

Jonathan Plowright piano

"the piano positively purrs with pleasure" Gramophone

Hailed by reviewers as "a colossal musical mind" with a "transcendent technique", Jonathan Plowright is recognised globally as a truly exceptional pianist.

Gold Medallist at the Royal Academy of Music and a Fulbright Scholar, prizewinner in many competitions, Jonathan also won the Gold Medal at the Royal Overseas League Competition as well as first prize at the European Piano Competition. Critics, colleagues and audiences alike have since had unanimous praise for his many national and international performances and he has been in demand all over the world as recitalist, appeared with leading orchestras and ensembles and given numerous radio broadcasts. He has a hugely successful string of recordings on the Hyperion label all of which have been enthusiastically received with outstanding reviews in the worldwide media.

Recordings

Jonathan is now well established on Hyperion Records distinguished roster of pianists. His commemorative 'Homage a Chopin' recording reached the Top Twenty Classical Chart and attracted many accolades, including the prestigious Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik, Gramophone Editor's Choice, Diapason D'Or and CD of the Week on both ClassicFM and ABC ClassicFM. Likewise, his follow-up 'Homage to Paderewski' disc was Daily Telegraph Classical CD of the Week.

His recording of the Constant Lambert Piano Concerto (which he world premiered in 1988) with David Lloyd Jones and the English Northern Philharmonia, was Gramophone Editor's Choice and CD of the Week in both The Sunday Times and ClassicFM.

His first chamber music disc for the label was released in December 2012 featuring the Szymanowski Quartet in works by Polish Romantic composers, Zarebski and Zelenski, and was BBC Music Magazine Chamber Choice. In addition Jonathan has recently recorded Piano Concertos by Zarebski and Zarzyki for the Romantic Piano Concerto Series, to be released in April 2013.

Also, in December 2012 joined BIS Records to record the complete solo piano music of Brahms, the first volume of which was Gramophone Editor's Choice and described as "one of the finest performances on record".

Concerts

Jonathan has enjoyed performing in some of the finest venues around the world, and recent memorable solo engagements have included recitals at the Wigmore Hall in London, at the Albeniz Centenary celebrations in Majorca, at the 'Black and White Keys' series at the Sendesaal for Radio Bremen and at the SWR 'Piano Marathon' in Mainz, Germany.

Also highly respected as a chamber musician, Jonathan regularly collaborates with other musicians, and last summer saw his debut appearances at chamber festivals in Australia, Turkey and the Ukraine. Amongst those he has performed with are fellow pianists Piers Lane, Artur Pizarro, Frederick Chiu, Leslie Howard and Kathy Stott, instrumentalists such as Raphael Wallfisch, Leonid Gorokov, the Coull Quartet, the Szymanowski Quartet, the Scottish Ensemble amongst others.

He has appeared with many major orchestras, including the London Philharmonic, BBC Scottish Symphony, the Hallé, the Royal Philharmonic, BBC Concert, English Chamber, the Odessa Philharmonic, the Warsaw Philharmonic, the Polish Radio and Polish National, although most memorable was a performance of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with the combined forces of the United States Air Force and Red Army Bands! He has worked with notable conductors such as Martyn Brabbins, Paul Daniel, Barry Wordsworth, Sir Neville Marriner, Gérard Korsten, Christoph Koenig, Lukasz Borowitz and Michal Dworzynski.

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Artists Management

The Polish Romantics

During the past decade Jonathan has become well known as an advocate of the neglected Polish Romantic repertoire and his first recording of a rare collection of pieces by Paderewski earned Jonathan an invitation by the Paderewski in Memoriam Foundation to give the closing recital of the Polish Parliament's 2001 'Year of Paderewski' celebrations in Warsaw.

Jonathan's recordings featuring the music of the largely forgotten Polish/US emigré Sigismund Stojowski led to a revival of interest in his music after several generations of neglect and attracted considerable attention in the international music press. The discs were both named 'Record of the Month' in the Polish national music monthly *Muzyka 21* and Jonathan has since been invited to perform with the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, the Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Polish National Symphony Orchestra.

In 2006 he gave a sell-out Weill Hall recital promoted by the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York. Whilst in the USA he was also invited to perform at a special event at the Polish Music Centre at the University of Southern California, in the presence of Stojowski's surviving family, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his death and in celebration of their donation of the Stojowski manuscripts and personal papers to the University.

His hugely successful Hyperion recording of the notoriously difficult Paderewski Sonata in 2007 was admired by many, including the BBC "The playing is world-class; understated virtuosity at its best."

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Paderewski in November 2010, Jonathan was invited back by the Polish Music Centre in Los Angeles for a series of recitals in the USA, including the Paderewski Festival, which Jonathan was instrumental in re-launching as an annual event in Paso Robles, a spa town with an historic association with the famous composer, pianist and statesman.

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Chopin in 2010, as well as recitals throughout Poland, Jonathan was also invited to appear with the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra during their special Year of Chopin celebrations.

Education

Jonathan is Head of Keyboard at the University of Chichester and on the Keyboard Faculty of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. He is also often invited to give masterclasses, consultation lessons and prize adjudications at competitions and international conservatoires.