



Michel BÉROFF

(Piano - France)

Born in Epinal on 9 May 1950, Michel Béroff was influenced not only by his father, a music lover with a passion for choral singing, but also by the music of Bartok, Prokofiev and Messiaen. From childhood, Michel Béroff tackled pieces by Bartok and Messiaen. He entered the Conservatoire in Nancy and then Paris, following the classes of Yvonne Loriod and Pierre Sancan.

While his early career allowed him rapidly to be considered a remarkable interpreter of Messiaen's works and more generally of French piano music, Michel Béroff also interpreted other composers such as Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Mozart or Stravinsky under the direction of the greatest conductors, among whom we should mention Pierre Boulez, Claudio Abbado, Yutaka Sado, Leonard Bernstein, Seiji Ozawa...

Very active as a soloist in recitals all over the world, he performed chamber music with many partners such as Augustin Dumay, Pierre Amoyal, Barbara Hendricks, Martha Argerich or Marie-Josèphe Jude. A progressive paralysis of the right hand forced the eclectic virtuoso to interrupt his career as a soloist: he subsequently turned to the interpretation of concertos composed for the left hand, but also to conducting. Thanks to four years of re-education, he gradually returned to chamber music and even resumed giving solo recitals.

Exclusive artist of EMI for 20 years, Michel Béroff has recorded, among others, the complete works for piano and orchestra of Liszt, Prokofiev and Stravinsky under the direction of Kurt Masur and Seiji Ozawa. His records have been awarded the "Grand Prix du Disque" five times.

After a series of recitals of Claude Debussy's piano works in Paris and Japan, Michel Béroff worked as editor-in-chief for the Wiener Urtext publication of Debussy's piano music in 1998.

His teaching career began in 1988 with courses at the University of Bloomington in the United States, and since 1989, he has taught piano at the Conservatoire National de Musique de Paris.