

TANIA STAVREVA, PIANO (LONG BIOGRAPHY)

Described by the music critics as "exceptional, entrancing, fun!" (*Harry Rolnick, ConcertoNet.com*), "a fully formed and fearsomely talented pianist" (*Steve Holtje, CultureCatch.com*) and "bold, dynamic, magnificent" (*Harris Goldsmith, NY Concert Review*), "Bulgarian-born piano dynamo" (*Steve Smith, Time Out NY*) Tania Stavreva is "a unique pianist, combining genuine quality with a refreshing approach to programming." (*Bachtrack.com UK*), "a sensuous, dramatically aware keyboardist, fascinating to watch, in her finger work, as well as to hear." (*John Osburn, Osburnt.com*) and "one of a new breed of self-sufficient young classical musicians... hands of great skill and power, electric flair and colorful musicality" (*Jon Sobel, BlogCritics.com*). She is recognized as one of the most versatile young artists of her generation, renowned internationally for having "some of the most precise fingering of any of the twenty-something generation of pianists, bar none" (*Mark Greenfest, SoundWordSight Arts Magazine*), for her "superior technical abilities", "unlimited virtuosity", "personal sensitivity difficult to find elsewhere", and "huge dynamic range" combined with "demanding and diversified programs". Her "masterfully delivered" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) performance of the "White Lies for Lomax" (*Winner of the 3rd Van Cliburn American Composers International Competition*) by Mason Bates, released on Innova Recordings "is a stunning display of intricate blues playing and a highlight of the recording" (*Karl Ackermann, All About Jazz CD Review*), where Ms. Stavreva is among artists such as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Tania Stavreva made her New York recital debut at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in April 2009. She is returning at Carnegie Hall in June 2016, this time on the main stage - Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage. She has performed also at many other top venues including Lincoln Center, Kaufman Center, Symphony Space, Kosciusko Foundation Auditorium, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Steinway Hall, Embassy of Bulgaria in New York, Bohemian National Hall at the Czech Center of NY, Yamaha Artists Services, Tenri Cultural Institute and the CSV Cultural Center where she was featured live on NY1 News by NBC reporter Asa Aarons. She has performed also at the GRAMMY Museum Theater, Clive Davis Auditorium in Los Angeles, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, Sanders Theater at Harvard University, Harvard Musical Association, Pickman Concert Hall and the French Cultural Center in Boston, The National Ethnographic Museum in Bulgaria, Radio Plovdiv - Bulgarian National Radio Concert Hall, Cathedral San Lorenzo in Italy, Sala dei Notari (Italy), 1901 Arts Club in London, UK, Anteros Arts Foundation (UK) and the Ruinekerk in The Netherlands. In January 2013 her sold out Chicago recital debut was broadcast live on WFMT 98.7. She has been featured also on BBC Music Magazine, CBS New York, Keyboard Magazine, KUSC 91.5, ABC7 and Musical America. On June 12th, 2012 she was invited to perform at the Miles Davis/Edith Piaf Commemorative USPS Stamp Dedication Ceremony at the Rubin Museum of Art in New York where Ms. Stavreva was featured on CNN and shared the stage with the legendary bassist Ron Carter, the Miles Davis Family, Grammy-award winning songwriter Mike Stoller and legendary music producer George Avakian (*Columbia Records*).

In July 2011 Tania Stavreva performed for a first time body painted, connecting the music of Erik Satie to the work by artist Danny Setiawan. The multimedia collaboration was immediately featured on NY1 News TV, New York Daily News and Time Out NY. On May 10th, 2012 Ms. Stavreva collaborated with the internationally-acclaimed body painter and artist Derrick Little (*Madonna, Shakira*) at Galapagos Art Space in New York on another multimedia project titled Rhythmic Movement Multimedia. This time live music and live body painting were connected through abstract music-color synesthesia. In 2012, Tania Stavreva appeared on off-off Broadway in New York in “The Tempest” by William Shakespeare.

In 2009, invited by Amanda Palmer from the internationally-acclaimed band The Dresden Dolls, Tania Stavreva is one of the first pianists of her generation to perform modern classical music at such rock club venues as Webster Hall (New York) and Paradise Rock Club (Boston), making classical music accessible to younger and non-traditional audiences. She has also collaborated with legendary two times Grammy award winning drummers Will Calhoun (*Living Color, B.B. King*) and Dave Lombardo (*John Zorn, Slayer, Fantomas*). Ms. Stavreva’s orchestral experience includes collaborations with conductors such as Boston Pops principal guest conductor Bruce Hagen, Vladimir Kulenovic (*Utah Symphony, Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra*), Enrico Marconi (*London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra*). She appeared in numerous music festivals among which are the International Keyboard Institute & Festival (IKIF), Institute & Festival for Contemporary Performance (IFCP) and Pianofest in the Hamptons in New York, The International Music Holland Sessions in The Netherlands, Music Fest Perugia and Todi International Music Masters in Italy, as well as the Varna Summer International Music Festival and XXXIII Musical Days “Nedialka Simeonova” in Bulgaria. In 1997, the Mayor of Haskovo, Bulgaria Atanas Vasilev, awarded Tania the Medal “Nedialka Simeonova” for “enriching the musical art and culture in our town Haskovo”. She was featured on a live National TV and radio broadcast performing solo piano works by the acclaimed Bulgarian composer Alexander Taney. She is also a recipient of the “Sarkis Baltaian Award” for “high artistic achievements”.

Tania Stavreva is an active participant at many outreach programs and fundraising campaigns, supporting with her music institutions such as Dana Faber Cancer Institute, NYU Hospital, Los Angeles Children's Hospital, Centers for Alzheimer Care and many others. She is a graduate of the National Music School "Dobrin Petkov" in Bulgaria, where she studied with renown pedagogue Rositsa Ivancheva and graduated with honors and also a graduate of the Boston Conservatory, where she was a full scholarship recipient and the winner of many competitions. She has been on the piano faculty of the Boston International Summer Music Festival "Youth & Muse", the Piano School of NYC, LIC Academy of Music and the Page Music Lesson Center where she was also the director and founder of the Page Music Piano Performance Program. During her time in Bulgaria she had 4 years of acting training with Prof. Nikolai Nikolov (*Theater A'Part* - Plovdiv) by the “System of Stanislavsky”.

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