

Curriculum Vitae Andra Heesch

Andra Heesch was born in 1983 in Bucharest, Romania. After the migration of her family to Nice/France, she had her first violin lessons there in 1987, being just four years old, with her father, Marius Nichiteanu (then solo violist with the Nice Opera and later solo violist with the NDR-Elbphilharmonie Orchestra Hamburg – former NDR Symphony Orchestra Hamburg) as her teacher. At the age of fourteen, she started to take lessons with Florin Paul (Concertmaster with the NDR-Elbphilharmonie Orchestra) with whom she could sharpen her technique and broaden her musical understanding until the beginning of her studies at the University for Music and Theatre Hamburg. She got early and lasting impulses by exceptional teachers, violinists and companions like Prof. Thomas Brandis and Radu Lupu.

She enrolled at the University for Music and Theatre in Hamburg at the age of 18 years and studied violin with Prof. Winfried Rüssmann until her graduation of the first diploma. In 2005 Andra Heesch changed from violin to viola and was accepted into the class of Prof. Thomas Selditz. During her viola studies, she attended several masterclasses with famous artists like Prof. Tabea Zimmermann, Prof. Nobuko Imai and Prof. Thomas Riebl. In 2010 Andra Heesch graduated her Diploma for viola with highest honors.

As an undergraduate Andra Heesch was a member of the orchestra of the Academy Orchestra of the Schleswig-Holstein Music festival. Towards the end of her studies she was accepted as an academist within the viola group of the NDR-Elbphilharmonie Orchestra. Additionally, she was a regular substitute with the Hamburg Symphonics during her student years. She got her first regular position as Solo Viola with the Kiel Philharmonics and won shortly after a position within the viola group of the Munich Philharmonics, but had to give up that engagement in order to support her terminally ill father. In 2015 she took her last engagement with an orchestra and joined the Hamburg State Opera. While playing in these acclaimed formations she had the honor to work under conductors such as Christoph Eschenbach, Waleri Gergijew, Alan Gilbert, Christoph Urbanski, Christoph von Dohnányi and Thomas Hengelbrock.

From early age on she performed as a soloist with different orchestras. Her next performance will be with the Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto.

All her life her biggest musical passion was chamber music. She played with known musicians like Prof. Niklas Schmidt, Prof. Sebastian Schmidt, Prof. Andreas Röhn, Prof. Boris Garlitsky and Liviu Prunaru.

In 2017 Andra Heesch founded the string trio "Nichiteanu Trio" together with her colleague Johannes Raab and since then has given concerts worldwide with different violonists. In the spring of 2022, the Nichiteanu Trio reunited. In addition to Andra Heesch on the viola, Ionel Adrian Iliescu (violin) and Samuel Selle (violoncello) are now members. The "Nichiteanu Trio" is represented by Massa Concert Management Berlin.

During the Corona-Pandemic, Andra Heesch, Johannes Raab and Cornelius Heesch founded the International Music Academy Germany (IMAG).

In the summer of 2022, Andra Heesch founded the Vitti Ensemble together with the violinist Markéta Janoušková. Musically, the ensemble draws on the broad repertoire for violin and viola. In addition to the great classical composers, selected pieces by modern composers form a second pillar of the repertoire, which are often written directly for the ensemble. Both have already established themselves as freelance artists in the German and international cultural scene.