



THE BOSTON CONSERVATORY
MUSIC DANCE THEATER

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CONTACT: Joyce Linehan (617) 282-2510, joyce@ashmontmedia.com

THE BOSTON CONSERVATORY PRESENTS PIANO MASTERS FOR SPRING 2010

February: 16 Albert Tiu
March 9: Alexander Kobrin
April 6: Ya-Fei Chuang

High res digital images available on request

(BOSTON – Jan. 27, 2009) The Boston Conservatory announces the winter/spring season of its popular Piano Masters series, a unique offering of internationally renowned pianists in solo engagements. All performances take place in The Boston Conservatory's Seully Hall at 8 The Fenway. General admission tickets are \$12, available at <http://bostonconservatory.ticketforce.com/> or by phone at (617) 912-9222. For event information call the event line at (617) 912-9240. These take place in Seully Hall and are free and open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb 16, 8 p.m. - Albert Tiu

One of the outstanding pianists of his generation, Philippines-born, Singapore-based **Albert Tiu** has an eclectic repertoire ranging from Sweelinck to Stockhausen and from Bach to Bolcom. He has won several awards, including First Prize in the UNISA International Piano Competition in South Africa; Second Prize in the Esther Honens Calgary International Piano Competition; and the Juilliard William Petschek Award, which resulted in a New York debut recital in Alice Tully Hall.

Highlights of his performing career include solo appearances with St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Finnish Radio Symphony, Hamburg Symphony, Northern Sinfonia (England), Calgary Philharmonic, Winnipeg Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, Cape Town Philharmonic, Johannesburg Philharmonic, Philippine Philharmonic, Singapore Symphony and the Juilliard Symphony. An active chamber musician, Tiu has collaborated with the St. Lawrence String Quartet, the Ysaye Quartet, the Muir String Quartet, clarinetist Charles Neidich, flautist Carol Wincenc and tenor Robert White.

Tiu graduated from the Juilliard School, and currently teaches at the Singapore Conservatory of Music.

PROGRAM: CHOPIN: Fantasy in f minor, Polonaise-Fantasia in A-flat Major; SCRIABIN: Fantasy in b minor and Sonata-Fantasy No. 2; CHOPIN & SCRIABIN: Pairings of Preludes, Etudes, Waltzes, Nocturnes and Impromptus

Tuesday, March 9, 8 p.m. - Alexander Kobrin

Born in Moscow in 1980, Alexander Kobrin made his debut at age eight, when he performed Bach's *Concerto in F minor* and, a year later, Beethoven's *First Piano Concerto*. He graduated from the Moscow Conservatory. Kobrin was awarded the prestigious Gold Medal at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2005. *The Washington Post* praised his playing: "not a single phrase escaped his fingers without expression and thoughtfulness." In 2006, he made his debut with the New York Philharmonic at both the Avery Fisher Hall and for the inaugural concert of the Bethel Woods Arts Centre. Recent and upcoming engagements include a debut at BBC Proms with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain with Mark Elder; the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra with Vasily Petrenko at The Sage Gateshead in December 2008; Ulster Orchestra with Tuomas Ollila-Hannikainen; City of Birmingham Symphony with Vasily Sinaisky; Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin with Ludovic Morlot and Wroclaw Philharmonic with Jacek Kasprzyk. Other performances include recitals at the Louvre, Wigmore Hall, Esplanade Concert Hall, Sheung Wan Civic Centre Hong Kong and a recital tour of Italy consisting of cities such as Palermo and Varese. In addition to the Cliburn Competition disc for harmonia mundi including works by Brahms and Rachmaninoff, Kobrin has started a recording project devoted to Chopin. He is also prominently featured in *In the Heart of Music*, the film documentary about the Twelfth Cliburn Competition. When not performing, he teaches at the Moscow State Gnessin Academy of Music.

HAYDN: Sonata in D; SCHUMANN: Fanasiestucke, op. 12; RACHMANINOFF: Etudes-Tableaux, op. 39

Tuesday, April 6, 8 p.m. - Ya-Fei Chuang

Boston Conservatory faculty member Ya-Fei Chuang is acclaimed by critics in the United States and abroad for performances of stunning virtuosity, refinement and communicative power. Chuang has performed in venues including the Cologne and Berlin Philharmonien, Schauspielhaus Berlin, Gewandhaus Leipzig, National Philharmonic Hall Warsaw, and in Jordan Hall and Symphony Hall in Boston—as a duo partner with Kim Kashkashian, Robert Levin, and as a member of the chamber ensemble Mistral. Chuang's mastery of the most challenging solo repertoire is complemented by extensive activities as a chamber musician and duo partner, and by her commitment to contemporary music, including world premieres of works by Stanley Walden and Thomas Oboe Lee. The *Boston Phoenix* says "...tender and heroic, full of vibrant flourishes—iridescent pianism."

MENDELSSOHN: *Four Songs Without Words*; CHOPIN: the Four Scherzi; SCARLATTI: 3 Sonatas; WYNER: *Towards the Center*; RAVEL: *La Valse*

About The Boston Conservatory

The Boston Conservatory trains exceptional young performing artists for careers that enrich and transform the human experience. Known for its intimate and supportive multi-disciplinary environment, The Boston Conservatory offers fully accredited graduate and undergraduate programs in music, dance and theater, and presents more than 200 performances each year by students, faculty and guest artists.

Since its founding in 1867, The Boston Conservatory has shared its talent and creativity with the city of Boston, the region and the nation, and continues to grow today as a vibrant community of artists and educators. For more information, visit www.bostonconservatory.edu.

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