OHAD BEN-ARI, *pianist and composer*

Israeli-born Ohad Ben-Ari's career has begun when he was 12 years old with performances as a soloist with the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra and the Israeli Chamber Orchestra. The following year, Ohad was officially enrolled as a student at the Tel-Aviv University, where he studied piano and composition, and later also conducting and scoring. As a pianist, Ohad has won numerous top prizes at international competitions, among them the ARD Competition and the coveted Arthur Rubinstein Master Competition. As a result, he received many invitations to appear as a soloist with Orchestras and with chamber music ensembles all around the world.

Since 2010, Ohad Ben-Ari resides with his family in Berlin, where he continues his extensive work as a pianist and a composer. He partners frequently with violinists Guy Braunstein and Noah Bendix-Balgley, as well as with mandolinist Avi Avital. He also collaborates with other world-renown classical musicians such as Sol Gabetta, Andreas Ottensamer, Alisa Weilerstein, Emmanuel Pahud, Magdalena Ko_ená and Yuja Wang. In the years 2011-2016, Ben-Ari has served as the artistic director of the Rolandseck Chamber Music Festival. Ohad currently serves as the director of the "ID Festival Berlin", which he founded with the support of the German government in 2014. That same year, a debut solo performance of H.W. Henze's "Requiem" took place with the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle.

Ohad Ben-Ari's compositions and transcriptions are performed world-wide by leading musicians. His first major original work, "Tips", has seen its debut in 2013 with the Hamburg Symphony. In 2014, his "Concerto for Marimba" was premiered in Tokyo by the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra and "Violins of Hope" was commissioned and performed by the Berliner Philharmoniker in 2015. His latest epic, "Messe di Requiem", is scheduled to premiere next season in Hamburg.