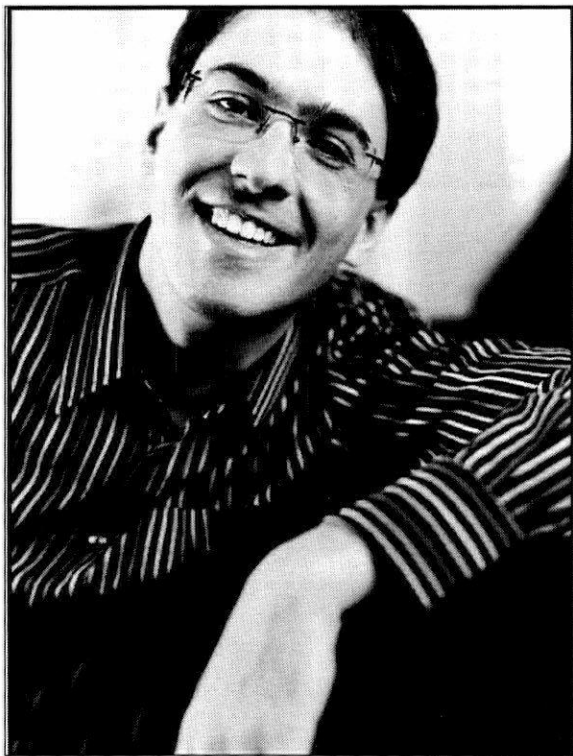


**White Rock
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Presents**

ROBERTO PLANO

Pianist



Friday, March 30, 2007

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will be the opening event of the 07-08 concert season

on October 19, 2007

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Roberto Plano

Italian pianist Roberto Plano has gained a reputation for creating radiant colours in his performances of works from the romantic era, and for his sympathetic collaborative playing. Laureate of the 2003 Honens International Piano Competition and Third Prize Winner at the 2006 AXA Dublin International Piano Competition. Plano was also a Finalist of the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition (2005), the 2003 Busoni Competition, and winner of the Cleveland International Piano Competition (2001).

Mr Plano has performed throughout North America and Europe – in the past three seasons he has been heard at Alice Tully Hall in New York, Sala Verdi in Milan, Salle Cortot in Paris, the Chopin Festival in Duszynki Poland, and at the Herceulesaal and Gasteig in Munich. Earlier this year, his busy touring schedule took him through Italy for a tour of Beethoven's *Triple Concerto*; across western Canada with Banff International String Quartet Competition winner, the Jupiter String Quartet; and throughout North America for appearances in recital and with orchestra, including his debut with the National Arts Centre Orchestra and Pinchas Zukerman. He made his London recital debut at Wigmore Hall in December 2006.

Plano has two major recordings: one of the works by Chopin, Liszt and Scriabin on Italy's Sipario Dischi label, and another of works by Liszt on the Azica label. His friendly and outgoing nature has made him a favourite guest on a number of radio stations, including NPR's *Performance Today*, WNYC in New York City, and WGBH in Boston's *Classics in the Morning*.

Plano received his "Diplôme superieur d'enseignement, à l'unanimité et avec felicitations du jurie" (2002), an International Certificate for Piano Artists (2003), and his "Diplôme superieur de concertiste, à l'unanimité et avec felicitations du jurie" (2004) from Ecole Normale Cortot where he worked with Nelson Delle Vigne. Plano has also studied with Eli Perrotta, Walter Krafft, Lazar Berman and Bruno Canino.

Roberto Plano, pianist

Programme

Domenico Scarlatti [1685-1757]

Five Sonata

- Sonata in G minor K.8
- Sonata in C minor K.303
- Sonata in F minor K.239
- Sonata in B minor K.197
- Sonata in G Major K.427

Franz Liszt [1811-18+86]

Ballade No. 2 in B minor S. 171

Intermission

Robert Schumann [1810-1856]

Six Intermezzi Op. 4

- I. Allegro quasi maestoso
- II. Presto e capriccioso
- III. Allegro
- IV. Allegretto semplice
- V. Allegro moderato
- VI. Allegro

Faschingsschwank aus Wien Op. 26

"Carnival Jest from Vienna"

- Allegro
- Romanze
- Scherzino
- Intermezzo
- Finale

Programme Notes

Domenico Scarlatti

Five Sonatas

In the preface to his first volume of keyboard sonatas, published in London in 1738, Scarlatti suggests that his music will contain clever joking with art: “lo scherzo ingegnoso dell'Arte”. His sonatas for solo keyboard total over 500, a testament to both his ingenuity and virtuosic skill as a keyboard player.

