

Hans-Jürgen Kaiser

Hans-Jürgen Kaiser studied Music Education at the Heidelberg-Mannheim College of Music (*Musikhochschule Heidelberg-Mannheim*), and Catholic Church Music at the University of Mainz (*Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz*) where he graduated with distinction. He also completed a course of study as performing organist at the Saarland College of Music (*Musikhochschule des Saarlandes*).

In 1989, he was appointed Cathedral Organist in Fulda. In this capacity he is responsible for the organs and bells in the Diocese of Fulda and serves as the artistic director of organ concerts at Fulda Cathedral. Since 1990 he has been teaching improvisation and liturgical organ playing at the University of Mainz, where he was appointed Professor of Organ Improvisation in 1995.

After intensive studies of French and German-Romantic organ music, and of the organ works of JS Bach and O Messiaen, he extended his repertoire into Early music, motivated by his interest in historical organs. His concert programs include improvisation, both historical styles and contemporary improvisation and jazz. He has recorded more than 20 CDs (Liszt/Reger/Bach/Eben) at important modern organs but also at historical instruments (Schwerin Cathedral, Fritzlar Cathedral, historical organs in Hesse). He performs frequently at concerts in Germany and internationally, and he teaches master classes in organ improvisation.

From 2004 – 2012 he was the chairman of the Conference of Directors of Training Institutions for Catholic Church Music in Germany (*Konferenz der Leiterinnen und Leiter der Ausbildungsstätten für katholische Kirchenmusik in Deutschland*). He is one of the two editors-in-chief of the ecumenical standard textbook for church music in German speaking countries, *Basiswissen Kirchenmusik* (Carus-Verlag, 2009) which in 2010 was awarded the prize *Best Edition* by the Association of German Music Publishers (*Deutscher Musikverleger-Verband*).

Selection of CD releases:

Liszt: Organ Works

Recorded at the historical Ladegast organ in Schwerin Cathedral.

Brilliant Classics

Die große Orgel im Dom zu Fulda, with works by Buxtehude, Bach and Widor.

Recorded in Fulda Cathedral.

Querstand

Max Reger: Organ Works, Vol. 3. (BACH, Op 135.b)

Recorded in Fulda Cathedral.

Naxos

Orgelwerke von Joh. Seb. Bach.

Recorded in Fulda Cathedral.

Querstand