

## **Biographies of the participants**

(in the order of appearance in concerts)

### **Concert 01.12.2017**

#### **Susanna Tulenkova**

Born in October 2007, Susanna has been playing piano since the age of five. Currently studying at the fourth grade of the Central Music School (College) at the Moscow "Tchaikovsky State Conservatory". In Summer 2017 honored to perform at the Final concert (solo and chamber music) within The Peter de Grote Festival (Groningen, the Netherlands, Prince Claus Conservatoire).

#### **Eunju Lee**

Having won numerous national piano competitions in her native South Korea including 1st prize at the '19th Haneum Music Concours', Ms Lee's intelligent music making was noticed by Prof. Natchenny during the Piano Academy 'Gegen den Strom' where she was invited on full scholarship. She has graduated from Kyunghee college of music, in South Korea. Eunju currently studies with Prof. Youngmi Choi in Seoul.

#### **Kristina Boos**

Kristina Boos ist Preisträgerin zahlreicher internationaler Wettbewerbe, u.a.: 3. Preis des Alexander Skrjabin Wettbewerbs, Klavierwettbewerb Gagny (Paris), Klavierwettbewerb Treviso (Italien), „Da- Ponte-Stiftung“ 1.Preis und Publikums Preis“ (Darmstadt), Lions Club Hessen, (2.Preis), Rotary Club Hanau, dreifache Preisträgerin des 1. Preises für Klavier Solo, Klavier Komposition und Klavier Liedbegleitung (Bulgarien), Internationaler Klavierwettbewerb Almaty(Kasachstan).

#### **Dmitry Ablogin**

Dmitry Ablogin studiert in der Meisterklasse von Prof. Lev Natchenny und gleichfalls macht er seinen Master an der Frankfurter Musikhochschule bei Prof. Jesper Christensen (Alte Musik). Dmitry ist Preisträger der vielen internationalen Wettbewerbe und Festivals. Er konzertiert im gesamten europäischen Raum, spielt solo, Kammermusik und tritt mit Orchestern auf.

#### **Gayoung Kim**

having a career as a professional golfer and swimmer in her native South Korea, Ms. Kim has started music education relatively late. But her phenomenal musicality has enabled her to win a prestigious national competition within 3 years of her first piano lesson. She has won the 2nd prize and Public's Prize at GDS International piano competition in August, 2017, where she was awarded full scholarship for her participation in International Piano Academy 'Festival Gegen den Strom'. Gayoung studies currently with Prof. Youngmi Choi in Chugye University in Seoul.

## **Concert 01.12.2017**

### **Hao Rao**

Born in 2004, Hao Rao has started his piano study at age four. By age 13, not only has he won top national piano competitions including Steinway National Piano competition and the Asia young artists competition, he was admitted into the prestigious Xinghai Conservatory of music where he continues his professional piano studies with Dr. Vivian Li. Hao was also selected as the youngest quarterfinalist at the Beijing Chopin International Piano Competition. His upcoming concert engagement includes a solo recital of the complete Chopin etudes Op.10 and Op.25, at the Steinway Concert Hall of Guangzhou Opera House.

### **Yangrui Cai**

Born in 2000, Yangrui had his first piano lesson at the age of four. At the age of 17, he has made extensive concert tours not only in his native China but in Italy, United states and Canada as well. He is a winner of numerous national and international piano competitions including Steinway competition and Yamaha Competition, and a quarterfinalist of the First Rubinstein International Youth Piano Competition in 2016. Yangrui continues his professional study with Dr. Vivian Li, Associate Professor of Piano at Xinghai Conservatory of Music.

### **Yanyan Bao**

Yanyan was born in 2017, and at age 10, is already a veteran of the concert stage having presented solo recitals in numerous Chinese cities including Guangzhou, Foshan and Zhuhai as well as performing with Salzburg Chamber Soloists. She is a winner of numerous international piano competitions including First Prize at the Shenzhen Lang Lang Futian International Piano Competition, has participated in master classes with celebrated pianists world-wide including Arie Vardi, Gary Graffman and Antonio Pompa-Baldi. Yanyan started piano lessons at age 4, and continues professional studies with Chinese-American pianist Jay Pengjie Sun, piano department chair at Xinghai Conservatory as well as Dr. Vivian Li.

### **Zhonghua Wei**

Having started his piano studies at the age of five with Prof. Jay Pengjie Sun, piano department chair at Xinghai Conservatory, Zhonghua Wei has avidly devoured significant portions of piano repertoire by age 9, including Book One of Bach's Well Tempered Clavier and Mozart's complete piano sonatas. He is the first Prize at the Qingdao Irmeler National Piano Competition as well as First Prize at the Xiamen Sterinborgh National Piano Competition. Zhonghua continues his professional studies with Prof. Jay Sun as well as Prof. Dr. Vivian Li at the Xinghai Conservatory in China.

## **Special distinction : Dr. Vivian Li**

Born into a family of artists, Chinese-Canadian pianist Dr. Vivian Li began her career at the age of five with a debut at Guangzhou's Friendship Opera House and has gone on to steadily build a career as one of China's most respected young musicians. She currently serves as Associate Professor of Piano at Xinghai Conservatory of Music in Guangzhou, China.

