

Draksler/Bach/Masecki



photo by Szymon Gąsiorek

The idea of Marcin and Kaja, two of the leading European jazz pianists, playing J.S.Bach was suggested to the artists several years ago by Wim Wabbes of Handelsbeurs, Gent.

Marcin Masecki is well recognized and broadly praised for his personal and radical interpretations of canonic classical music repertoire. Kaja Draksler, on the other hand, established as a brilliant improviser and remarkable composer, finds herself in a fresh and challenging context here. Together, the two pianists jointly forge their personal rendition of the rich, rigid and complex vocabulary of the German giant.

Masecki and Draksler premiered as a duo in September 2020 during Kaja's residency at *Au Topsy Pohl* in Berlin, solely improvising. Their first attempt at the repertoire was a year after, at a two-day residency at Loft Köln, where they worked on *Concerto for Two Harpsichords in C-minor (BWV 1060)*, *Four Duets (BWV 802-805)*, some of the *Goldberg Variations (BWV 988)*, and two of Kurtág's transcriptions of Bach's orchestral works (*BWV 106 and 643*). The concert proved the vast potential of the collaboration, which will undoubtedly develop, deepen, grow and evolve further during the duo's tour in October 2022.

[Video](#)

[Photos](#)