a guest student of Bruno Weil’s conducting class and attended master classes with András Schiff and Karl-Heinz Kämmerling.

For her extraordinary artistic achievements Seda Röder was awarded several prestigious fellowships, amongst them grants from the Austrian Department of Education, the German Academic Exchange Program, the merit-based scholarship of the “Alumni Foundation of the Austrian *St. Georg-Kolleg, Istanbul*”, as well as the Richard-Wagner-Scholarship in Munich.

Ms. Röder currently serves as a *Teaching Assistant* for Music at Harvard University.

About Seda Röder

“It is my great pleasure to accompany Seda’s musical studies as her artistic advisor. Her playing shows a nice combination of sensitivity on one side and musical intelligence on the other side. Her interests are reaching far beyond the limits of the piano repertoire.”

– **Gerhard Oppitz**, legendary pianist and first German to win the Arthur Rubinstein competition in Tel Aviv, Israel.

“Mrs. Röder is a very talented young pianist. In spite of her young age Mrs. Röder has a broad and interesting repertoire. She combines her solid piano technique with musical maturity.”

– **Dennis Russell Davies**, chief conductor of the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra and Basel Symphony Orchestra