

Jan Börner, Countertenor

Jan Börner began his musical education already at the age of nine when he joined the Boys' Choir in his home town Solothurn. When he was eleven, he performed as boy soprano for the first time. Jan Börner was a private student of Richard Levitt before completing his musical degree under Professor Ulrich Messthaler at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis and graduating with the diploma in Early Music. Alongside master courses with Margreet Honig he was also taught by Andreas Scholl.

As a soloist, Jan Börner focuses on music from the Renaissance and the Baroque period. He has performed with various vocal ensembles such as the Balthasar Neumann Chor, Vox Luminis and Le Concert Étranger. At the J.S. Bach foundation (Rudolf Lutz) he is a regular soloist. He also performs regularly at the Abendmusiken in the Predigerkirche Basel (Jörg-Andreas Bötticher) with music from the 17th century.

He has been working closely with the ensemble II Profondo for a few years. Together with this ensemble, several concerts have been held, and a first record with early German cantatas and spiritual concerts of the 17th century was released in May 2015 at the label resonando under the name "absorta est...". Another CD called "Freundliches Glücke, süsseste Liebe" – with Nuria Rial and II Profondo – was released in 2021. Both recordings have received positive critics throughout the media and have been nominated for the Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik.

Up to now, his more extraordinary performances include the recording of Bach's St John Passion with the Ricercar Consort (Philippe Pierlot) and solo performances at the Festival d'Ambronay in 2015 and 2016 (Bach's St Matthew Passion, among others) with Le Concert Étranger (Itay Jedlin, Paris). Jan Börner is also actively involved in opera productions. He has already performed with directors such as Nikolaus Habjan, Georg Rootering, Andreas Rosar and Alexander von Pfeil. Following engagements at the Stadttheater Biel Solothurn and on Schloss Waldegg (Feldbrunnen-St. Niklaus), he was G.F. Händel's Rinaldo in Brig and Ruggiero in "Alcina" at, among other venues, the Stadttheater Bern and the Konzerthaus in Vienna in 2018.

Jan Börner has been awarded the founding prize of the Migros Kulturprozent, an encouragement prize by the Canton of Solothurn and several other prizes of his region.