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Piano Konrad Binienda



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Complete artist information including video, audio and interviews are available at www.pricerubin.com

Konrad Binienda – Biography

Pianist and composer Dr. Konrad Binienda is a graduate of the DMA program at the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studied with renown pianist Haeson Paik. Since his debut with The Cleveland Orchestra in 2007, Polish-American pianist Konrad Binienda has performed in recital and with orchestras throughout the United States and Europe, winning acclaim for his highly individual and probing musical performances.

Dr. Binienda is a recipient of the 2011 Hastings Prize for Musical Performance at Harvard University and a laureate of the 2010 Chopin Piano Competition sponsored by the Kosciuszko Foundation in New York, as well as the winner of the first prize of the 25th International Chopin Competition hosted by the Fryderyk Chopin Society of Texas in 2017. He received his Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from the New England Conservatory as a student of Wha-Kyung Byun. He has also studied with Sergei Babayan and Gerardo Teissonnière at the Cleveland Institute of Music, and with Phillipe Giusiano, Wojciech Switala and Viktor Mierzhanov in Europe.

Mr. Binienda is the winner of the 2010 Peabody Mason International Piano Competition, the 2008 Mozart Society Orchestra's Concerto Competition at Harvard University and is also an accomplished composer. In May 2011 he performed his own piano concerto in E minor with the Pforzheimer House Orchestra at Harvard University. In December of 2006, he performed the first movement of this Piano Concerto with the Akron Symphony Orchestra. His composition "Mazurka" for piano, bass, violin, and guitar, won the second prize of the second Carl E. Baldassarre composer-performer competition as well as the audience award.

In the upcoming 2017-2018 season, Dr. Binienda will be performing in concerts in Poland, Texas, Cleveland, and Chicago. He will also be performing in a Carnegie Hall recital which was awarded to him for winning 25th International Chopin Competition hosted by the Fryderyk Chopin Society of Texas in 2017. Due to his victory in this competition, he will also be recording his first professional CD of music of Fryderyk Chopin.

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Konrad Binienda – Reviews

Talents of Polonia

Several weeks ago, on December 10, 2006, I had a great pleasure to attend a concert “When Stars Collide” at E.J. Thomas Hall in Akron, Ohio. I decided to spend this beautiful Sunday afternoon by going to the concert at E.J. Thomas Hall for two reasons: I needed to relax in the middle of my difficult exam session, and most importantly, I wanted to hear a young, very promising musician of the Polish origin.

Konrad Binienda (17), a senior at Firestone High School in Akron, appeared as a soloist with the Akron Symphony in the world premiere of his own composition Piano Concerto in e-minor. When asked before the performance what was his inspiration for writing this concerto, he replied that he began working on this composition just after the departure of John Paul II. The death of “the Polish national hero,” as he put it, inspired him to write this very beautiful music. I am writing “beautiful” because this is the only word that comes to mind as appropriate to describe my experience. In this music I heard Zygmunt tolls from Wawel Hills, birds singing over Polish meadows, and all my nostalgia for Poland, albeit I would never be able to paint it with sound like Konrad painted it. A more experienced ear could easily discern Chopin’s motives woven into the structure of the concerto. Konrad himself remarked that Chopin has been his icon. I am led to believe that Konrad’s Concerto made as big of an impression on me as on the rest of the audience. The big concert hall was full that day. Konrad’s Piano Concerto, one of four works presented during this concert, received long and thunderous standing ovation.

If you see his name in the program – I recommend not thinking twice but going to the concert.

– Dorota Mrochem Tomaszewska, Polish-American Culture Center

<http://www.polishcenterofcleveland.org/talents-of-polonia/#more-669>

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A Rising Star and a Constellation Shaped Like an Orchestra

.." I have to admit I'm no fan of Chopin's E Minor Concerto (though I do love the F Minor). Whether Binienda convinced me to reconsider this or not, the point is his performance of it got past my prejudices about the piece enough I was able to enjoy it thoroughly, and that's no mean accomplishment.

There were things in the phrasing that surprised me: maturity? You don't learn that sort of thing from imitating recordings, you play that way because you understand the music. Fast fingers? Sure, even though once in a while, I might think some of the more treacherous ornaments that Chopin writes – you have to fit like 49 notes into two beats and still keep it sounding "delicate" (which is one reason why most pianists stretch the beats so much, just to fit in all those little notes) – could have been a little cleaner or maybe not as strictly in tempo. But I never heard a sour note in either performance – no jumping up to hit that E and landing on an F or a D by accident. And while Chopin himself had a "small sound" even given the piano of his day and may have had that in mind when he was balancing the solo part against the orchestra, Binienda always managed the right balance, particularly when both hands were playing simultaneously at the extremes of the keyboard, very difficult to maintain.

Not many pianists get to realize even this much of a dream: born in Poland and raised on Chopin's music, here he is, the same age when Chopin wrote and performed this music, playing it for a live audience (and having written a concerto of his own, besides). But it's quite possible, ten years down the road, he may not have time in his schedule to play in Harrisburg again (certainly his fee will be higher, then), but at least this time, no one in the audience was complaining, "whoever heard of... Konrad Binienda?"

– Dick Strawser, Harrisburg Symphony Blog

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Konrad Binienda – Repertoire

L. V. Beethoven

Concerto No. 3 in C Minor Opus 37

Concerto No. 5 in Eb Major Opus 7

K. Binienda

Concerto No. 1 in E Minor

J. Brahms

Concerto No. 1 in D Minor Opus 15

F. Chopin

Concerto No. 1 in E Minor Opus 11

Andante spianato et Grande polonaise brillante Opus 22

Allegro de Concert Opus 46

J. Haydn

Concerto in D Major Hob. XVII:11

W. A. Mozart

Concerto No. 20 in D Minor K. 466

Concerto No. 21 in C Major K. 467

Concerto No. 27 in Bb Major K. 595

D. Shostakovich

Concerto No. 2 in F Major Opus 102

Additional Concertos can be prepared given time.

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Konrad Binienda – YouTube Links

F. Chopin Etudes Opus 10

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMjAdFtfgAo>

St. Stanislaus Recital

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yrWpP9IJ6EI>

Bach Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-BIKj4kfU0>

Mazurek for piano, violin, guitar, and bass

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPIQH1SMJYk>

Pat Pace, 4 preludes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m8auo-bgwT8>

Artist Website: <http://instantencore.com/konradbinienda>

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