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GREAT PIANISTS OF THE NEW GENERATION

In modern transformational processes, which create numerous and powerful challenges in the sphere of the functioning of cultural and artistic practices, the issue of preserving the spiritual content and significance of those forms of artistic reflection, which in the synchrony of cultural progress appeared as a concentrated embodiment of the artistic mastery of the world, is repeatedly brought up to date. Piano art is a phenomenon of the spiritual and artistic existence of mankind, which for centuries represented the conceptual searches of composers and performers, a fruitful synthesis of traditions and innovations, complex and ambiguous processes of genre creation, and equally complex processes of forming a new musical language and thinking [1].

Pioneering pianists have been bringing piano music to new places for more than three centuries, and it's incredible to hear how music made on this instrument has evolved over the years. Unknown musicians as well as famous pianists have spread this music into incredible and unexpected territories, and we can't even imagine what music written for the piano will sound three centuries into the future. Therefore, the mentioned relevance is interesting, first of all, to the young generation of performers.

The purpose is to highlight modern piano art as a complex systemic phenomenon in its permanent being, which in its various aspects correlates with the leading spiritual, stylistic, genre and other mainstreams and is an organic component of the world cultural space.

We will briefly describe some of the outstanding pianists of our time, who have gained worldwide recognition for their extraordinary approaches to performance.

Joep Beving. He describes his style of performance as "simple music for complex emotions." As the pianist himself puts it: "... the world is extremely hectic right now, and I feel a deep desire to reconnect on a basic human level with people in general. Music, as our universal language, has the power to unite." Dutch composer and musician Joep Beving is as prominent a figure in the streaming world as he is in real life, thanks to his two-meter-tall (about 6ft 10in!), disheveled hair and flowing beard. Jop's gentle melodies instantly found a response among listeners. His first DG album 'Prehension' showcases introspective, melancholic, cinematic and inspirational features presented in a simple, warm acoustic ambience that will help soothe the soul.

One of the most famous neoclassical artists is Jop Beving and the album that launched his great career: Solipsism. Since 2015, Jop Beving's self-released album has been streamed over 80 million times! "Solipsism" is just something I say through the piano. Knowing that millions of people are listening to me is wonderful, but at the same time a little disconcerting" [2].

The name refers us to the philosophical view, according to which reality is a set of subjective impressions of a person and exists only in his mind. Solipsism was captured

in the solitude of your home under the cover of darkness. It is full of introspective pieces for solo piano, often reminiscent of film music in their atmosphere. Beving's sound contrasts with painstakingly crafted, layered songs. His goal is to reveal the essence of music, because a real artist knows how to tell about complex human emotions with simple sounds.

Seong Jin Cho was born on May 28, 1994 in Seoul (South Korea). He won the Frédéric Chopin International Young Piano Competition in 2008 and the Hamamatsu Piano Competition in Japan in 2009, and won third prizes at the Tchaikovsky Competition and the Arthur Rubinstein Competition in Tel Aviv in 2014 [3].

Seong Jin Cho, an extremely talented pianist, has firmly entered the elite of the piano world, achieving tremendous success in all kinds of piano competitions. Cho, who started playing the piano at age six and made his public debut at eleven, now lives in Berlin. He received the prestigious title of the most popular pianist in the world according to the results of an online survey conducted by Universal Music Group. Despite near-pop-star fame in her homeland, Cho really makes quite an impression, focusing on her sincere and captivating performance, untainted by any mannerism. For his performance, he prioritizes Maurice Ravel's *Gaspard de la nuit*, the main work of the piano repertoire of the 20th-21st centuries, along with two lesser-known compositions by the French Impressionists.

Seong Jin Cho is considered one of the most talented and interesting young generation of pianists, at least since his victory in the Chopin Competition.

Helen Grimaud. Renaissance woman H       Grimaud is more than just a deeply passionate and dedicated musical artist whose achievements as a pianist play a central role in her life. She is a woman of many talents that extend far beyond the instrument she plays, with such poetic expression and unparalleled technical control. The French artist has established herself as a dedicated wildlife defender, compassionate human rights activist and writer.

The performer herself about herself and the manner of playing: "... every time I perform or record, I find myself in the place of Heraclitus, enter the water and meet myself anew. Working with Nitin opened up new sonic horizons for me and offered a new way to experience the piano concerto. at the same time, this process confirmed my belief in music's limitless capacity not only to represent Nature, but also to interpret it and stimulate change. Music involves both the desire to express and the ability to listen. And listening to music means listening to Nature. Today, more than ever, nature demands from people our respect, our care, our compassion. My greatest wish is that, sharing the sounds of music, listening carefully to the voices of the environment together, we can all get closer not only to Nature, but also to ourselves. Because we are water" [5].

Pianist H       Grimaud is famous for her universal style and rich musical palette. She recently appeared at the Walt Disney Concert Hall performing Maurice Ravel's Piano Concerto in G Major with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Lionel Bringier.

Yan Lisiecki. At the age of 21, Canadian pianist Ian Lisiecki has won recognition for his exceptional interpretive maturity, distinctive sound and poetic sensibility. The New York Times called him "a pianist for whom every note is important" [4].

Insightful interpretations, refined technique and a natural drive for art give Lisiecki a musical voice that belies his age. Jan Lisiecki was born in a Polish family in Canada in 1995. He began piano lessons at the age of five and made his concert debut four years later, always rejecting the "prodigy" label. His approach to music is a refreshing combination of dedication, skill, enthusiasm and a realistic view of a musician's career. "Maybe I'm lucky to have talent, but it's also about dedication and hard work," Yang says [4].

The leading radio and television networks of Europe and North America widely broadcast Lisiecki's speeches. He was also the subject of the CBC National News Documentary The Reluctant Prodigy. In 2013, he received the Leonard Bernstein Award at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival and was named Gramophone's Young Artist of the Year.

Ian is philanthropic, donating his time and achievements to organizations such as the David Foster Foundation, the Polish Humanitarian Organization and the Wishing Star Foundation. In 2012, he was appointed UNICEF Canada ambassador, having been the national youth representative since 2008.

Thus, in contrast to the creative pursuits of a composer who can afford to "write on the table" - because the fruits of his inspiration are saved for the future in a musical notation - the activity of a performer is unthinkable without instant recognition of contemporaries, actively winning their sympathies, justifying hopes and expectations. Today, the public expects the same from the artist as always: a shock from the encounter with art. It is not easy to cause this upheaval. In order to achieve the desired effect, the performer has to figure out two important questions for himself: what, in fact, to interest/touch the listeners and how to do it. The modern generation of musicians is often obsessed with solving the second question (probably thinking that it is superfluous to care about the content of a musical work after the composer). The above fully applies to piano performance and it is an important factor in today's performance culture.

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