

Quintessenz - a unique chamber ensemble combining five highly specialized flute virtuosos – has now been performing for fourteen years. Each player in the group is a solo flutist with Leipzig's Gewandhausorchester or MDR

Sinfonieorchester or with the Staatskapelle Halle. They are much in demand as soloists, teacher of master classes and as competition judges.

Players in the ensemble perform on bass, alto, transverse and piccolo flute, and also achieve special sound effects by performing specially crafted head-joints. In ensemble, the players produce a refined overall blend of flute sound in their interpretation of affecting arrangements – orchestral works familiar to them from working with their home orchestras as well as flute and piano repertory transformed by Quintessenz into inimitable "flute sounds".

Quintessenz can be listened to on 6 Cds and found at www.quintessenz-leipzig.de

Anna Garzuly was born in Szombathely, Hungary. She studied in Budapest, Munich and New York and her teachers included Paul Meisen and Jeanne Baxtresser. Ms Garzuly has been the Associate Principal Flute of the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig since 1995. She has won numerous prizes at international competitions such as those in Scheveningen, Kobe, Budapest and Geneva. Anna Garzuly is much in demand as a soloist, teacher and as a competition judge.

Anna is the principal flute of the Quintessenz ensemble.

Gudrun Hinze was born in Homburg, Saarland. She studied in Dusseldorf and Essen. She was awarded at several national and international competitions. After working in the Cologne and the Leipzig radio orchestras, she has been principal piccolo player of the Gewandhausorchester since 1993. She has been elected as a member of the Festival orchestra Bayreuth since 1999. She is also active in teaching the piccolo flute, giving master classes and recording solo repertoire for the piccolo flute.

For Quintessenz, Gudrun plays the piccolo flute and keeps arranging the music for the ensemble.

Manfred Ludwig was born in Erding, Bavaria. He started his studies with Philippe Boucly in Munich, later he changed to Hannover and completed his studies with Prof. Andrea Lieberknecht and Gudrun Hinze.

2008 he won an Academy scholarship at the Bavarian State Opera Munich. Later he had some years of trial at the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, where he now is a fixed member. Since 2015 he is also part of "Quintessenz Leipzig Flute Ensemble".

Born in Potsdam, **Bettine Keyßer** studied flute with Prof. Dietrich Hoening in Berlin, with Eric Kirchoff as well as in Birmingham, Alabama as the student of Dr Sheryl Cohen. Ms Keyßer was principal piccolo player of the Norddeutsche Philharmonie Rostock before becoming assistant principal flute of the Staatskapelle Halle starting in 1999. Today, she is performing the alto flute with Quintessenz...

Christian Sprenger is a native of Berlin. After completing his studies with Prof. Werner Tast, in 1989 began his career with the Leipzig Gewandhausorchester as a assistant Principal Flutist. In 1995 he became Principal Flute of the MDR-Sinfonieorchester. Christian has also won several prizes in various competitions. He pursues an active career as soloist and chamber ensemble player with concert tours in the U.S., Turkey, Italy and England.

As for Quintessenz, he is the bass player - and the head of the ensemble!