

Vita

Ludwig Güttler was born on 13 June 1943 in Sosa, Erzgebirge region of Saxony in Germany. Right from an early age he enjoyed a musical upbringing. After playing the accordion, the flute, piano, organ and violoncello, he found particular interest in brass instruments, from which he favoured the trumpet most. His hitherto aspirations of becoming an “architect” were replaced by becoming a trumpet player.

He successfully completed his studies at the Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Conservatoire in Leipzig. Apart from subjecting himself to intensive practice sessions, he nurtured his interest in music, which went beyond his fascination for the trumpet, with visits to the Leipzig Grassi Museum - a complex of museum buildings with a compelling collection of musical instruments, including the Museum of Ethnology, Museum of Applied Arts, Museum of Arts and Crafts and the Museum of Music Instruments entrusted to the care of the University of Leipzig. Güttler also cultivated his musical talent attending shadowing sessions of University lecturers for instruments such as oboe, violin, further brass instruments and also sessions with vocals and church musicians. His professional career as a solo trumpeter took off in 1969 when he answered a call from the Händel Festival Orchestra in Halle and the Dresdner Philharmonie (Symphony Orchestra of the state of Saxony). A position he held until 1980. He was further called to perform in countless oratorio concerts as a “Bach-trumpeter” and played in a variety of trumpet concerts, in particular baroque concerts. As a young musician he founded a college chamber orchestra and the vocal ensemble, *sächsischer Singkreis* (a choir comprised of students of the Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Conservatoire). In his engagements as a member of the *Meißner Kantorei 1961* (a Dresden church choir) and also as the head of the student choir Leipzig, he pursued his passion for singing whilst at the same time increasingly advancing to promoter and art director of choir concerts and cantata performances at the at the University Church of St. Paul and the St. Nicholas Church in Leipzig.

Ludwig Güttler is one of the most prominent trumpet virtuosos of our time and has earned world-wide acclaim as a chamber musician and conductor. Teaching posts subsequently took him to the International Music Seminar in Weimar and the Carl Maria von Weber Conservatoire in Dresden.

Ludwig Güttler directs opera productions and holds master classes and is regularly invited to sit as a member of a jury at distinguished competitions. He can proudly refer to over more than fifty recordings featuring him as a musician.

Since the early 1980s, his main interest has been the revitalisation of 18th century Saxon court music. Owing to his research and unearthing efforts in libraries, archives etc., Güttler enlarged the concert literature by numerous forgotten or hitherto unknown works dating back to that period. Moreover, Ludwig Güttler has played a decisive part in re-developing the corno de caccia, gaining personal benefits from these historic instruments as well as from playing on modern valve trumpets. Together with the late Prof. Wolfram Steude, a musicologist from Dresden, they discovered the silver brass instruments of the Dresden's court trumpeters.

Ludwig Güttler is the founder of several ensembles which he heads as a conductor and soloist, including the Leipzig Bach Collegium (founded in 1976), the Ludwig Güttler Brass Ensemble and the Virtuosi Saxoniae chamber orchestra (founded in 1985). He annually gives about 110 concerts together with these ensembles, where he plays the trumpet and the organ and heads symphonic choir concerts and appears as a guest conductor at other orchestras.

He has been awarded multiple awards in recognition of his outstanding artistic achievements, his research activities and his social commitment he showed in connection with the reconstruction of the Frauenkirche Dresden or the promotion of young musical talents, among others.