

AN ARTIST'S CORNER

featuring

Peter Steiner



Italian trombonist Peter Steiner's playing has been described as "beautifully controlled with a vocal sound" and he is recognized around the world as "a new trombone star within his generation" who "plays with total control". In 2019 he was honoured as a Prize Winner at the XVI International Tchaikovsky Competition in Russia.

His 2020-2021 season highlights include the world premiere of the UFO concerto by Johan de Meij with the Central Ohio Symphony, performances with the Kyusyu Symphony Orchestra and a recital with Constanze Hochwartner at the Konzerthaus Berlin.

At the age of 23, Peter Steiner was appointed Trombonist of the Vienna State Opera and Vienna Philharmonic for the 2016-2017 season. Prior to that engagement he served as Principal Trombonist with the Colorado Symphony for the 2014-2015 season. He has performed as guest trombonist with the Munich Philharmonic, Staatskapelle Dresden, New York Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony Orchestra and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

His 2018-2019 season involved extensive international travel and featured over 100 performances, including a 3-month World Tour of the United States, Europe, Asia and South America with Constanze Hochwartner (piano/organ) as Duo Steiner-Hochwartner, as well as solo concerts with orchestras around the globe. Other highlights for this season include a CD release tour throughout Europe, Asia, Australia and the United States in July 2019, and solo appearances at the Lille (France) Trombone Festival and International Trombone Festival (Indiana, USA).

Mr. Steiner has soloed with numerous ensembles around the world including, most recently, the Mariinsky Orchestra and Orquestra Sinfônica Brasileira in Rio de Janeiro. He has had the privilege of performing the world premiers of Eric Ewazen's "Visions of Light" (Chamber Orchestra Version) and Gilles Rocha's "Fly or Die" with Brass Band accompaniment. He has been featured in solo recitals during the 2016 and 2017 International Trombone Festivals and the 2018 Wartburg Festival (Eisenach, Germany). He can be heard on his debut album, UNITED, which was released in January 2017 under the HELLOSTAGE Label, in collaboration with Hsiao-Ling Lin (piano) and Silver Ainomäe (cello). His second album, SAPPHIRE was released in July 2019 under the Berlin Classics label, in collaboration with pianist Constanze Hochwartner.

Mr. Steiner began his studies at the Music Conservatory in his hometown of Bolzano, Italy before continuing his studies at The Mozarteum of Salzburg (Austria). In 2016 he graduated from The Juilliard School in New York City with a Performance Diploma. His major teachers and influences include Joseph Alessi, Warren Deck, Nitzan Haroz, and Dany Bonvin.

Mr. Steiner performs exclusively on Bach Trombones - his signature is the Artisan 47XPS.

www.steinerpeter.com

How old were you when you began playing your instrument? Did you start playing another instrument before your current one?

I started playing the trombone when I was 6 years old, really happy I didn't have to play another instrument before. Had a great first teacher who emphasized the importance of fundamentals.

What equipment do you primarily use?

Bach 47XPS, my new signature model, developed together with Bach.

What are some of your favorite highlights of your career?

Every day I get to do what I love doing - make music with my trombone. It's very hard to choose any particular moments because I get to have fun with my hobby every day as "work".

What are some of your favorite and most influential albums that you have heard?

German Brass (Trumpets of Jericho), Joseph Alessi (Illumination), Michael Jackson (Number Ones), Queen (Best of), John Williams (Greatest Hits)

What are some of your favorite solos written for another instrument?

Haydn Cello Concerto, Dvorak Cello Concerto, Brahms Violin Concerto, Sibelius Violin Concerto, Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto, De Frumerie Variations and Fugue (piano)

Do you have any tips on becoming better at transcribing?

Do it a lot! 😊

How have your practice habits changed over the years?

I think I am becoming more efficient and due too lots of fundamental practice I spot patterns easier in music.

As a young player, what did you struggle most with your playing?

Consistency in all aspects (articulation, intonation, missing notes....)

Do you like to sing when you practice? Why or why not?

Yesssss, I sing a lot - because I always have a singing voice in my head when I try to produce my best possible sound.

What qualities do you think are important for being successful in life?

