

Johann Markel was born in Kronstadt, Romania. He received his first piano lessons in Germany at the age of 10. At sixteen he studied with Gottfried Rüll at the Meistersingerkonservatorium Nürnberg (Germany) and later at the Hochschule für Musik Nürnberg-Augsburg, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in piano and piano pedagogy. He continued to study with Geoffrey Douglas Madge at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague (The Netherlands).

Johann has participated in masterclasses with well-known pianists and pedagogues, such as Karl-Heinz Kämmerling, Volker Banfield, Sergei Rjanov and Anatol Karemacher. Peter Feuchtwanger, with whom he has regular lessons is his most enduring artistic influence, together with the French pianist Annie Gicquel. In 2013 he participated at the 8th International Egandin Summer Piano Academy Samedan (CH) where he received lessons from Mr. Feuchtwanger as well as from Thomas Sanderling during a conducting workshop.

Lieder accompaniment is also of great interest to Johann. He had lessons with Han-Louis Meijer and took part in a masterclass for settings of poems from Paul Verlaine, led by Meinard Kraak (singing) and Rudolf Jansen (accompanist) with associate artist Christine Wemekamp. Since 2009 he has performed classical and romantic lieder intensively with the soprano Dorothea Jakob, with whom he has formed a chamber duo. Another chamber duo he formed with the bass-baritone Matthew Baker. As Liedduo they are performing in a series of concerts in The Netherlands and Romania Schumanns 'Dichterliebe' op 48 and Finzis 'Let us Garlands Bring' op. 18.

Concert performances have taken him to Switzerland, Romania, Italy, The Netherlands and Germany, where he has appeared as chamber musician, accompanist and soloist. Together with the Westerkamerorkest Amsterdam and the Houtens Kamerorkest he performed pas recent years piano concertos by Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang A. Mozart (KV 466 & 488), Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy and Ludwig van Beethoven (nr. 3 c minor and nr. 5 E flat major, 'Emperor'), conducted by Taco de Vries.

His repertoire is particularly broad, ranging from the first Viennese school to the postmodern, although his favourite repertoires are the works of Franz Schubert and Alexander Skriabin.

Johann Markel is member of the Young Piano Master Society that provides regular concerts and masterclasses under the artistic guidance of Geoffrey D. Madge.

Alongside his performances, Johann Markel teaches piano at his studio in The Hague as well as at the Houtens Muziek Collectief, Houten (The Netherlands) and works as assistant for Gustav Alink at the Alink-Argerich Foundation (AAF), an independant worldwide information and service centre for pianists and competitions.