

IVO KALTCHEV

Pianist

Prizewinner of international piano competitions and a Bösendorfer Artist, Ivo Kaltchev is enjoying a successful performing career as recitalist, soloist with orchestras, chamber musician and recording artist. “Formidable technique” (*Piano Journal*, England), “possesses the genius of rubato” (*Diapason*, France), “superb musicianship” (*Phar*, Israel), “distinctive and original” (*Soviet Culture*, Russia), “impressive” (*Frankfurter Neue Presse*, Germany), “most beautifully and idiomatically played” (*International Record Review*, England), “glittering” (*The Washington Post*, USA), “his tonal qualities are astounding...first class” (*American Record Guide*, USA), “fine” (*Fanfare*, USA), “a master of the whole range of pianistic attacks and coloristic effects” (*The Star Ledger*, USA) - these are some of the words which music critics have used to describe Mr. Kaltchev’s unique artistry.

Mr. Kaltchev has performed in musical centers throughout the world, including Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, Kennedy Center, Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory Malii and Rachmaninov Halls, St. Petersburg State Philharmonic Hall, Warsaw National Philharmonic Hall, Teatro Verdi (Italy), Tel Aviv Museum Recanati Auditorium, Mendelssohn Hochschule für Musik Hall (Germany), Princeton University’s Richardson Auditorium and Bulgaria Hall. He has performed and taught at festivals throughout the world including the Perugia International Music Festival (Italy), Mozart International Music Festival (Frankfurt, Germany), the Toledo International Music Festival (Spain), the Sofia Music Weeks International Festival (Bulgaria), the Lincoln Center French Music Festival, the Prague Spring International Music Festival (Czech Republic), the Varna Summer International Festival (Bulgaria), the Rutgers SummerFest (USA), *Music Naturally* Summer Festival (USA), and Florida University Young Pianist Festival (USA). Some of the highlights of recent seasons include both a solo recital and a concerto performance with the New York Festival Orchestra (now EOS Orchestra) in Alice Tully Hall, performances of the complete solo piano works of Debussy and the complete songs of Henri Duparc as well as concerts in the U.S., China, Russia, Germany, Spain, Finland, Bulgaria, Italy, and the Virgin Islands. Mr. Kaltchev performs regularly at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory with Russian pianist Prof. Irina Koulikova. A respected chamber musician, Mr. Kaltchev has collaborated with New York Metropolitan Opera soloists Sharon Christman, Fabiana Bravo and Patrick Carfizzi; pianist Ilana Vered; Essex Quartet as well as members of the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra and Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. His engagements for the 2007-08 concert season include concerts and master classes in the United States, Italy, Serbia, France and Korea.

Mr. Kaltchev’s critically acclaimed commercial recordings on the Bulgarian “Gega New” label include an all-Charles Griffes CD (hailed by the French magazine *Diapason* as “the most accomplished interpretation known until now”) and a CD with the world premieres of solo piano works by the French composer Florent Schmitt. Mr. Kaltchev has been a featured artist for the New York City’s WNYC and WQXR Radio Stations, Radio Free Europe (Germany), Radio Moscow, Klara Radio Station (Brussels, Belgium), Bulgarian National TV and Radio, and many others.

Mr. Kaltchev holds the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Rutgers University (USA), the Master of Music degree from Yale University (USA), the Bachelor of Music degree from the Sofia State Academy of Music (Bulgaria) and a Diploma from the Franz Liszt Hochschule für Musik (Weimar, Germany). His principal teachers include pianists Ilana Vered, Boris Berman, Milena Mollova as well as chamber musicians from the Guarneri and Tokyo String Quartets. Dr. Kaltchev is a recipient of pedagogy awards for teaching excellence from the Piano Teachers Society of America and the Princeton Steinway Society. He has presented lectures, workshops and master classes at the World Piano Pedagogy Conference, the European Piano Teachers Association Conference, the American College Music Society Conference as well as in the United States, Europe, China, Korea and the Virgin Islands. Dr. Kaltchev is an active adjudicator

and has judged the Louisiana, Vladigerov, Jacinto Guerrero, International Young Artist and Los Angeles International Liszt piano competitions. Mr. Kaltchev's students are prizewinners of more than 20 piano competitions and have performed with numerous orchestras including I Solisti di Perugia (Italy).

Currently, Dr. Kaltchev is Professor of Piano and Chair of the Piano Division at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C (USA). He is also a Visiting Professor at the China Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China.