

CONTACT: Rich Brase
marketing@portlandpiano.org
503.201.6158
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Pianist Denis Kozhukhin Returns to Rose City for Portland Piano International SOLO Recital October 8 & 9, 2016



“Kozhukhin ranged over the keyboard centuries like a duke displaying prized possessions.”
– *The Sunday Times*

(Portland, OR) Portland Piano International is proud to welcome back Russian pianist Denis Kozhukhin to Portland for a recital on October 8 & 9, 2016. Both performances will be at 4 pm in Portland State University’s Lincoln Hall. Mr. Kozhukhin last performed here in January 2015.

The website classicalsource.com said that “Denis Kozhukhin is simply one of the best pianists around.”

"His mastery of the keyboard exemplifies the Russian pianistic school," said Portland Piano International Artistic Director Arnaldo Cohen. "Add depth and sensitivity to an immaculate technique and you have a fair description of Denis' remarkable artistry."

His program on Saturday, October 8 will include:

- Handel: Suite No. 7 in G minor, HWV 432
- Franck: *Prelude, Choral and Fugue*
- Brahms: 3 Intermezzi, Op. 117
- Weber: Piano Sonata No. 3 in D minor, Op. 49
- Bartók: *Out of Doors*, Sz. 81

On Sunday, October 9 the program includes:

- Haydn: Sonata in C minor, Hob. XVI:20
- Prokofiev: *Romeo and Juliet*, Op. 75
- Liszt: *Bénédiction de Dieu dans la solitude*, S. 173/3
- Ligeti: Étude 13: *L'escalier du diable*
- Rachmaninov: Variations on a Theme of Corelli, Op. 42

Lincoln Hall is located at 1620 SW Park in Portland. Tickets are available at portlandpiano.org or 503.228.1388. Tickets range from \$55 (keyboard) to \$45 (non-keyboard).

About Denis Kozhukhin

Denis Kozhukhin was launched onto the international scene after winning First Prize in the 2010 Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels at the age of 23. His playing is characterized by an extraordinary technical mastery balanced by a sharp intelligence, calm maturity and wisdom. Kozhukhin has that rare and special gift of creating an immediate and compelling emotional connection with his audience.

Kozhukhin has quickly established a formidable reputation and has already appeared at many of the world's most prestigious festivals and concert halls including the Verbier Festival, where he won the Prix d'Honneur in 2003, Progetto Martha Argerich in Lugano, Berliner Philharmonie, Kölner Philharmonie, Klavier-Festival Ruhr, Rheingau Music Festival, Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival, Carnegie Hall, Leipzig Gewandhaus, Munich Herkulessaal, Rotterdam De Doelen, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Auditorio Nacional Madrid, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia Milan, Théâtre du Châtelet and Auditorium du Louvre Paris.

In the 2015/16 season, Kozhukhin performed with orchestras including the Orchestre National de France/Yamada, Pittsburgh Symphony/Noseda, Philharmonia/Weilserstein, Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR/Shokhakov, Brussels Philharmonic/ Denève and Netherlands Radio Philharmonic/Märkl. The 2014/15 season included performances with the Chicago Symphony, Orchestra/Morlot, Philadelphia Orchestra/Denève, BBC Symphony Orchestra/Oramo, Mariinsky Orchestra/Gergiev, Houston Symphony Orchestra/Hrusa, Netherlands Radio Philharmonic/Gimeno and Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo/Alsop. Kozhukhin also toured to China with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, and made his debut with the West Eastern Divan Orchestra and Barenboim at the Salzburg Festival and at the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires.

As a recitalist, highlights of this season and beyond include returns to the Concertgebouw's Master Pianists Series, Cologne Philharmonie, Wigmore Hall, Auditorium du Louvre in Paris and London's International Piano Series, as well as debuts at the Lucerne Festival, Vienna Konzerthaus and the Boston Celebrity Series. Following the 2013 release of his debut recording with Onyx Classics of Prokofiev's Piano Sonatas Nos 6, 7 and 8, Kozhukhin released his recording of Haydn Sonatas in September 2014. Born in Nizhni Novgorod, Russia, in 1986 into a family of musicians, Denis Kozhukhin began his piano studies at the age of four with his mother. As a boy, he attended the Balakirev School of Music where he studied under Natalia Fish.

Upon graduating, he received his diploma personally from the Queen of Spain and was named best student in his year and twice best chamber group with his own Cervantes Trio. After his studies in Madrid, Kozhukhin was invited to study at the Piano Academy at Lake Como where he received tuition from amongst others Fou Ts'ong, Stanislav Ioudenitch, Peter Frankl, Boris Berman, Charles Rosen and Andreas Staier. He completed his studies with Kirill Gerstein in Stuttgart. Kozhukhin has also been awarded 1st Prize at the Vendome Prize in Lisbon in 2009, and 3rd Prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition in 2006.

Portland Piano International is dedicated to presenting the finest pianists in the world in recital settings and outreach activities for the purpose of enriching and educating our community. Funders and sponsors include the Oregon Community Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Work for Art, James F. and Marion Miller Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Portland Piano Company, Higgins Restaurant, Portland State University and All Classical Media.

Portland Piano International
P.O. Box 6469 Portland, OR 97228 503.228.1388
portlandpiano.org