

BERLIN COUNTERPOINT

Ensemble Biography

Winner of 2013 Usedomer Musikpreis, **Berlin Counterpoint** has rapidly established itself in Europe as well as other parts of the world. Through their strong musical ideals, well-thought-out programming and above all, their intense desire to communicate through music, they are considered one of the premier ensembles of its kind. Their goal is not only to make classical music accessible to all audiences, but also to show how important this language is in the world today.

The members have been performing worldwide as individuals, but joined together to find something more fulfilling, where the importance truly lies in the joy inherent in the music, and in communicating that joy to their audiences.

Between them, these six musicians hold passports from Romania, Germany, Slovenia, England, the United States and Turkey. Each nationality brings an inherently different way to approach music, and Berlin Counterpoint takes all these influences to develop a style all its own. The reference to Berlin in the ensemble's name is not just due to the coincidence of their meeting there, but to the fact that Berlin is one of the few places where such a meeting of creative minds from such various backgrounds is not only likely, but extremely fruitful. It is the modern, energetic and creative Berlin they represent, and like the city is itself, a truly multicultural ensemble. Their sparkling sound, homogeneous virtuosity and adventurous yet thoughtful interpretations is very much owed to this meeting of different cultural and musical backgrounds.

Berlin Counterpoint's ever-growing repertoire, spanning from baroque era to contemporary music, includes traditional works for wind quintet and piano, as well as members' own arrangements and other new works commissioned from young composers. The group performs in varying constellations, from duo to sextet, and is open to collaborations with guest artists.

Since its conception in 2007, Berlin Counterpoint has received great acclaim for its appearances at many prestigious venues such as the Sociedad Filarmónica de Bilbao, Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, Palau de la Música Valencia, and the Kammermusiksaal of the Berlin Philharmonic. Its highly praised debut CD (2013 Genuin Label) was not only extremely well received by the audiences and critics, but also brought them a nomination for Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik.