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Evan Mitchell – Biography

Lauded for his “impassioned and vigorous” playing (Pianomania), pianist Evan Mitchell has established himself as a bold and versatile artist. His richly varied schedule of over 50 appearances per year includes solo recitals, concerti, chamber music, outreach, and orchestral keyboard performances. His playing has been deemed “incredibly beautiful” (Fanfare), “amazing” (Fort Worth Weekly), and “no less than stunning” (Lima News). Evan’s new recording of world premieres with bassist Szymon Marciniak is earning rave reviews; most recently, Bass World called their performances “intoxicating,” calling this “a seminal recording.” He is also featured on the 2012 release “Piano de Pampa y Jungla: A Collection of Latin American Piano Music.”

Evan’s performances have been heard in New York’s Steinway Hall and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, in ten countries on four continents, and broadcast on WFMT (Chicago), WFHB (Bloomington), Classic FM 94.7 (Shanghai), and televised in North Texas. Recent highlights include debuts for the prestigious Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts (Chicago), at Merkin Concert Hall (NYC), and at several major venues in Shanghai. Evan has soloed in concerti with such ensembles as the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Lima Symphony Orchestra, Victoria Symphony, and Sherman Symphony Orchestra; worked with conductors including Jaap van Zweden, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Case Scaglione, Darryl One, Crafton Beck, and David Effron; and collaborated in recital with major artists including clarinetists Corrado Giuffredi and Michael Webster, flutist Leone Buyse, double bassist Gary Karr, plus members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the symphony orchestras of Cleveland and Rio de Janeiro (OSB). The 2016-17 season finds Evan opening the Sherman Symphony Orchestra season in October (Brahms, Concerto No. 2), playing everything from Bach and Beethoven to Stravinsky, Piazzolla, and klezmer on the Mount Vernon Music chamber series, and much more.

A passionate and articulate advocate for the arts, Evan looks constantly for ways to reach new audiences, and to inspire in others a love for music. The Texas Commission on the Arts recently named Evan to its Texas Touring Roster, a program that provides grants to nonprofit presenters in order to fund performances by the state’s finest musicians, poets, visual artists, and more.
Evan Mitchell – Biography

This season, Evan returns for a fifth year as a featured artist for Cliburn in the Classroom®, the signature educational outreach program of the Cliburn, which exposes more than 30,000 public school students annually to classical music and for which he has given more than 150 performances. Other performance affiliations include Avant Chamber Ballet and DFW-based Open Classical, whose motto – “Music that’s dressed down, not dumbed down” – summarizes a mission to present classical music in less formal, unconventional spaces. Evan’s enthusiasm for the music of our time is reflected in recent world premieres of works by Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Frank Proto, Shang Lu, and Stacy Garrop, several of which have been recorded and released commercially.

Among other honors, Evan has captured first prize in the Kingsville International Young Performers Competition, Five Towns Competition, PianoTexas International Festival Concerto Competition, and the Twelfth Annual Competition in the Performance of Music from Spain and Latin America, in which he was also awarded the Jacques Klein Prize for Best Performance of a Brazilian Solo Piano Work. He won Fifth Prize at the 2012 World Piano Competition, and has received additional recognition in the Schmidbauer International Young Artists Competition, Music Teachers National Association Competition, and the BNDES International Piano Competition. Evan won a special audience award in the final concert of the 2009 PianoFest series (Freiburg, Germany), and was featured in the Rising Stars concert of the 2008 Toronto Summer Music Festival. Most recently, he gave a recital at Merkin Concert Hall in New York City as a quarterfinalist in the Honens International Piano Competition.

A native of Montclair, New Jersey, Evan holds degrees from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and is currently completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree (May 2017) at Texas Christian University, where he studies with John Owings. His principal teachers have included Arnaldo Cohen and the late José Feghali, and he has worked with numerous artist-teachers including Dr. Yoheved Kaplinsky, Barry Douglas, and Ann Schein. Evan also recently joined the faculty of Tarrant County College.
Evan Mitchell – Press Excerpts

“[In Liszt’s Totentanz,] Mitchell did not disappoint. [He] skillfully coaxed extremely difficult passages out of the piano with seeming ease... Mitchell’s overall performance was no less than stunning.”
– Jon Peterson, Lima News

