

Xiayin Wang, piano www.xiayinwangpiano.com

BIOGRAPHY

An artist with a winning combination of consummate technical brilliance, fine musicianship, and personal verve, pianist Xiayin Wang wins the hearts of audiences wherever she appears. As recitalist, chamber musician, and orchestral soloist in such venues as New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, she has earned a place among the musical elect of her generation.

“Even for the most gifted young pianist, it takes a lot to be noticed. . . Xiayin Wang is clearly doing something right. Ms. Wang's recital at Zankel Hall on Monday night offered plenty of evidence for her success. Bach's Violin Chaconne in D minor, as arranged for piano by Busoni, served as her calling card. It neatly illustrated two of her principal strengths: an estimable grasp of pianistic color and an ability to maintain and illuminate a strand of melody within the thickest of textures.”

Steve Smith, *The New York Times*, April 2, 2008

This season Ms. Wang performed the Ravel Piano Concerto in G Major with the Manhattan Chamber Players in New York under the direction of the estimable conductor Eduard Zilberkant. Ms. Wang also performed in recital and as soloist in California, Washington State, and Florida, notably at the Naples (FL) Philharmonic Hall and as a soloist with the University of Florida Symphony Orchestra.

Of particular note last summer was Ms. Wang's recital at Seiji Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood, in Lenox, Massachusetts where she presented a formidable program featuring Prokofiev's *Sarcasms*, Op. 17; three sonatas by Scarlatti; Scriabin's *Fantaisie in B minor*, Op. 28; Piazzolla's *Adios Nonino*; the Bach-Busoni Chaconne in D minor; and Ravel's *La Valse*. She also appeared as recitalist at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., and at the Caramoor Festival in Katonah, New York.

In recent seasons Ms. Wang gave recitals in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida, Arizona, Virginia, and California. In New York, she was presented in recital as part of the Prestige Series at the International Keyboard Institute and Festival at Mannes College of Music in New York. In April 2007 she made her debut at Carnegie Hall's Isaac Stern Auditorium performing the Schumann Piano Concerto and Ravel's Concerto in G Major with the City Symphony under conductor George Manahan. Reviewing her May 2006 recital at Alice Tully Hall, longtime music critic Fred Kirshnit of *The New York Sun* praised Ms. Wang for her “robust, confident performance.”

Ms. Wang has released two recordings, and in May, another solo album on the Naxos label of the great Russian composer Aleksandr Scriabin featuring a range of works from his early Chopinesque period to such later compositions as “Vers la Flamme,” Op. 72 and *Deux Danses*, Op. 73.

In June 2008 Ms. Wang released a recording of Brahms's Quartet for Piano and Strings in G Minor, Op. 25 and Quartet for Piano and Strings in C minor, Op. 60 with the Amity Players on Marquis Classics. David Breckbill, writing in the December 2008 issue of *BBC Magazine*, wrote: “I have genuinely enjoyed their committed advocacy of this great music...” And the November/December 2008 edition of *Fanfare* praised the recording:

“The dynamic Quartet No.1 in G Minor comes off with just the right combination of exuberance and fullness of sound; tempos are well-judged throughout, the somewhat expansive first movement in particular allowed to unfold without the frantic feeling one sometimes gets with faster performances...a performance that does its young players proud.”

In April 2007, Ms. Wang released her debut recording “Introducing Xiayin Wang” on the Marquis Classics label. The recording, which features works by Mozart, Ravel, Bach, Scriabin and Gershwin received the following praise in the November/December 2007 issue of *American Record Guide*:

“Her eclectic program begins with the Bach-Marcello Concerto in D minor and continues with Mozart’s Sonata 10 in performances of both technical accomplishment and insight. While making little outward attempt to impress, Wang does just that, as the refinement and understated beauty of her playing – particularly in the slow movements – is of a loveliness to draw tears from a sensitive listener. Her immaculate appoggiaturas along with a touch of romantic expression clearly separate this artist from the high level of average we usually hear from young artists today.”

Reviewing this recording for *BBC Music Magazine*, critic Julian Haylock wrote the following:

“Wang’s immaculate phrasing and finger-work remain deeply impressive in the malevolent waltzing of the Ravel, Scriabin’s microcosmic musical implosions, and Gershwin’s re-appropriation of popular idioms. . . An impressive debut by any standards.” (November 1, 2007)

Ms. Wang completed studies at the Shanghai Conservatory and garnered an enviable record of first prize awards and special honors for her performances throughout China, most notably in the Fu Zhou National Piano Competition, Hang Zhou Instrumental Competition, Zhe Jiang Competition and the National Piano Competition in Beijing. She was heard with some of China’s leading orchestras, including the Beijing Opera House Symphony and the Zhe Jiang Symphony, and in many of the country’s most prestigious concert halls. In addition to her performances in China, Ms. Wang has been heard in Europe with the Tenerife Symphony of Spain. Ms. Wang, who began piano studies at the age of five, subsequently came to New York in 1997 and, in 2000, was awarded the “Certificate of Achievement” by the Associated Music Teacher League of New York, winning an opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Hall. She also pursued studies at the Manhattan School of Music and won the school’s Eisenberg Concerto Competition in 2002, as well as the Roy M. Rubinstein Award. Ms. Wang has been invited to perform at masterclasses given by many renowned piano teachers, including Byron Janis, Eugene Istomin, Ramzi Yassa, Yefim Bronfman, David Dubal and Joseph Kalichstein. Xiayin Wang holds a Bachelor’s, Master’s and Professional Studies degree from the Manhattan School of Music. Her principal teachers have included Dr. Solomon Mikowsky and Nina Svetlanova.