

Terezie Fialová and Jiří Bárta release a complete recording of Beethoven Sonatas

On **5 November 2021** Animal Music releases a double album by pianist **Terezie Fialová** and cellist **Jiří Bárta** comprising the complete recording of **Sonatas for piano and cello** by **Ludwig van Beethoven**. Jiří Bárta has already recorded on the label – in 2016 as member of supegenre band Blue Shadows and in 2018 with a new complete recording of the Bach cello suites which he performed on a baroque instrument. Beethoven's sonatas for piano and cello originated between 1796 and 1815 and they document in their individual parts the development of Beethoven's musical language from the first classicist sonatas to the late, musically very progressive, sonatas which are some of the most inventive pieces by the composer. The recording took place during the second wave of the pandemic between January and April 2001 and it is dedicated to all those on whom those months were especially hard and who encountered pain and loss.

The context in which the album was created necessarily influenced its genesis which Terezie Fialová describes in the following words: *'Paradoxically, it is precisely thanks to the many months of a stalled concert life that we found the time to get together and withdraw into the solitude of the studio in order to record our beloved music by Ludwig van Beethoven. The joy of music, performance and the possibility of playing music together has represented an island of hope in these difficult times. It is a hope that never dies, no matter what'*.

The album was recorded at the Atrium hall in Prague in collaboration with the sound master Ondřej Urban and with the kind support of Badokh Foundation. The cover design is by Marek Pistora from the Najbrt Studio, the photos are by Hana Knížová. The album is released on **5 November 2021** as a CD (double album) and digitally as MP3 and hires WAV, and it will also be available on the usual streaming services. The album is distributed by Supraphon and is available also from the ANIMAL MUSIC e-shop at www.animalmusic.cz. The album is released as part of the Animal Music Edition 2021, supported by a grant from the City of Prague.



Pianist **Terezie Fialová** is a sought-after chamber partner of many foremost soloists. As a soloist, she herself debuted with an orchestra at the age of twelve and she also played the violin until the age of twenty. She studied solo piano at the Prague Academy of Performing Arts (with Ivan Klášný) and chamber music at Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg (with Niklas Schmidt). She is the laureate of international piano competitions in Italy, Holland and Russia and participated in many master classes. She regularly appears at music festivals in the Czech Republic, including Prague Spring, Dvořák Prague, Moravian Autumn, Janáček May, Smetana's Litomyšl Opera Festival, Lípa Musica, Music Festival Český Krumlov and International Music Festival Kutná hora, and abroad (Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, Sarajevo Winter, Septembre Musical in Montreux-Vevvey, Konvergenie Bratislava, Bach Before & After Istanbul, Les Flâneries Musicales de Reims, Festival Internacional de Arte Sacro in Madrid and many others). Terezie Fialová is member of

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the Eben Trio (together with violinist Roman Patočka and cellist Jiří Bárta). The ensemble has received the Prize of the Association for Chamber Music of the Czech Philharmonic and won the first prize in the international chamber competition in Lausanne in Switzerland. The trio has performed at prestigious venues across the globe, including Auditorium de Louvre in Paris, Gasteig in Munich, Laeszhalle in Hamburg, Kennedy Center in Washington DC, the National Hall of Performing Arts in Peking and the Oriental Arts Center in Shanghai.

Jiří Bárta is a foremost Czech cellist who has become one of Europe's top performers in the early 1990s after having won several prestigious competitions in Dresden, Los Angeles and elsewhere. After graduating from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague he continued his studies in Cologne with Boris Pergamenschikow. He has performed, among others, with the Czech Philharmonic, Slovak Philharmonic, Prague Symphony Orchestra and Berlin Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Royal Scottish National Orchestra and Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra, and collaborated with conductors such as Jakub Hrůša, Charles Dutoit, Gianandrea Noseda, Libor Pešek, Gennady Rozhdestvensky and Maxim Shostakovich. He has appeared on stages in Europe, North and South America, Japan, the Middle East and Australia. Apart from his solo performances at international music festivals and his collaboration with leading world orchestras, he has also dedicated himself to various chamber music projects. His recordings include solo albums for Supraphon, Hyperion and Animal Music and he has also collaborated on the recording of Magdalena Kožená for Deutsche Gramophon. Jiří Bárta is a co-founder and the musical director of the International Music Festival Kutná hora.

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