



Violin Yang Liu



Jack Price
Managing Director
1 (310) 254-7149
Skype: pricerubin
jp@pricerubin.com

Mailing Address:
1000 South Denver Avenue
Suite 2104
Tulsa, OK 74119

Website:
<http://www.pricerubin.com>

Contents:

- Biography
- Press
- Repertoire
- YouTube Video Links
- Photo Gallery

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

Yang Liu – Biography

Violinist Yang Liu combines outstanding technical command and sublime musicality in performances that have earned him numerous accolades in Asia, the United States and Europe. He is a former prize winner of the Twelfth International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow and a first prize winner of China's National Violin Competition. The newspaper Beijing Tonight called him "The best of the billion!" Mr. Liu plays a Guarneri made in 1741 on a generous loan from Stradivary Society and Bein and Fushi Rare Violins. His repertoire ranges from baroque to the most contemporary of works.

Yang Liu made his North American debut with the Atlanta Symphony orchestra, earning three nights of standing ovations for his performance of Paganini's First Violin Concerto. This success was followed by performances with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra conducted by Robert Spano; Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra; Hagen Symphony Orchestra, Germany; and with the Odense Symphony Orchestra, Denmark, under Maestro Christoph Eberle in a highly successful tour throughout China of which a Chinese newspaper commented: "...The Carl Nielsen concerto was soloed by Chinese violinist Yang Liu who gave an absolutely sensational performance which touched the deepest spot of our hearts... Such a musician has been rarely heard for the past ten years..." His recent engagements include concerto performances with the Orquesta Filarmonica de Bogota, Colombia performing Barber's Violin Concerto under Maestro Amadio. He also completes a 5-city tour in China performing the Butterfly Concerto with Qingdao Symphony Orchestra, as part of the China-US cultural exchange initiated by Secretary of State of the US John Kerry, and chairman of the cultural department of China Mr. Luo. Orchestras repeatedly engage him for his appealing musicality and persona. He has performed multiple times with Ospa State Orchestra in Brazil, Qingdao Symphony Orchestra in China, East Oregon Symphony Orchestra. Under Maestro Alan Heatherington, he has performed the Brahms concerto with the Lake Forest Symphony Orchestra and the Nielsen and Sibelius concertos with the Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra.

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Yang Liu – Biography

A highly sought after guest artist and teacher, he performed and taught for many years in Aspen Music Festival, Oficina Music Festival and Sesc Music Festival in Brazil, and the Great Wall Music Festival in China.

Yang Liu's earlier concert highlights included his solo appearances at the Algave International Music Festival in Portugal and at the prestigious Sala Sao Paulo in Brazil and in the US the Aspen Music Festival and the Ravinia Festival. He also toured in China with his wife. As one of the most successful international performing artists of Chinese origin, Yang Liu was honored to be chosen to be filmed for a documentary called "String of heart--Yang Liu" which features Yang's artistic life. This production was aired throughout China starting in February 2011. . His debut recording, "Song of Nostalgia," was released to critical acclaim. The CD represents his broad interest in music, including some of the most difficult repertoire written for violin and traditional Chinese music. This recording, along with many of his live performances, is frequently heard on National Public Radio.

Born in Tsingtao, China, Yang Liu made his concert debut at age 10 performing Sarasate's Zigeunerweisen with the NHK Orchestra in Tokyo. He also performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto in a nationally televised live concert with the Central Philharmonic Orchestra in Beijing, which drew attention of the renowned violin pedagogue, Yao-Ji Lin. He began to study with Lin at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, and soon afterward, began to concertize as a soloist internationally. In pursuit of further musical development, Yang moved to the USA and continued his studies with Kurt Sassmannshaus and Dorothy DeLay at College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati. During his student years, he has been a frequent soloist at the Aspen Music Festival and with the Cincinnati-based Starling Chamber Orchestra, with which he toured China twice. He also was a featured performer in Starling's Emmy Award-winning educational video, Classical Quest concert tours have led him to Hong Kong, Taiwan, Germany, Denmark, France, Switzerland, Austria, Russia, Greece, China, Egypt and America.

