At the ceremony which took place on 15 June 2007, UCD honoured,

One of the greatest musicians of our time, the pianist Alfred Brendel was also honoured by UCD at the ceremony. In recognition of his outstanding contribution to musical performance, Brendel was conferred with an honorary Doctor of Music by UCD.

In a career spanning more than fifty years, Brendel has performed all over the world as a soloist, in chamber music, in concerti with the world’s great orchestras, and with the greatest conductors of our time. He is especially renowned for his interpretation of the Austro-German repertoire from Haydn to Brahms, and has made landmark recordings of the Beethoven and Schubert sonatas, the Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms and Liszt concerti, and the major solo piano works of Liszt and Schumann.

“Although alive with characterisation, his performances have a completeness and coherence that stems from a formidable grasp of the music’s constructive principles and a penetration of the ideas that motivate them,” said Dr Julian Horton, UCD School of Music.

“There is in his playing no hint of superficial display or self-serving expressive rhetoric, but rather a desire to present to the audience the music’s intelligent essence.”