



Valentin Eschmann | Photo: Viktoria Rohoncz

## NOW ON PERMANENT CONTRACT: VALENTIN ESCHMANN PASSES PROBATIONARY PERIOD AS SOLO HORNIST WITH THE HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA IN BUDAPEST

Becoming a permanent member of the Hungarian state opera is not done in a day: The probationary period for new musicians can be up to four years. In contrast, Weimar graduate Valentin Eschmann was awarded a **permanent contract as solo hornist** already in his third season at the opera.

This means that the alumnus of Prof. Jörg Brückner's horn class at the LISZT University Weimar has successfully absolved the probationary period after two and a half years with the orchestra.

The 32-year-old completed his postgraduate studies at the university of music in Weimar in 2019 and has been living in Budapest ever since. "My grandmother is Hungarian, so I feel a special connection to the country and its people" says Valentin Eschmann.

Up to now, he has primarily been playing Italian opera with his orchestra, with the addition of Hungarian repertoire, ballet music, and opera galas. He was also part of a **guest concert at a Viennese concert hall with Anna Netrebko and a CD recording with Plácido Domingo** - clear signs of the "artistic league" the Budapest Opera Orchestra is playing in.

The richness of culture in Budapest is impressive. "As far as I have been informed, there are 12-15 different orchestras in the city. The special thing about my orchestra has to be its size: There are currently 220 occupied positions", estimates the solo hornist. "There are 18 of us in the horn section and alone 5 of us are solo hornists." The old student looks back fondly on his training in Weimar. Beyond teaching him

technique, his **professor of horn Jörg Brückner** also trained him to “get up after setbacks, run a good analysis, and learn from the experience.”

Born 1988 in Limpach, **Valentin Eschmann** studied horn at the Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana in Lugano under Prof. David Johnson from 2008-2012, in Budapest under Zoltan Varga, and from 2012 to 2014 at the Music Academy in Basel under Prof. Christian Lampert. From 2015 to 2019, Eschmann was a student in the horn class of Prof. Jörg Brückner at the University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar and graduated from his postgraduate studies with the highest possible artistic qualification.

Valentin Eschmann founded the ensemble “Lake Brass” in 2010. Engagements led him to the Osnabrück Symphony, the State Orchestra Braunschweig, the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, and the Baden State Orchestra in Karlsruhe. In addition, he is a regular guest with the Armenian State Orchestra. In the 2018/19 season, he stepped into his position as new solo hornist with the Hungarian State Opera in Budapest.

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