

NICOLAS COSTANTINOU

Dr. Nicolas Costantinou is renowned for impressing his audience with his daring selection of repertoire, old and new, and his ability to perform with extraordinary instrumental ensembles. He has been hailed by critics as ‘...an artist of deep emotions, who is capable of performing music with his whole being and soul...’ whilst his interpretations have been described as ‘colossal’ and ‘dramatic’.

He has given numerous concerts in Austria, Cyprus, Hungary, Germany, Greece, Finland, France, Portugal, Turkey, Switzerland, the UK and the USA and regularly appears in prestigious halls such as Wigmore Hall, the Brahms Saal of the Musikverein in Vienna, the Beethoven-Haus in Bonn, and the grand Hall of the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest. He is regularly invited to perform at international festivals around Europe such as the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival, the Oulunsalo Soi Music Festival (Finland), the Gödöllő Chamber Music Festival (Hungary), the Ledra Music Soloists International Chamber Music Festival and the Kypria Festival (Cyprus). His debut in London’s prestigious Wigmore Hall was received with favourable reviews. He has performed with the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Russian Chamber Philharmonic St. Petersburg, the Budapest Concert Orchestra, the Failoni Chamber Orchestra, and the Cyprus Symphony Orchestra, with maestros such as Konrad von Abel, Juri Gilbo, Notis Georgiou, Spiros Pisinis, Maciej Zoltowski and Ayis Ioannides. In the field of chamber music, he has performed with Gustav Rivinius, Erkki Rautio, David Cohen, Péter Somodari, Vilmos Szabadi, Tytus Miecznikowski, Gábor Varga, Francesco Quaranta, Wolfgang Schroeder, Margarita Elia, Kyros Patsalides, Chloë Hanslip, Kazuhiro Tagaki, and the Meta4 and Akadémia String quartets. He regularly performs works by Cypriot composers in Cyprus and abroad including a number of world premieres.

Nicolas Costantinou graduated from the Greek Hellenic Academy of Music, the Ferenc Liszt Academy of Music in Szeged, the Ferenc Liszt University of Music in Budapest summa cum laude and holds a Master of Music in Performance from the U.S. Cleveland Institute of Music. Recently, he has been awarded a doctorate of philosophy (PhD) from London’s Royal College of Music under the supervision of Prof. Paul Banks, Dr. Julian Jacobson and Dr. Jane Roper. His thesis is entitled *The Chamber Music of Ernő Dohnányi; Tradition, Innovation and ‘Hungarianness’*. He has also studied with Márta Gulyás, Dr. Daniel Shapiro, Sándor Falvai, Ferenc Kerek, Tania Economou and Wanda Economou-Constantinou and he has participated in master classes held by acknowledged pianists such as Dmitri Bashkirov, Nicolas Economou, Vadim Suchanov and Ferenc Rádós.

Nicolas is currently teaching prodigious children in his home country. Many of his students have won numerous prizes at international piano competitions, and have participated in esteemed piano master-classes with renowned professors. Some of his students have been accepted in highly esteemed Academies and Universities, amongst others the Reina Sofia Escuela Superior de Música in Madrid and the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, USA. Dr Costantinou is currently teaching piano at the University of Nicosia and at the Nicosia Music Lyceum.

“Nicolas Costantinou gave an immaculate account of Mozart’s often genial sonata K.333 on 22 July with all the tempo fluctuations sounding natural. The Andante sang consistently as well and the quite extrovert finale was spritely with moments of vehemence. It was followed with a heroic response to the originality and expressive power of Chopin’s F minor Fantasy, Op. 49. Costantinou also understood this work’s sense of freedom, its grandeur and the inevitability of its unfolding. ...”

Max Harrison

Musical Opinion – September-October 2009

“He began with Bach’s C minor Partita BWV 826, a notably clean and involving reading, which was followed by Debussy’s Second Book of Images, in which the music’s inherent Impressionism was well to the fore, particularly during the concluding Poissons d’or.”

Robert Matthew-Walker

Musical Opinion - April-May 2005

“...Nicolas proved himself to be an artist of deep emotions, who is capable of interpreting music with his whole being and soul...”

Hanna Laulajainen

KALEVA – August, 4 2003

“Listening, almost accidentally, to Nicolas Costantinou’s performances I must confess that I found myself confronted with colossal interpretation...”

Dimitri Nicolau – **Composer**

January 2, 2002