Dr. Li began her studies at the age of four under the tutelage of her father, renowned Chinese pianist Qi Li and supervision of her mother, renowned Chinese classical ballerina Xianping Su. After a period of study at Xinghai Conservatory's Affiliated Middle School, Dr. Li immigrated to Toronto, Canada where she completed high school and her Artist Diploma from Canada's Royal Conservatory of Music. Following this, she was accepted with full scholarship to Oberlin Conservatory where she did her undergraduate studies with the esteemed French pianist, Monique Duphil, herself a student of Marguerite Long. Upon graduation, she was awarded Oberlin's prestigious William R. Abate award given to the finest pianist of each graduating class. She proceeded to finish her studies with Master and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees at the University of Houston under the guidance of Horacio Gutierrez and Nancy Weems. During her school years, she received considerable additional guidance in masterclass from Dmitry Bashkirov, Anton Kuerti, Abbey Simon, Christopher Elton and Stanislav Judenitch. She also distinguished herself in numerous competitions including prizes in Canada's International Stepping Stone Competition, the Grace Welsh International Piano Competition and San Antonio International Competition and in concerts including one performance of Ravel's G major piano concerto which left the revered pianist Abbey Simon exclaiming, "She played like my friends of the old generation past."

In 2005, Dr. Li returned to her childhood home of Guangzhou to join the piano faculty of Xinghai Conservatory. Her students routinely go on to study in major conservatories across the world and take prizes in important competitions nationwide and abroad. She is also highly sought after as an adjudicator in major Chinese piano competitions and as a regular contributor to China's premier piano magazine Piano Artistry.

Dr. Li maintains an active concert schedule of solo, chamber and concerto performances both in China and abroad. She is also regular guest faculty at Italy's Maccagno Piano Days Festival and the Beijing Central Conservatory International Chamber Music Festival.

## Concert 03.12. 2017

### **Alexander Preiss**

Alexander Preiss geboren 1999 in Bad Nauheim begann seine pianistische Ausbildung im Alter von acht Jahren ebenfalls in Bad Nauheim, wo bereits früh seine Liebe zur Musik in Erscheinung trat. Dies und sein besonderes Talent bestätigten sich in der Folgezeit sowohl bei zahlreichen Konzertauftritten u.a. in Frankfurt, Florenz, Rom, Salzburg und Oradea als auch durch zahlreiche erste Preise bei nationalen und internationalen Klavierwettbewerben wie z.B. „Jugend musiziert“. 2012 begann er seine weiterführende Ausbildung bei Eugene Choi, ihrerseits Schülerin und Assistentin von Prof. Lev Natochenny. 2016 wurde er in die Meisterklasse Lev Natochenny aufgenommen, in der er bereits verschiedene Konzerte in Bad Homburg absolvierte u.a. beim Abschlusskonzert des Lev Natochenny Piano Festivals 2017. Ebenfalls seit 2016 und parallel zum Besuch des Ernst-Ludwig- Gymnasiums Bad Nauheim studiert Alexander Preiss an der Kalaidos Musikhochschule in der Schweiz in der Klasse von Lev Natochenny und Eugene Choi.

### **Nuron Mukumi**

Der Pianist Nuron Mukumi wurde 1996 in Tashkent (Usbekistan) geboren. Schon sehr früh gewann er mehrere internationale Wettbewerbe. Im Alter von 7 Jahren bekam er zu seinem Klavierunterricht eine dirigentische Ausbildung. In den Jahren 2007 bis 2010 war Nuron Schüler der Purcell School in London. In 2010 wurde er in der Meisterklasse von Prof. Lev Natochenny in Frankfurt am Main und Kalaidos Musikhochschule aufgenommen. Er konzertiert im gesamten europäischen Raum, spielt solo, Kammermusik und tritt mit Orchestern auf. Nuron hat für Yefim Bronfman, Yoheved Kaplinsky, Pavel Gililov, Kemal Gekic, Igor Lazko u.a. in Meisterkurse gespielt.

### **Sergey Belyavskiy**

A winner of numerous international Piano competition, Sergey Belyavskiy has maintained extensive concert careers in Israel, USA, Germany, Spain, Italy, France, South Korea, Japan, China, Australia among others. He has released three solo CDs, most recently of Chopin's 24 Etudes. Sergey graduated from Moscow State Conservatory, class Elisso Virsaladze. Sergey participated in master classes of Arie Vardi, Vladimir Krainev, Sir Andras Schiff, Boris Berman, Yoheved Kaplinsky, Andrzej Jasinsky, Pavel Gililov, Klaus Hellwig, Van Cliburn and Lev Natochenny

### **Sergey Korolev**

Sergey Korolev was born in Moscow, has graduated the well-known Moscow Gnessin Academy with distinction as a concert pianist. Since 2017 Sergey is enrolled in "Konzertexamen" at the „Meisterklasse Lev Natochenny“ and at Kalaidos Musikhochschule. Sergey is a winner of international piano competitions, including the 1st Prize at GDS Piano Competition 2017. He attended also master-classes from Sir Andrés Schiff, Emanuel Ax, Alexandar Madzar, Valery Pyasetsky and other prominent musicians.

### **Alexander Koryakin**

Alexander Koryakin studierte zunächst in Jakutsk und Moskau bei Vera Nossina und anschließend an der Musikhochschule Frankfurt bei Lev Natochenny. Er ist Preisträger mehrerer internationaler Wettbewerbe, wie Horowitz-Wettbewerb, Les nuits pianistiques in Aix-en-Provence usw.