

Nils Franke Biography

Nils Franke is a German-born pianist, tutor and academic who has combined creative work with key posts in universities and conservatoires in the UK for the last 15 years. His musical output is project-based, and follows what he describes as ‘an ever-evolving succession of foci that are an inevitable part of working with an artistic subject matter’.

After completing his postgraduate training in piano performance at the Royal Academy of Music, London, Franke concertized regularly as both a soloist and chamber musician from 1995-2008. Radio broadcasts followed in the UK and abroad. A keen fascination with lesser known music has always been part of his interest and subsequent concert programming, the latter resulting in performances of over 30 piano quintets (piano and string quartet), from Boccherini to Messiaen, and the premiere of Édouard Lalo’s manuscript piano quintet (1862), in London, 2003.

Since 2000, Franke taught piano at universities in the UK, complementing his understanding of repertoire with performance teaching and the training of pianist-educators. In 2007, his first anthology of piano music was issued by Schott Music International, in which he combined his interest in diverse repertoire with pedagogical insights into learning and teaching the piano. Nils Franke devised a highly successful and commercial framework of sheet music, which led to the editing of over twenty publications for Schott Music International and Wiener Urtext in the last decade. He also recorded 10 CDs along the way, including releases for Warner Apex and Brilliant Classics.

Franke has held academic and administrative posts at UK universities since 2007, in which his interest in Learning & Teaching has led to an in-depth understanding of programme innovation and design, working in improving student experience, and facilitating staff development initiatives.

His musical output continues to grow: 2017 will see the release of the next solo CD and two further editions.