

# Gilead Mishory

## Biography

Gilead Mishory was born in 1960 in Jerusalem. He began to play piano when he was nine, but only at the age of twenty-one, after leaving the instrument for three years, he decided to dedicate himself exclusively to music. After graduating from the Rubin Academy, he moved to Germany in 1984. On the recommendation of Alfred Brendel he received scholarships from the Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, the City of Munich and the Austrian government. These enabled him to complete his studies in Munich with Gerhard Oppitz and in Salzburg at the "Mozarteum" with Hans Leygraf. He also studied musicology at the Ludwig-Maximilians- University in Munich.

Even at the beginning of his concert career, Gilead Mishory distinguished himself as a profound pianist whose playing is full of character and individuality. As a professor at the renowned Freiburg University of Music, his pedagogical activity has expanded all over the world. For the past twenty years he has been composing on a regular basis, gaining him increasing acclaim and interest.

Mishory has performed solo, with orchestras and with renowned chamber music partners, in Europe, the United States, East Asia and Israel. His extremely wide ranging repertoire includes all musical styles, with a special emphasis on the music of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

His individuality and the unconventional pairings in his programs have been popular with audiences and critics alike. Projects like "Fin du Siècle", which was broadcast live throughout Europe at the turn of the millennium, the "Moon Concert", first performed at the Schleswig Holstein Festival, or the combination of Schubert with his own compositions have attracted wide notice.



Mishory is the first pianist to have recorded the complete piano works and chamber music with piano by Leoš Janáček. The following CDs with works by Haydn, Brahms, Schubert, Bartók, his own compositions and numerous radio recordings have been enthusiastically reviewed in the press: The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* called him a "magician of sound"; The *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* spoke of a "technically

perfect poet of the piano" ; the *Neue Presse* described him as a "pianist with a sense of sound, charm and esprit"; The *Westdeutsche Zeitung* found in his playing "magic we only know from the old masters". The press reacted with the same enthusiasm also on Mishory's recording of the complete "Préludes" by Debussy, published 2014. *Klassikinfo* Spoke of a "reference-recording". His youngest CD, "To Aeneas", with his own cycle under the same title, as well as Sonatas by Clementi and Tartini, came out 2017 and has been rewarded with highest compliments of the critics.

During 2018 Mishory performs and leads masterclasses in Germany, France, Italy, Korea, Japan, USA and Israel.

The cycle "Lider-Togbuch", after Yiddish poems by Sutzkever, commissioned by the City of Munich, was Mishory's breakthrough as a composer in 1998. "Hebräische Balladen", a song-cycle after Else Lasker-Schüler, commissioned by the Culture-Foundation North-Rhein-Westfalia, was premiered in Wuppertal at the end of 2002, as well his "Debka Fallastin" in Paris. In May 2005 his piano-cycle "Fugitive Pieces" was the center of a special concert of the Südwestrundfunk in Baden-Baden, commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II. In spring 2006 he completed his new string quartet, "Psalm", inspired by the poet Paul Celan. "Di vayte haymat mayne", a song-cycle for tenor and orchestra, after poems by Marc Chagall, was premiered in Munich in July 2007. The "Süddeutsche Zeitung" spoke of "grandiose impression". In 2010 he completed his first opera, "Isaac's Youth". A first CD with Mishory's works came out by "NEOS" in 2011.

This year, 2018, Mishory's Cycle „To Aeneas" was published by "Peer-Music-Classical". His piano piece "To the Distant Sister" was printed and first performed within the Project "250 for Beethoven" by the Pianist Susanne Kessel.

In 1998 Gilead Mishory was appointed professor at the "Hochschule für Musik" in Dortmund. Since 2000 he has been senior professor at the renowned Freiburg University of Music, as the successor of Seemann, Levin and Béroff. He is regularly invited to give master classes all over the world.