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François-Frédéric Guy [www.ffguy.com] has a growing reputation for interpretations of authority, intensity and insight. He is especially renowned for his performances of large-scale works in the Austro-German tradition – BBC Radio 3's *CD Review* selected his Naïve recording of Beethoven's epic *Hammerklavier* Sonata as the finest in the catalogue. He is currently embarked on a project to perform the complete Beethoven Sonatas and Piano Concertos at major venues around the world over several years.

Guy has performed worldwide with orchestras such as the Berlin Symphony, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, Hallé, Helsinki Philharmonic, Japan Philharmonic, London Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de Lyon and San Francisco Symphony. In the summer of 2006 he made his BBC Proms debut at the Royal Albert Hall performing the Ravel Piano Concerto with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia. Other outstanding conductors with whom he has worked include Bernard Haitink, Daniel Harding, Neeme Järvi, Wolfgang Sawallisch and Michael Tilson Thomas.

In recital, he has performed in cities including London, Milan, Munich, Paris, Vienna and Washington, and at festivals including La Roque d'Anthéron, City of London, Cheltenham and Yokohama. After his debut recital in the Berlin Philharmonie, the *Berliner Morgenpost* wrote: '*Guy is a pianist of astonishing expressiveness, with immaculate pianistic technique... a man of the present even when he plays Schubert...*'

Among François-Frédéric Guy's most notable recordings are those of Prokofiev's Sonatas 6 and 8 (Naïve) and Brahms Sonatas 2 and 3 (Meridian). He has also recorded Brahms Piano Concerto No 2 with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Paavo Berglund (Naïve). His chamber music recordings include the Beethoven and Brahms Cello Sonatas with Anne Gastinel and Brahms Clarinet Sonatas with Romain Guyot. As part of his ongoing Beethoven project, he recently completed recording all 5 Piano Concertos with Philippe Jordan and the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France. The BBC Music Magazine commented: '*The performance ... confirms Guy as one of the foremost pianists of his generation*' about first CD of the series (Concertos 1 & 5). Guy recently started recording all 32 Beethoven Sonatas, a project to span the next three years.

François-Frédéric Guy studied with Dominique Merlet and Christian Ivaldi at the Paris Conservatoire, where he graduated with the Premier Prix. He is a keen reader of the works of Dostoyevsky and of biographies and memoirs of musicians. In addition to his admiration of Beethoven – whom he describes as "the Alpha and Omega of music" – he has special affinities with the music of Bartók, Brahms, Liszt and Prokofiev and a strong commitment to contemporary music with close links to composers such as Ivan Fedele, Marc Monnet, Gerard Pesson and Hugues Dufourt, who recently dedicated a significant new piano piece *Erlkönig* to him.

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