



## Line-up

**Bryan Benner**  
Voice & Guitar

**Ivan Turkalj**  
Violoncello

**Simon Teurezbacher**  
Tuba

**Thomas Toppler**  
Drums & Vibraphone

## Links

AUDIO

VIDEO

TEASER

**Management**  
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# Newly Heard. Bravely Played. Joyfully Rediscovered.

The care with which these musicians play elicits such an intimacy and closeness to the original, that even someone who has never heard a song by Schubert finds themselves in a state of fascination.

**Frank Siebert, SHMF**

THE ERLKINGS brought a brilliant Cross-over-Show to the Meisterkonzert series. One rarely hears Schubert's 'Die schöne Müllerin' performed with such creativity and competence. Schubert with addictive potential!

**Mainpost**

In conclusion: Rather than a storm of puritanical indignation at their new arrangements of Schubert Lieder, THE ERLKINGS received a wave of uproarious applause.

**Vorarlberger Nachrichten**

To transport the Evergreens of the Romantic period into the 21st century; this is the work THE ERLKINGS have set themselves.

**Ö1 Intrada**

A full-frontal approach to Schubert. They endeavor to unfreeze art song from its long, frozen sleep.

**Deutschland Radio**

THE ERLKINGS have taken Schubert's songs out of the Biedermeier-parlor and into the beer-garden.

**MWDR 5 | Kulturmagazin Scala**

No one can resist the pull of such a music. A young and energetic quartet has found the courage to present German Art Song in elegant new English translations, allowing the already legendary beauty of this repertoire to speak to a new international audience. THE ERLKINGS have astounded audiences with their enchanting interpretations of songs by Franz Schubert. What began with Schubert continued with Robert Schumann's "Dichterliebe" as commissioned by the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival and songs by Hugo Wolf, commissioned by the International Hugo Wolf Academy.

The anglophone versions of THE ERLKINGS open the ears to a new experience, delighting audiences wherever they are heard – whether in the finest concert house, a high spirited beer hall, or a sleepy mountain hotel. Brilliant – humorous – the spell of Art Song is cast anew.

The American singer and guitarist Bryan Benner, in the company of three top Viennese musicians, has dared this striking reinvention of Schubert and other great song composers.

The quartet with Thomas Toppler, Simon Teurezbacher, and Ivan Turkalj underlines not only the vitality, charm and lightness of the Viennese "Prince of Song", but also the depth and gravitas of his compositions. 200 year old songs are played straight to the heart, delighting our minds, inspiring us to dance or cry. It doesn't matter if you are from Vienna or London, if you are young or old, classical fan or pop music freak: with THE ERLKINGS, excitement and enjoyment are guaranteed. Art Song at its very finest.

**Text: Walburga Manemann, WDR3**



## Commissioned Works

### 2018 R. Schumann

„Dichterliebe“ Schleswig Holstein  
Musik Festival

### 2019 Schubert-Lieder

mit Chor Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele

### 2019 Hugo Wolf Lieder

Internationale Hugo Wolf Akademie

### 2020 Goethe und Schiller

Lieder Konzerthaus Berlin

### 2021 Richard Strauss Lieder

Richard Strauss Festival

### 2021 Beethoven Lieder

Bayerischer Rundfunk

### 2022 Haydn Lieder

Haydnregion Land Niederösterreich

## Discography

### 2016 - The Erlkings - Schubert Vol.1

### 2018 - Die schöne Müllerin - Schubert Vol.2

### 2020 - Schumann

### 2022 - Beethoven

### 2022 - Schubert Vol. 3

#### Management

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# Programs

## The Essential Collection

An evening of Schubert in the signature ERLKINGS style, including many of Schubert's most well known and most beloved songs such as "Auf dem Wasser zu singen", "Die Forelle" and "Erlkönig".

**45-90 Minutes | with or without an interval**

## Die schöne Müllerin

The complete song-cycle, newly arranged by THE ERLKINGS. Müller's Prologue and Epilogue, reconstructed in modern English, as well as the three other poems of the cycle Schubert chose not to set to music are included.

**90 Minutes | with interval**

## Franzl & Robert

As a part of a special "Schumann Year" in 2018, the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival commissioned a new version of Schumann's "Dichterliebe" from THE ERLKINGS. This has become one of THE ERLKINGS' most requested programs and is always served best with a Schubert appetizer in the first half.

**60-90 Minutes | with interval**

## The Erlkings: Schumann

In this program THE ERLKINGS perform two complete song cycles by the great Romantic songwriter Robert Schumann. Liederkreis op. 39 and Dichterliebe have both been lovingly translated into English, arranged for and by THE ERLKINGS and their unique constellation of instruments.

**60-90 Minutes | with interval**

## The Schubadour - THE ERLKINGS Family concert A program for kids ages 6-99 years old.

Returning from a trip around the world, the Schubadour and his band play new songs by Franz Schubert, all the while recounting tales of his journey and the wondrous things he saw along the way; a yodeling Forelle, the Erlkönig, and the worlds most beautiful Heidenröslein.

**45 Minutes | light staging with props | interactive material available**

## "Friedhofs Nachbarn" - Beethoven and Schubert songs featuring Marcello Smigliante Gentile

THE ERLKINGS return to the original blueprints of Kunstlied and contrast Beethoven's Sturm und Drang with the deeply empathic world of Franz Schubert. Songs like "An den Mond" and "Gretchen am Spinnrade" underline how much the art of song composition developed from Beethoven to Schubert, even though both composers lived, died, and were buried next to each other in Vienna within the same decade. For the Beethoven Lieder, THE ERLKINGS are joined by Neapolitan mandolin virtuoso Marcello Smigliante Gentile.

**90 Minuten (2x 45.) | with interval**

## Eine sehr ungewöhnliche G`schicht

Inspired by a dirty little Haydn song entitled "Eine sehr gewöhnliche Geschichte", this new program by THE ERLKINGS will feature the Lieder of Franz Schubert alongside the world premiere of several new Haydn Lieder arrangements, translated into the signature ERLKINGS style exclusively for the Haydnregion Niederösterreich. Voice, guitar, cello, tuba, drums, vibraphone, and modern English translations will present Haydn's songs as they have never been heard before, taking the audience on a journey that is sure to be a "sehr ungewöhnliche Geschichte".

**90 Minuten (2x 45.) | with interval**