

Alexandr Starý, piano (CZE)

He comes from the north Moravian city of Ostrava, where he studied the Janáček Conservatory in the class of prof. Marta Toaderová. However, at the same time he also attended the Gymnázium Olgy Havlové. After his secondary school studies he graduated from the Faculty of Fine Arts, where he now works as an accompanist. His performing skills have been further enhanced by taking part in masterclasses of such esteemed pedagogues as Dimitri Bashkurov, Zoltán Kocsis, Marta Gulyás, or Andrzej Jasinski. His four-year participation at the prestigious Summer Academy at the German town of Pommersfelden culminated in 2008 with a performance of the *2nd piano concerto* by Sergei Rachmaninov under the baton of Sergio Cárdenas. He has often played with the Janáček Philharmonic Ostrava, the Brno Philharmonic and other orchestras. He has received numerous awards in music competitions (first place in the International Beethoven Competition at Hradec nad Moravicí and the International F. Chopin Competition at Mariánské Lázně). He has been combining his solo career with that of a chamber musician and is therefore often invited by many artists to collaborate with them. His versatility is prized not only by instrument players but also many operatic singers, who can benefit from many years of his experience with this type of music. His cooperation with the singer Jan Martiník has earned him the prize for the best accompanist at the Yelena Obraztsev International Singing Competition in Moscow, or the invitation to a masterclass on performing German Lieder led by Thomas Quasthoff. His long-term musical partnerships include those with the violinist Martina Bačová or the bassist Richard Novák. He has been the member of the piano trio A Tre for over ten years.