

Biography Clara Heise

Clara Shizuko Heise was born in 1999 in Berlin into a musical family and received her first violin lessons from her mother, Elisabeth Glass. From 2005 to 2016, she was a student of Wolfgang Engel at the music school in Frankfurt (Oder) and subsequently a young student at the Hochschule für Musik “Hanns Eisler” Berlin in the class of Ning Feng. In 2018, she continued her studies with Professor Natalia Prishchenko at the Hochschule für Musik “Carl Maria von Weber” Dresden, where she is currently pursuing her master’s degree.

Even during her studies, Clara Heise gained extensive orchestral experience. From 2022 to 2024, she was a member of the Mendelssohn Orchestra Academy of the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig and has since been employed on a fixed-term contract with the Gewandhausorchester. Previously, she served as concertmaster of the Junge Philharmonie Brandenburg and was a member of the Deutsche Streicherphilharmonie.

Clara Heise achieved her first competition successes at “Jugend musiziert,” where she was repeatedly awarded top scores and special prizes. In 2014, she was honored in the competition of the Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung with the loan of a valuable instrument. In 2021, she won second prize at the “Agustin Aponte International Music Competition.” Since 2020, she has been a scholarship holder of the Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes.

Her solo career includes performances with renowned orchestras such as the MDR-Sinfonieorchester Leipzig, the Brandenburgisches Staatsorchester Frankfurt, and the Philharmonic Orchestra Zielona Góra. She has also performed with the Akademisches Orchester Berlin and the Berliner Ärzteorchester. Clara has given concerts in prestigious venues including the Berliner Philharmonie, the Konzerthaus Berlin, and the Konzerthalle C.P.E. Bach in Frankfurt (Oder). Her repertoire includes violin concertos by J. Brahms, P.I. Tchaikovsky, F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, M. Bruch, W.A. Mozart, A. Vivaldi, E. Lalo, and H. Wieniawski. A CD recording of P.I. Tchaikovsky’s violin concerto was made in collaboration with the MDR-Sinfonieorchester Leipzig.

Clara Heise has participated in masterclasses with Vadim Repin, Daniel Hope, Cynthia Miller Freivogel, and Ivan Zenaty, and she has been a fellow at international festivals such as the Tanglewood Music Festival in the USA and the Moritzburg Festival. She plays on a violin by Gaetano Pollastri from 1929, which has been generously loaned to her.