“Pianist Evan Mitchell follows the music’s myriad directions [in his recording of Claudio Santoro’s Sonata No. 4] with seeming ease. The central Andante...is incredibly beautiful, while in the finale South America meets toccata-Prokofiev in a blistering mix, terrifically evoked by Mitchell.”
– Colin Clarke, Fanfare

“This was particularly true of the First Concerto [by Prokofiev], played here by 25-year-old Evan Mitchell, who brought a playful feeling to the last movement, and handled the brutal octave passages with ease... [T]he fingerwork was amazing.”
– Leonard Eureka, FW Weekly

“Mitchell, a student of Arnaldo Cohen, a Liszt specialist, obviously had taken lessons to heart. His playing of the Piano Concerto No. 1 was rock solid technically and evoked plenty of the excitement that Liszt wanted to engender in his piano music...”
– Peter Jacobi, Bloomington Herald-Times

“Mr. Mitchell opened the fantasia-prelude to the main theme of the concerto [Saint-Saëns, Concerto No. 2] with careful introspection. The initial melancholic solo line produced long arched phrases, closed with a delicate tapering of tone...here was a performer who truly understood the nature of the piece and could inspire an audience... Mr. Mitchell presented [the second movement] in perfect taste and style.”
– James Tryer, Kingsville Record
“Evan Mitchell, who studies with Arnaldo Cohen in Indiana, performed Brahms’ First Sonata in C major, Op. 1, bringing out the exuberant and youthful brio that suggested the impressionable young German had learnt his Beethoven (notably the Hammerklavier) and Schubert (the Wanderer Fantasy) well. I’ll go as far [as] to say his impassioned and vigorous reading has, for me, effaced the overwrought performance that [major artist] gave in Singapore in 2003...”

– Dr. Chang Tou Liang, Pianomania
CONCERTO WITH ORCHESTRA

Bach  Concerto for Two Harpsichords in C major, BWV 1061
Bartók  Concerto No. 3, Sz.119
Beethoven  Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37
           Concerto No. 4 in G major, Op. 58
Bernstein  Symphony No. 2, “The Age of Anxiety”
Brahms  Concerto No. 2 in B♭ major, Op. 83
Gershwin  Rhapsody in Blue
Liszt  Concerto No. 1 in E♭ major, S. 124
       Concerto No. 2 in A major, S. 125
       Totentanz, S. 126
Mendelssohn  Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 25
Mozart  Concerto No. 20 in D minor, K. 466
        Concerto No. 22 in E♭ major, K. 482
        Concerto No. 23 in A major, K. 488
        Concerto No. 24 in C minor, K. 491
        Concerto No. 27 in B♭ major, K. 595
Prokofiev  Concerto No. 1 in D♭ major, Op. 10
Rachmaninoff  Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18
           Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30
           Concerto No. 4 in G minor, Op. 40
Ravel  Concerto in G major
Saint-Saëns  Carnival of the Animals
           Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22
Schumann  Concerto in A minor, Op. 54
Strauss, R.  Burleske in D minor (1886)
Tchaikovsky  Concerto No. 1 in B♭ minor, Op. 23

SAMPLE SOLO RECITAL PROGRAMS
Complete solo repertoire list available upon request or on artist website

1)  Into Modernity: Masterworks of the Early 20th Century
   Berg – Sonata in B minor, Op. 1
   Ravel – Le Tombeau de Couperin
      -intermission-
   Bartók – Out of Doors, Sz. 81
   Schoenberg – Sechs kleine Klavierstücke, Op. 19
   Granados – Quejas, o la maja y el ruiseñor
   Debussy – selected Études

2)  From the New World: Piano Music of the Americas
   Iman Habibi (b. 1985) – Three Preludes
   George Gershwin – Three Preludes
   Aaron Copland – Piano Variations
   Lowell Liebermann (b. 1961) – Nocturne No. 1, Op. 20
   Louis Moreau Gottschalk – Souvenir de Porto Rico, Op. 31
   The Banjo, Op. 15
      -intermission-
   John Adams (b. 1947) – American Berserk (2001)
   Leonard Bernstein – selections from “Anniversaries”
   Claudio Santoro – Sonata No. 4, “Fantasia”
3) **Backward Glance: Echoes from the Past**

- Bach-Busoni – Chaconne in D minor
- Ravel – Le Tombeau de Couperin
- Takemitsu – Rain Tree Sketch II, in Memoriam Olivier Messiaen

4) **From Impressions to Abstractions: Debussy’s Images and Douze Études**

- Images Book 1
- Images Book 2
- Douze Études

*(Single-composer programs available: Beethoven, Brahms, Chopin, Debussy, Schubert)*

