

Alexander Gadjiev

Musical exposure and Central European culture: **Alexander Gadjiev** owes the first to his family, with both parents being piano teachers and musicians, and the second to Gorizia – his city of origin – a natural crossroads of peoples, cultures and languages. These factors have both had a determining influence on his natural ability to absorb, process and rework, to his own taste, different musical styles and languages. Tutored by his father, a well-known Russian teacher, Alexander played for the first time with an orchestra at the age of nine, and held his first solo recital aged ten. He was awarded his diploma at the age of seventeen, with the highest marks and honours. This allowed him to participate in the Premio Venezia – a competition reserved for the best young talent in Italy – and win the 30th edition of the award. The numerous recitals of the Premio Venezia allowed him to perform throughout Italy and abroad (London, Paris, Madrid, Dublin).

December 2015 marked a turning point in his international career.

At the Ninth Hamamatsu International Piano Competition – one of the ten most prestigious piano competitions in the world – the jury, which included Martha Argerich, Akiko Ebi and Sergey Babayan, among others, awarded him first prize. His performances enchanted Hamamatsu, and he also won the audience prize. Since then, Alexander has been regularly invited to perform in Japan and at major piano festivals, including: the Verbier Festival, the MiTo Festival in Turin, the “Chopin” Festival in Duszynki, the ClaviCologne International Piano Festival in Düsseldorf, Piano Festival Rafael Orozco in Cordoba, the Ljubljana Festival, Bologna Festival, Settimane Musicali for the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza, the Festival Animato de Paris, Ravenna Musica, and the Kammermusik Salzburg Festival. Alexander has played in some of the most important opera houses and concert halls (Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Teatro Regio in Turin, Teatro Alighieri in Ravenna, Kioi Hall and Bunka Kaikan in Tokyo, Kitara Concert Hall in Sapporo, Hyogo Performing Arts Center in Osaka, Salle Cortot in Paris, the Moscow Conservatory, and then in Salt Lake City, Istanbul, Barcelona, Rome, Milan etc.) and with internationally famous orchestras such as Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto, Orchestra Sinfonica del Teatro della Fenice, I Virtuosi Italiani, the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, the Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra, the Kyoto Symphony Orchestra, the Prague Symphony Orchestra, the Pomeranian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, and the Mitteleuropa Orchestra.

He has also worked with some of the most famous conductors on an international level: Yuri Temirkanov, Marek Pijarowski, Ken Takaseki, Anton Nanut, Tatuya Shimono, Tomomi Nishimoto, Christopher Franklin, Marco Guidarini, Olivier Ochanin, En Shao, Ulrich Windfuhr, Giedre Šlekyte, Gianluca Martinenghi, and Tiziano Severini.

He has recorded for Suonare News, ALM Records Japan, while his concerts have been broadcast by Rai Radio3, Rai3, Radio Vaticana, Radio Classica, ORF, RTV Slovenija and Radio Koper.

His next CD, titled “Literary Fantasies”, will be released in September by the label “ACOUSENCE RECORDS” and will contain works of Schumann and Liszt.

He is currently studying with Pavel Gililov at Mozarteum Salzburg and participating in prestigious masterclasses such as the “Eppan Piano Academy” and “Verbier Piano Academy”, both limited to a very small number of selected pianists from around the world.

What people are saying about him:

“Alexander Gadjiev is, in my opinion, one of the most important figures in modern European pianism. He has a perfect understanding of how to balance timbre and dynamics, subtlety and full-out playing, control and fervour. In Prokofiev's spectacular Piano Sonata No. 7, Gadjiev imposes himself with his overwhelming rhythmic energy, evoking the pomp of Soviet pianism. In Ballade No. 4, he is also familiar with the sorcery of 'mezza voce', he uncovers the cultural prophecies of the last Chopin, right down to the impressionist sound, and even symphonic Ravel, in a dizzying upwards path.”

Mario Messinis, music critic, when Gadjiev won the 30th Premio Venezia.

“Alexander has the rare ability to hypnotise the public with his narrative ability. His interpretation of Bach/Busoni's Chaconne was one of the high points of the entire competition. I was genuinely hypnotised by it. Gadjiev has true elegance and passion”.

Sergey Babayan, internationally famous pianist, when Gadjiev won the Ninth Hamamatsu International Piano Competition.

“His strength lies in the originality and creativity of his interpretation. It is based on tradition, but goes well beyond the traditional confines of music.”

Akiko Ebi, President of the Ninth Hamamatsu International Piano Competition.