Franz Liszt

Ballade No. 2 in B minor S. 171

The ballades of Liszt, like those of Chopin, draw on literary inspiration. Ballade No. 2 in B minor was written in 1853 and was inspired by German poet Gottfried August Bürger's poem Lenore. This poem, also used by Liszt for recitation to a completely different accompaniment in 1858, had a lasting effect on the development of Romanticism through its simple folk tale-like refrain and supernatural themes. Liszt's musical depiction of the poem is suitably dramatic.

Robert Schumann

Six Intermezzi Op. 4

Schumann described his Six Intermezzi Op. 4 as 'larger Papillons', after his poetic cycle for piano, Op. 2. While intermezzo often refers to a movement or piece that connects larger movements, Schumann was among the first composers to use the title for independent pieces. He often used the term intermezzo to name his early piano works. The first intermezzo introduces a majestic mood. Schumann has added the words of Goethe's Gretchen Mein Ruh' ist hin to the middle section of the second intermezzo. The Allegro marcato of the third is contrasted with a gentle *alternativo* section. The fourth intermezzo uses musical material from a sketch for the tenth Papillions. Schumann wrote in his diary that the fifth intermezzo was something between speech and thought. The last intermezzo contains triplet rhythms, like the second, and brings the set to an exuberant conclusion.

Faschingsschwank aus Wien Op. 26

Faschingsschwank aus Wien (Carnival Jest from Vienna) was written by Schumann in 1839. The carnival to which the title refers is a time of street festivals and masquerades that still takes place in Vienna during January and February, preceding the Lenten season. While suggesting a large-scale sonata form, Faschingsschwank aus Wien evokes different characters, as did many of his piano works from this period, such as Carnival and Davidsbündlertänze. This is indicated by the subtitle Phantasiebilder that translates roughly as “pictures in fantasy form”. The opening rondo movement gives portraits of different waltzes, with a subversive quotation of La Marseillaise (which was banned in Vienna to prevent revolutionary ideas from gaining hold) buried within. The inner movements, a Romanze, Scherzino, and Intermezzo, are smaller in scope and are not as directly pictorial. The final movement is in sonata allegro form, reversing the usual order of movements in a sonata.

about the honens competition

The Honens International Piano Competition, founded in 1991, is one of the world's great music competitions, taking place every three years in Calgary, Alberta. Pianists from all parts of the globe compete for cash prizes and an even more lucrative Artistic and Career Development Program to launch and sustain their careers. The Honens Competition discovers "Complete Artists" – musicians who add knowledge, audacity, risk, individuality and the widest perspective to all they create or perform. The Sixth Honens Competition takes place 22 October to 6 November 2009.

The "Complete Artist" draws not only from knowledge of a particular composition itself but, equally importantly, also from a wide knowledge of related music, of musical literature as a whole, of the other arts, of the humanities, and of contemporary culture.

Honens' Artistic and Career Development Program is awarded to the three competition laureates. International performance engagements, production of recordings, residencies at The Banff Centre, promotion and publicity, together with professional development and networking opportunities, provide the tools to launch and sustain the careers of these emerging stars of the concert stage. As well as Roberto Plano, recent Honens laureates include Canadians Winston Choi (2003) and Katherine Chi (2000), Russian pianist Maxim Philippov (1996) who was also a silver medalist at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, and French pianist Jean Efflam-Bavouzet (1992), a prolific recording artist known for his performances of the complete piano works of Ravel.



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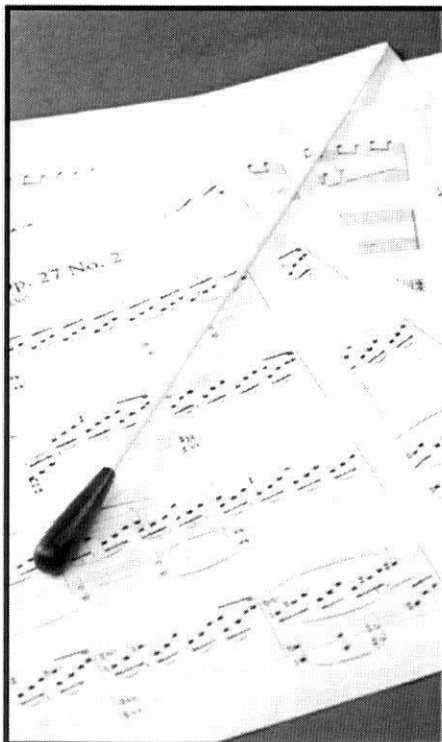
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