



DORIANA TCHAKAROVA

A song pianist defined by the spirit of discovery and curatorial flair



(c) Laura Zalenga

Song accompaniment has traditionally been considered a male domain – a cliché that Doriana Tchakarova has long since disproved with her artistic brilliance and visionary power. The Stuttgart-based pianist is one of the most distinguished representatives of her field.

She is a song pianist, curator, treasure hunter of unknown repertoires, and tireless mediator, who places the art song within a lively, contemporary context, and is thus considered one of the most important driving forces for the art song in the 21st century.

2026 marks another high point in her career, filled with exciting album projects, intensive performances, and the continuation of her own groundbreaking concert series

The Erbkönig: a multifaceted panorama of a world-famous ballad

In spring 2026 (early/mid-April 2026), Doriana Tchakarova's **new album "Erbkönig"** with baritone Johannes Held will be released, presenting **13 different settings of Goethe's ballad** – from the first version by Corona Schröter to contemporary interpretations (including Carl Czerny, Louis Spohr, Emilie Mayer, and Stefan Schulzki). The result is a musical puzzle that offers a fascinating glimpse into the compositional and reception history of Goethe's famous text throughout the centuries. Many of these works appear here as **world premiere recordings**, thus making previously unknown readings of one of the most important texts in German literature accessible. While Schubert's setting of Goethe's ballad is generally considered the gold standard, Doriana Tchakarova and Johannes Held explore the fascinating complexity of the material: "At the same time, the poem is 'read' in ever new ways, thus revealing the text's dark pull in new ways too." The **album launch concert** will take place on **22 April 2026 in Berlin**, at the **Christophori Piano Salon**.

"Remembrance" and collaborating with Marcel Brunner

Currently, the focus of the collaboration with bass-baritone Marcel Brunner is on **the album "Remembrance,"** released in September 2025 on the Hänssler Classic label. The recording, which has already garnered considerable acclaim in the music press, explores the experience of war and the hope for peace through songs set during the First World War. Alongside works by Hanns Eisler and Charles Ives, this album also features a significant world premiere recording: Robert Kahn's "Six Songs from Serious Times." It is a "debut album with conviction and a message," distinguished by true repertoire gems and possessing remarkable relevance for our time. The official release concert will take place on **12 April 2026** at the **National Theatre Mannheim**.

PoeMus: Literature and Music in dialogue at Schloss Filseck

As artistic director, Doriana Tchakarova curates the **PoeMus series, which she founded in 2023 at Schloss Filseck** (Baden-Württemberg). Here, she places literature, music, and thematic connections in close dialogue, thus breaking down the traditional boundaries of the song recital. For Doriana Tchakarova, **"the connection between poetry and music in art song is the greatest inspiration in my musical life,"** underscoring her deep passion for this art form. She is responsible for both the conceptual planning and the artistic curation of the series, carefully selecting top-class singers to create programs that extend beyond the purely musical. The **2026 season** reflects this diversity: with concert programs such as "Wanderer Between Worlds" with Nils Wanderer (January), the International Women's Day program "FEMINAE" with Sibylla Rubens (March), and the "Italian Songbook" (April), she continues her search for innovative ways of presenting song.

Outlook & Collaboration

Doriana Tchakarova's versatility is also evident in her choice of top-class chamber music partners: collaborations with renowned singers and highly talented young artists shape her career and offer profound insights into her working methods. With remarkable sensitivity, she attunes herself to each partner in order to find a shared musical language. In the current season, she will perform with, among others, **Samuel Hasselhorn** (a recital in the Großer Kursaal Stuttgart), **Eva Zalenga** (song miniatures, including performances in Berlin and at the Mettlach Festival), and **Nikola Diskic** (Die schöne Magelone).

She tirelessly seeks out rarities in the repertoire, champions the works of female composers, and searches for captivating and unusual program combinations. Together with her vocal partners, Doriana Tchakarova tells stories, transports her listeners to distant worlds, and establishes connections to the here and now. With her expertise in unfamiliar repertoire and her "intuition," as praised by the specialist press (including Piano News), Doriana Tchakarova is one of the most important driving forces for art song in the 21st century.

Biography

Doriana Tchakarova was born in Varna, Bulgaria. She completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in piano performance at the Stuttgart University of Music and Performing Arts, studying with Professors Fernande Kaeser and Friedemann Rieger. She also studied in the Lied class of Professor Konrad Richter. Doriana Tchakarova has won numerous prizes, including second prize at the Dimitar Nenov International Piano Competition. Together with cellist Krassimira Krasteva, she was a prize winner in the chamber music category at the 15th Franz Schubert International Competition. In 2018, Doriana Tchakarova and baritone Konstantin Krimmel won first prize in the Lied duo category at the Rising Stars Grand Prix International Music Competition in Berlin.

Doriana Tchakarova is a lecturer at the Stuttgart University of Music and Performing Arts and founder and artistic director of the PoeMus art song festival at Schloss Filseck.



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Selected Dates 2026 (Highlights)

[11.01. Schloss Filseck | PoeMus:](#)

Nils Wanderer (Countertenor)

[28.01. Berlin \(Christophori\).](#)

Song-Miniatures with Eva Zalenga

[01.02. Stuttgart \(Kursaal\).](#)

Schubert/Schumann with Samuel Hasselhorn

[08.03. Schloss Filseck, PoeMus:](#)

FEMINAE with Sibylla Rubens

[12.04. Nationaltheater Mannheim.](#)

Album-RELEASE „Remembrance“ with Marcel Brunner

[22.04. Berlin \(Christophori\).](#)

Album-RELEASE „ERLKÖNIG“ with Johannes Held

[12.06. Schloss Ziegelberg.](#)

Lied-Miniaturen with Eva Zalenga