PETER BREINER

Known as a conductor, pianist, composer and arranger, Peter Breiner has conducted, often doubling as a pianist, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, Vienna Mozart Orchestra, the Westdeutsche Rundfunk Symphony, Hungarian State Radio Orchestra, Nicolaus Esterhazy Orchestra Budapest, Polish Radio and TV Symphony Orchestra, Ukrainian State Symphony Orchestra, Moscow Symphony Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, Capella Istropolitana, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra National de Lille, France, Hong Kong Sinfonietta and Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, to mention just a few. He is one of the world's most recorded musicians, with over 260 CDs released, millions of albums sold and uncountable streams/downloads on every platform.

Some of his most acclaimed recordings include Beatles Go Baroque (over quarter of million CDs sold worldwide) and Elvis Goes Baroque representing the collections of his commercially most successful Baroque arrangements together with Christmas Goes Baroque 1 and 2. The follow-up to this bestseller - Beatles go Baroque 2 was recorded in December 2018 with some of the best soloists in the world and released in 2019 on Naxos label to general critical acclaim and massive interest at streaming sites.

His arrangements of national anthems of ALL participating countries were used during the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004 and illegally in Beijing in 2008. He recorded his own arrangements of the anthems of the participating countries of the Rugby World Cup 2011 and a new 10 CD set of the National Anthems of the World 2013 Edition was written to coincide with the 2012 Olympic Games in London and was released in July 2013 by Naxos.

Peter recorded his own arrangements of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, Songs and Dances of Death and The Nursery and Tchaikovsky's Operatic Suites from The Voyevoda and The Queen of Spades for Naxos. These recordings, with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Peter, are the subject of [a movie documentary entitled Bask](https://youtu.be/EjpHI7chzPg). In addition, September 2012 saw the award-winning Naxos release of Peter's own arrangements of Debussy's 24 Piano Preludes.

The world premiere recording for Naxos of his own arrangements of Janacek’s Six Operatic Suites with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and himself conducting earned [similar acclaim](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=173ArTnMJb4), Gramophone stating “ Splendid disc .... conducted with passion and sympathetic understanding .. “ the Chicago Tribune (which included this album in their TOP 10 classical recordings of the year) adding “ Breiner fills the void with beautifully crafted symphonic suites based on the music of Jenufa”. All of these albums achieved places on worlwide Top Seller and Best Recording lists. His trio, Triango’s latest album was released in the fall of 2011 by First Impression Music.

Premiered live in July 2013 was the music for a huge transmedia project to consist of audio recording, several interactive videos, and audience-involvement platforms – *Slovak Dances, Nasty and Nice.* This project is based on Peter’s own 100 minute orchestral suite of dances which was recorded in September 2018 by Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra with the composer conducting and released in September 2020 on Naxos. It was performed at the Carnegie Hall in New York in December 2016 and performed as a ballet at the Slovak National Theater for three seasons. Peter also conducted Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet for two seasons there and the same company commissioned a full length ballet based on a novel by Mikhail Bulgakov *Master and Margaret* for their 100th season in 2021.

In 2020 Peter started recording and releasing a multi-album project called Calm Romantic Piano. First volume, *Caressing Your Soul* is for solo piano, the second, *A Journey*, released in March 2021, was recorded with Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London. Two more solo albums were released in fall of 2022, one with piano music by Antonin Dvorak and the other was the Vol 3 of CRP series. The series has been streaming in millions since its inception and Naxos commissioned 6 more albums for 2023-2024.

Peter's music, whether his own or his arrangements, has been used by dozens of choreographers at renown ballet companies (American Ballet Theater, Houston Ballet, Royal Ballet (UK), Balet Jorgen Canada, Queensland Ballet, Ballet am Rhein and many others).

Peter's compositions and arrangements have been played in concerts worldwide. Films that include his musical scores have enjoyed very wide international exposure and his music has been featured many times on the most popular TV shows.

Peter was the curator of “Sounds of Serendipity” – a series of Contemporary Classical Music Concerts featuring new and emerging composers and performers with a unique connection to both Peter and Czechoslovak music culture. The annual series was presented for 6 years at the Bohemian National Hall, New York.

In 2021, OnAir, a Dutch music streaming platform, asked Peter to be a music director and conductor of their classical branch. First streaming was planned for July 2021 ([Mahler 2nd Symphony with RPO at Royal Albert Hall](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10157890803069147&set=a.10150262853604147)), but it was cancelled by unluckily prolonged Covid restrictions in the last minute. However, they restarted this endeavour in September 2022 with three Stravinsky early ballets (Firebird, Petrushka and Rite) recorded with RPO at BBC Studios. The Stravinsky series was released on the [platform](https://onair.events/igor-stravinsky-the-firebird) from in December 2022 and will be followed by more recordings with top London orchestras in 2024.

Peter began to study piano in his early childhood (1961) and his exceptional artistry led to his early acceptance at the Conservatory in Kosice (1971). He studied piano (L. Kojanova), composition (J. Podprocky), conducting and percussion. In 1975-1981 he studied composition at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava (former Czechoslovakia) with Prof. Alexander Moyzes, one of the most significant figures in modern Slovak music - and this way he became a compositional great-grandson of Antonin Dvorak.

He is proficient in seven languages. He has hosted various TV and radio programs about music, in 1993 he was a co-host and music director of the most popular TV talk show in Slovakia, attracting over 2 million viewers in a country with a population of 5,5 million, has his own column in one of Slovakia's most influential weekly newspapers, while his first book "Maple Leaves" came out in April 1998 and became a No.1 non-fiction national bestseller immediately. In 2016 he published his second book "Isn't There Another Globe?"

In 2018, Peter Breiner was awarded the highest state order (Rad Ludovita Stura) by the President of Slovak Republic.

Peter Breiner lived in Toronto, Canada since 1992 till 2007 when he moved to New York and in July 2020 he moved to London, United Kingdom.