Be eager to always learn, be open minded and soak up all information you can get!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I like to simply chill and not do anything! Also like to get inspired on YouTube by any type of information (documentaries, concerts, tutorials, ...), I like to watch movies, hiking, skiing.

How do you stay motivated when you get frustrated or down? Do you have any tips to help stay motivated?

I never really have that issue, because I enjoy the path of practicing and I enjoy what I do in general. Create certain routines, habits that you want to do every day (for example spend 45 minutes on Basics every day)

With whom did you study?

Joseph Alessi, Nitzan Haroz, Dany Bonvin & Warren Deck

What qualities do you think are important in a student?

The student needs to be willing to invest a lot of time and be a dedicated practicer, easy adaptable when given instructions and having a certain motivation/drive.

Do you remember when you decided that you were going to be a professional musician?

At age 10 at my elementary school final paper I wrote that one day I would love to be a trombonist.

How much do you practice on a typical day?

Between 4-7 hours. I love practicing

Do you have a website? If so, what is the address?

www.steinerpeter.com

What are some of your favorite etude books?

I love the melodies of Marco Bordogni and the Complete Arbans is my go-to to fix any technical issues.

Do you use any apps when you practice?

I have created my own drone sounds with a tuning pitch and metronome - every day I warm-up with those. For Intonation work I also use TE Tuner! My metronome is an actual object, not app 😊

What are some ways to improve one's rhythm?

Practice a lot with the metronome, sing & conduct and listen to other players while singing along.

If you could go back in time and give yourself any advice, what would it be?

Be more open minded and look beyond the comfort zone. But also, no need to always share your opinion and keep it to yourself.

Where is your favorite place that you have traveled to?

I love exploring new places, no favorite

Who are some of your musical heroes?

There is no way of naming them all, because I find inspiration in so many different artists. But I'll attempt to name some that come to mind immediately: Michael Jackson, Freddy Mercury, Beyonce, Ed Sheeran, Pavarotti, Callas, Argerich, Maiksy, Yo-Yo Ma, Leonidas Kavakos, Phil Smith, Sergei Nakariakov, Joseph Alessi

How old were you when you first began transcribing solos?

15/16

Who are your main influences in your life?

My parents, sisters, girlfriend and mentors 😊

Please give some tips for freelancing.

Be open minded and respectful. I feel like body hygiene is very important when it comes to first impressions. 😬

How tips would you give to a young musician that wants to become a soloist?

Enjoy what you are doing and try to express yourself through the horn.

Is anyone else in your family a musician?

My dad played the tuba, big sister flute teacher, and other big sister. saxophone teacher.

Do you have any suggestions for working on one's range?

Simply explore without fear. If you don't practice it - it won't get better!

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Hopefully playing recitals with Constanze Hochwartner in the best Concert Halls of the world and soloing with orchestras and ensembles on a regular basis.

Do you practice visualizing yourself performing?

Yes! Practice can be divided into 2 elements to me:

- workshop (fixing all the details)
- practice performing (record, run-throughs, mock-audition, dress rehearsals)

The second one is essential for success

What are you listening to currently?

My new album BINARY STAR! Release May 2021

What projects are you working on right now?

Next CD, learning new Concerti and Repertoire with Piano/Organ as well as creating a new online teaching platform

Do you ever get anxious for a performance? What advice would you give for dealing with nerves?

I am never anxious, but I am nervous in an excited way. I always look forward to performing and try to move every negative energy towards excitement.

To become a great musician, what are things that you think a young musician should focus on when they practice?

Always try to create a nice sound. Nobody wants to hear bad sounds, right?

If you couldn't have a career in music, what would you do instead?

I would be an athlete. I love sports!

Who are your favorite composers?

Beethoven, Schubert, Schuman, Dvorak, Puccini, Strauss, Williams, De Frumerie

What are your favorite solos for your instrument?

Concerto by Gunnar de Frumerie, T-Bone Concerto by De Meij

Do you memorize your music? Do you have any advice for young players on how to memorize?

Yes, I memorize all my solo literature. For me the process is happening pretty automatically, because I practice the pieces so often that they become part of my muscle and brain memory. I would say the easiest way to memorize is by repetition.

What is your favorite food?

That's a hard one. I love food! Nutella? Pasta? Pizza? Burrito? Can't decide...