

Martin Frutiger was born in Bern. During his school days he already studied with Professor Hans Elhorst at the Bern University of the Arts. He continued his oboe studies at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich in the master class of Professor Günther Passin.

From 2001 to 2003 he was a scholarship holder in the Orchester-Akademie of the Berliner Philharmoniker.

Since 2004 he has been principal cor anglais player with the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich. At the same time he was appointed professor of cor anglais and oboe d'amore at the Zurich University of the Arts. Since 2015 Martin Frutiger is a professor of oboe at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Martin Frutiger has won several competitions including first prize in the International Oboe Competition of the Handel Festival in Halle on the Saale and also first prize at the "Concours National d'Execution Musicale" in Riddes, Switzerland. In 2003 he was awarded second prize in the International Sony Competition in Tokyo.

In the same year he was also a finalist in the "New Talent" competition of the European Broadcasting Union in Bratislava.

Martin Frutiger is one of the leading cor anglais players in Europe. He performed the Swiss premiere of the English horn concerto by Stanislas Skrowaczewski with the Tonhalle Orchestra Zürich under the direction of the composer himself.

Skrowaczewski's biographer writes: "The year 2007 brought Skrowaczewski a singular gift: a first-rate performance of his Concerto for English horn and Orchestra by the Tonhalle Orchestra Zürich. The orchestra's new English horn player, Martin Frutiger, performed the piece from memory – a first – and with a «superb tone», Skrowaczewski said, «close to Tom Stacy.»" (Seeking the infinite – The musical life of Stanislas Skrowaczewski, 2012).

Martin Frutiger is the artistic director for oboe of «The Muri Competition» in Muri, Switzerland.

