

Mechthild Karkow
Baroque Violin / Violin / Viola d'amore

Baroque violinist Mechthild Karkow is amongst the most versatile specialists in historical performance practice. Her repertoire ranges from the end of the 16th to the beginning of the 20th century, and also includes contemporary compositions for Baroque violin, Baroque viola and viola d'amore. The examination of historical sources and the use of instruments, bows, playing techniques and playing positions appropriate to the repertoire are standard practice for her, and contribute to a stylistically-differentiated, vibrant interpretation.

Mechthild Karkow performs internationally as a soloist, concertmaster and chamber musician in various ensembles, and appears at renowned festivals at home and abroad. She has won prizes at international competitions and made numerous radio and CD recordings. She has collaborated with musicians such as Christophe Coin, Andrea Marcon and Marieke Spaans, and appeared as a soloist and artistic director with orchestras such as the Bremer Philharmoniker and the Freiburg Baroque Orchestra.

Passing on her experience and deep knowledge of violin playing is an important focus of Mechthild Karkow's artistic life. She began her teaching career in 2013 as a professor of Baroque violin and viola at the University of Music and Theatre 'Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy' Leipzig, and also taught at the Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts until 2021. In the 2020/21 winter semester she was appointed Professor of Baroque violin and viola at the University of the Arts Bremen, where she has played a key role in shaping the renowned Early Music department ever since. International masterclasses, lectures and workshops complement her university activities, and complete her multifaceted profile.

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