**CHAMBER REPERTOIRE**

*Vocal repertoire available upon request*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Composer</th>
<th>Works</th>
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| Bach     | Sonata No. 2 for Flute and Continuo in E♭ major, BWV 1031  
          Sonata No. 5 for Flute and Continuo in E minor, BWV 1034  
          Sonata No. 6 for Flute and Continuo in E major, BWV 1035  
          Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Clavier in B minor, BWV 1014 |
| Barber   | Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 6 |
| Beethoven| Piano Trio in E♭ major, WoO 38  
          Sonata No. 2 for Piano and Cello in G minor, Op. 5, No. 2  
          Sonata No. 4 for Piano and Cello in C major, Op. 102, No. 1  
          Sonata No. 5 for Piano and Cello in D major, Op. 102, No. 2  
          Sonata No. 3 for Piano and Violin in E♭ major, Op. 12, No. 3  
          Sonata No. 4 for Piano and Violin in A minor, Op. 23  
          Sonata No. 5 for Piano and Violin in F major, Op. 24 (“Spring”)  
          Sonata No. 7 for Piano and Violin in C minor, Op. 30, No. 2  
          Sonata No. 9 for Piano and Violin in A major, Op. 47 (“Kreutzer”)  
          Symphony No. 3 in E-flat major “Eroica” Op. 55 (arr. for piano quartet by F. Ries) |
| Bloch    | Suite Hébraïque for Viola and Piano |
| Brahms  | Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Op. 25  
         Piano Quartet No. 3 in C minor, Op. 60  
         Piano Quintet in F minor, Op. 34  
         Piano Trio No. 1 in B major, Op. 8  
         Piano Trio No. 3 in C minor, Op. 101  
         Sonata No. 1 for Cello and Piano in E minor, Op. 38  
         Sonata No. 2 for Cello and Piano in F major, Op. 99  
         Sonata No. 1 for Clarinet (or Viola) and Piano in F minor, Op. 120, No. 1  
         Sonata No. 2 for Clarinet (or Viola) and Piano in E♭ major, Op. 120, No. 2  
         Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano in G major, Op. 78  
         Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano in A major, Op. 100  
         Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano in D minor, Op. 108 |
| Bruch    | Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola, and Piano, Op. 83 |
| Burton, Eldin | Sonatina for Flute and Piano (1947) |
| Clarke, Rebecca | Sonata for Viola and Piano (1919) |
| Debussy  | Prélude, Cadence et Finale for Alto Saxophone and Piano |
| DeCruck, Fernande | Prémière Rhapsodie for Clarinet and Piano, L. 116 |
| Desenclos, Alfred | Sonata in C-sharp for Alto Saxophone and Piano |
| Dubugnon, Richard | Sonata for Double Bass and Piano, Op. 44 |
| Dvorak   | Piano Quintet in A major, Op. 81 |
Ellis, David  

Enescu  
Cantabile et Presto for Flute and Piano (1904)
Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano, Op. 25

Fauré  
Piano Trio in D minor, Op. 120
Sonata for Violin and Piano No. 1 in A major, Op. 13

Francaix  
Divertimento for Horn and Piano (1953)

Franck  
Sonata for Violin and Piano in A major

Fuchs, Robert  
selected Fantasiestücke for Viola and Piano

Garrop, Stacy  
*Noir Vignettes* for Double Bass and Piano (2014)  
*gave world premiere, 06/15*

Grieg  
Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano in C minor, Op. 45

Hertl, Frantisek  
Sonata for Double Bass and Piano (1965)

Ives  
Sonata No. 4 for Violin and Piano (1916)

Jolivet, André  
Chant de Linos for Flute and Piano (1944)

Kennan, Kent  
Sonata for Trumpet and Piano (1986)

Kodály  
Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 4

Kuttenberger, Reiner  
Habdala for Clarinet, Violin, and Piano  
Tango Azul for Clarinet, Violin, and Piano

Liebermann  
Sonata for Flute and Piano, Op. 23

Lu, Shang  
Fantasy Higgs Boson, for Double Bass and Piano (2014)  
*gave world premiere, 06/15*

Martin  
Ballade for Trombone and Piano (1940)

Martinů  
Sonata No. 2 for Cello and Piano (1941)

Meijiring, Chiel  
The Ultimate Workout for Double Bass and Piano (2011)

