



# Clemens Hagen + 1B1: Haydn Cello Concerto in C, Mozart Sinfonia Concertante

JOSEPH HAYDN: Concerto for cello and orchestra in C major ·  
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART: Sinfonia Concertante in E-flat major

**Clemens Hagen, cello · Jan Bjøranger, violin · Lars Anders Tomter, viola · 1B1**

– Es liegt eine besondere Kunst darin, unzählige oft eingespielten Kultstücken neue Facetten zu entlocken. Auf dem jüngsten Album des 1B1-Orchesters gelingt dies meisterhaft. [Crescendo]

**Clemens Hagen – of the legendary Hagen Quartet – at last records Haydn Cello Concerto in C. Teaming up with the young Norwegian 1B1 orchestra Hagen has finally found co-musicians who can join him in a fresh chamber musical approach to this classic.**

After having played the concerto in C with 1B1 during the Stavanger International Chamber Music Festival in 2015, Hagen on the spot decided that he wished to record together with them. For 1B1, a really up-and-coming orchestra consisting of young musicians, no recognition could be of greater value. Founder and artistic director Jan Bjøranger has developed a method for 1B1 that really sets them apart from other chamber orchestras today – attracting soloists in search of sublime artistic moments.

## A different and deeply felt Haydn

When Clemens Hagen finally decides to record the Haydn C Major, it goes without saying that the result is unlike anything else ever heard on record. With his exquisite sense of phrasing and sound colouration Hagen embodies Haydn's shifts from euphoria to melancholy with deeply felt understanding and empathy. Having been a part of the the Hagen Quartet since the foundation in 1981, Clemens Hagen has released more than 40 recordings for Deutsche Grammophon, in addition to numerous releases as soloist together with such artists as Gidon Kremer, Nikolaus Harnoncourt and Thomas Zehetmayr. Hagen plays on one of the few Stradivari cellos in the world, built in 1689. Norwegian violinist and composer Henning Kraggerud also contributes with new solo cadenzas written especially for Hagen on this recording.

## Warm Mozart with Bjøranger and Tomter

Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante for violin, viola and chamber orchestra is of course one of the most loved pieces in the classical repertoire. For this recording, Bjøranger is joined by violist Lars Anders Tomter as soloist in an open dialogue with the orchestra. That special Nordic sound is of course audible in every phrase, but Bjøranger and Tomter also bring a certain gentleness and compassion to their reading, perhaps reaching for the more profound layers of Mozart.

## 1B1 attracts both musicians and audiences

For a young orchestra like 1B1 to be working and recording with artists like Clemens Hagen is both a sensation and the most natural thing. The foremost artists all have a very special dedication and devotion to music making, an attitude they find so crystalline with 1B1. So of course principal oboe of the Berlin Phil. Christoph Hartmann joins in for the Mozart; as part of the orchestra! Just this spring 1B1 gave 16 concerts in New York at the National Sawdust and Trinity Church Wall Street, alone and together with such soloists as Renée Fleming, Simone Dinnerstein og Glen Kotche (Wilco). In October Clemens Hagen and 1B1 have concerts in Italy, and spring dates in Germany are being fixed.

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"– Nærværet deres er til å ta og føle på, og musikken ikke bare svinger, men den fremstår som én stor organisk pust – en historie om liv og bevegelse der musikerne lytter til en gest i musikken som er større enn individene.

[Magnus Andersson / Klassekampen]"



"– En sjelden gang får en innspilling deg til å lytte til velkjente verk med nye ører, som om du hører dem for første gang. Det er hva disse fremførelsene gjør. Både Hagen i Haydn og Bjøranger og Tomter i Mozart håndterer sine solostemmer som primi inter pares (den første blant likemenn), og som om dette var kammermusikk. [6 Martin Anderson / Klassisk Musikkmagasin]"



"– hochinteressante und klanglich bestens eingefangene Album [Online Merker]"

"– die Lesart von Clemens Hagen und dem 1B1 Streichorchester von den vielen anderen unterscheidet, ist die Leichtigkeit und Frische. Keine grossen Gesten, kein Star-Geplänkel. Stattdessen eine grundsolide und schön zu hörende Aufnahme. [Journal Frankfurt]"

"– Es liegt eine besondere Kunst darin, unzählige oft eingespielten Kultstücken neue Facetten zu entlocken. Auf dem jüngsten Album des 1B1-Orchesters gelingt dies meisterhaft. [Crescendo]"



"– Eine neue Referenzaufnahme? [OE1.orf.at]"



"– Es mag die eine oder den anderen verwundern, dass Clemens Hagen das große Haydn-Konzert mit einem jungen norwegischen Ensemble aufnimmt - er selbst sagt, so müsse Musik heutzutage aufgeführt und erfahren werden. [NDR Kultur]"

"Og få høre Herrt Hagens somtsuverentsolisttertbaretså  
herligÆtVitkjennerthamstorttsetttsomtentenestående kammermusiker  
gjennomtrollentsomtcellistentitdentberømtet"Hagen≠kvartetten"ÆtHans  
naturligetsmusikalitettogetstorslagnetmusikeroverskuddtløftertselvfølgelig  
innspillingentoppdetthøyestetnivåttmedtgitrendetbistandtfratet  
veloplagt musikerpanelÆ"

"– here is some of the most beautifully expressive and emotionally satisfying playing I can recall ever hearing in these two works"