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Yang Liu – Press

"Liu Yang wowed the opening-night audience with a scorching performance of Sarasate's Carmen Fantasy..."

– The New York Times

"Liu Yang, from China, with his dazzling talent, the audience cheered as Liu fired off a few rockets of his own...."

– The Washington Post

"The Nielsen brought the debut of an outstanding young Chinese violinist, Yang Liu. The concerto calls for an interesting mixture of virtuosity and expression, and Yang delivered on both counts. Technically incredibly adept, he made a strong impression. Yang and Spano seemed to have good rapport with each other and the orchestra."

– St. Louis Post-Dispatch

"Unbelievable... Yang, near the end of the third movement, he broke a string. Finishing a run, he turned to concertmaster, traded violins and finished the piece playing with incredible accuracy on a borrowed violin. The concerts here were Yang Liu's first in North America. He is amazing and will certainly be playing to rave reviews. We're quite lucky to have seen him and Gil Shaham in the same year."

– Atlanta music critic

"Leonhard Bernstein's 'serenade', ambitious, deep spirited work rather than one of the virtuoso standards. Yang, a violin wonder with racing fast fingers. He meets the depth and the tension, he jazzes and sings, masters the highly virtuosic attacks and integrates the complex rhythms to a richly felt musical confession. The orchestral musicians truly enjoy the dialogue with the sympathetic soloist..."

– Monika Willer, Kulture, Germany

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Yang Liu – Press

"World-class violinist enravishes Audience to Thundering Applause. What makes Yang Liu's violin playing so fascinating? It penetrates the artist, for whom technical problems are not an issue, to the tips of the toes. He forms a unit with his valuable Amati and brandishes the bow like a swordsman does his foil. Dynamics are entirely unpretentiously built up to excess."

– Westfälische Rundschau

"After intensive rounds of almost half a month, the winner of the fifth national violin competition in Shanghai goes to Central Conservatory student Yang Liu. At the closing ceremony, Yang Liu shows off his impeccable technique performing Tchaikovsky concerto, at the same time, demonstrates superb understanding of the piece. His playing received raving reviews and stunned the entire audience. This competition held every three years is the most prestigious competition. This year there are participants from 18 provinces, with 79 people entering the final round."

– Qingdao Daily News

"After the competition, Professor Lin congratulates his student Yang Liu who is the winner this year. Professor Lin has taught many who won numerous competitions in China and Abroad. He comments that, the competition this year is of the highest level and most participants. He believes Yang Liu has the talent and great potential. The jury is impressed with Yang Liu's sweet sound, pure musicality and impeccable technique. Yang Liu said, 'he owes this all to his teacher, the school and his mother', he continues, 'I will work harder and participate in international competitions'"

– Beijing news

"Virtuoso violinist Yang Liu will perform with world renowned Danish orchestra, the Odense Symphony Orchestra tonight in Zhu Hai concert hall. Yang Liu resides in the US and performs more with the orchestras in the US. This is his first collaboration with the top orchestra of Denmark, the Odense Symphony Orchestra. They will perform violin concerto by Danish composer Nielsen. He is very excited with this collaboration, performing piece with the same origin as the orchestra. Yang Liu also comments that 'the orchestra and I have built the most incredible rapport'.

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Regarding violin education for the young, Yang Liu emphasizes on keeping the children interested, and focuses on musical cultivation, instead of just going through repertoire. He contrasts between the Asian culture and the western, whereas the latter concentrates more on children's self motivation, well rounded education that leads to inspiration."