Mendelssohn  
Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49  
Sonata for Violin and Piano in F major (1838)

Milhaud  

Misek, Adolf  
Sonata No. 1 for Double Bass and Piano in A major, Op. 5  
Sonata No. 2 for Double Bass and Piano in E minor, Op. 6

Mozart  
Sonata for Piano and Violin in E minor, K. 304  
Sonata for Two Pianos in D major, K. 448  
Trio for Piano, Clarinet, and Viola in E♭ major, K. 498 ("Kegelstatt")

Muczynski, Robert  
Sonata for Flute and Piano, Op. 14  
Time Pieces for Clarinet and Piano (1984)

Myaskovsky, Nikolai  
Sonata No. 2 for Cello and Piano in A minor, Op. 81

Piazzolla  
*Kicho* for Double Bass and Piano

Poulenc  
Sonata for Clarinet and Piano in B-flat, FP184

Prokofiev  
Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano in F major, Op. 80  
Sonata for Flute (or Violin) and Piano in D major, Op. 94

Proto, Frank  
Nine Variants on Paganini for Double Bass and Piano (2001)  
Sonata 1963 for Double Bass and Piano  
Sonata No. 3 for Double Bass and Piano (2015)  
*gave world premiere, 06/15*

Rachmaninoff  
Sonata for Cello and Piano in G minor, Op. 19

Ravel  
Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano in G major (1923-7)

Rochberg, George  
Sonata for Viola and Piano (1979)

Rota, Nino  
Sonata for Clarinet and Piano (1945)

Rubinstein, Anton  
Sonata for Viola and Piano in F minor, Op. 49

Sancan, Pierre  
Sonatine for Flute and Piano (1946)

Schoenfield, Paul  
Trio for Clarinet, Violin, and Piano (1986)

Schubert  
Introduction and Variations on “Trockne Blumen” for Flute and Piano, D. 802  
Rondo for Violin and Piano in B minor, D. 895  
Sonata for Piano and Arpeggione in A minor, D. 821

Schumann  
Adagio and Allegro for Horn (or Viola or Cello) and Piano, Op. 70  
Märchenerzählungen for Clarinet, Viola, and Piano, Op. 132  
Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano in A minor, Op. 105

Shostakovich  
Sonata for Cello and Piano in D minor, Op. 40

Zwilich, Ellen Taaffe  
*gave world premiere, 06/15*
Evan Mitchell – YouTube Links

John Adams - American Berserk (2001)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MR47whvmt1c

J. S. Bach - Fugue in A major, WTC Book 1
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xil1wi0urm0

Bartók – “The Chase” from Out of Doors, Sz. 81 (live at Merkin Hall, NYC)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nHZJrInU8JI

Beethoven - Sonata Op. 13 in C minor, “Pathétique” (live at Merkin Hall, NYC)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZiK_dCZfKQ

Beethoven - Sonata Op. 22 in Bb major, 1st mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gVq8jHysbEQ

Beethoven - Sonata Op. 22 in Bb major, 2nd mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iksxAEZWZ1Y

Beethoven - Sonata Op. 22 in Bb major, 3rd mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZ7G3Om5Aig

Beethoven - Sonata Op. 22 in Bb major, 4th mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rkobPSGtUg

Brahms - Intermezzo in Bb minor, Op. 117, No. 2
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJl6BZk6TAs

Gershwin - Three Preludes (live)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDXW8UlalaY

Haydn - Sonata in C-sharp minor, Hob. XVI: 36, 2nd mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG8U1j01dC8
Evan Mitchell – YouTube Links

Ives – “The Alcotts” from Sonata No. 2
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yl6b5pfBV0c

Prokofiev - Sonata No. 7 in Bb, Op. 83, III. Precipitato
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPujwO0z7mE

Frank Proto – Sonata No. 3 for Double Bass and Piano, 1st mvt. (world premiere recording; Szymon Marciniak, double bass)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQh5bhVzeAl

Rachmaninoff - Prelude in C minor, Op. 23, No. 7 (live)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-F6c3OLkgE

Claudio Santoro - Sonata No. 4, 1st mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjU_8Nplw4Y

Claudio Santoro - Sonata No. 4, 2nd mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39UGF1DLQ1s

Claudio Santoro - Sonata No. 4, 3rd mvt.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0NoFtGrNSY

Schoenberg - Sechs kleine Klavierstücke, Op. 19
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DsfM01yEEFY