– Zhu Hai regional newspaper

"A Stradivarius violin 'the Lady Tennant' was sold at record high of 2.3 million in 2005 at an auction in New York. The buyer dedicates this violin to Yang Liu, who describes this violin 'with soul, needs time to get to know her to play out the best of her'

Yang Liu fell in love with violin at age 4, entered Beijing Central Conservatory at 9, when he was 10 he already astonished the audience of Tokyo. He went to US to study at 23, by the age of 30 he has won numerous awards. He believes violin is his calling. Ever since he was four, when he heard the violin playing in the neighborhood, he insists on taking lessons and becoming a violinist. He would cry until he gets his way. To be able to continue with violin studies, it takes a lot of support from family, especially financial commitment. At the time, Yang Liu lived in an underprivileged environment. A bottle of pop drink is 1/10 of their monthly rent. His mother rewarded him a bottle at the last final exam at the conservatory. He saved it and finished the drinks in 3 settings. His hard work and talent finally gave path for him to study in the US. Since then, he has appeared as soloist with many orchestras. He said, 'fame is not something that I pursue. Even if I do not make a career, I would still love playing the violin. The more I perform, the more I realize the vastness of the sea of music. The more I should work hard and cultivate'".

– Elle magazine

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Yang Liu – Repertoire

With orchestra

Bach

Concerti-- all

Barber

Violin concerto

Beethoven

Violin Concerto

Bernstein

Serenade

Brahms

Violin concerto

Bruch

Violin concerti--all

Chen Gang

Butterfly concerto

Glazunov

Violin concerto

Khachaturian

Korngold

Violin concerto

Lalo

Violin concerto

Mendelssohn

Violin concerto

Mozart

Violin concerti--all

Nielsen

Violin concerto

Paganini

Violin concerto No. 1

Ravel

Tzigane

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Yang Liu – Repertoire

Saint-Saen

Violin concerti--all

Sarasate

Tziganeweissen

Shostakovich

Violin concerto no. 1

Sibelius

Violin concerto

Tchaikovsky

Violin concerto

Vieuxtemps

Violin concerti-- all

Vivaldi

Four Seasons

Wieniawski

Both concerti

Solo

Bach

All sonata and partitas

Kreisler

Recitative and Scherzo-Caprice Op.6, for solo violin

Paganini

24 Caprice

Prokofiev

Sonata Op. 115

Ysaye

Sonata

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Yang Liu – Repertoire

Sonata with Piano

Beethoven

All sonata

Brahms

All sonata

Debussy

Sonata

Franck

Sonata

Grieg

All Sonata

Mozart

All sonata

Nielsen

Sonata

Poulenc

Sonata

Prokofiev

All sonata

Saint-Saen

All violin sonata

Schubert

All violin sonata

Schumann

Sonata in A minor

Strauss

Violin sonata

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Yang Liu – Repertoire

Show pieces

Kreisler

Selected compositions and transcriptions

Heifeiz

Selected arrangements

Wieniawski

Poloanise brillante

Tchaikovsky

Waltz-Scherzo

Selected Chinese transcriptions

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Yang Liu – YouTube Links

Nielsen violin concerto 1st movt pt1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZMRqKt7Zfc>

Sibelius Violin Concerto - 1st mov

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

Encore after Sibelius concerto--Gavotte by Bach

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vNhsLQj4mvE>

Bach Chaconne.m4v

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yr8CZQ9-1nU>

Nielsen violin concerto 3rd movt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wB048veKHeg>

Nielsen violin concerto 2nd movt

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dV8HtbuTTZE>

Sibelius Violin Concerto - 2nd and 3rd mov

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvH1BYEmQoE>

Violin Concert Fragment

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYSHR6n5hCw>

Beethoven.mov

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cLCM0fG9tag>

Mr. & Mrs. Liu.mov

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4aIgNhoQmmc>

2017 Chinese New Year TV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73GBz7OTIYQ>

Artist Website: www.YangLiu.org & www.YangandOlivia.com

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Yang Liu – Photo Gallery



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