



## EMANUEL AX

### Piano

Born in Lvov, Poland, Emanuel Ax moved to Winnipeg, Canada, with his family when he was a young boy. His studies at the Juilliard School were supported by the sponsorship of the Epstein Scholarship Program of the Boys Clubs of America, and he subsequently won the Young Concert Artists Award. Additionally, he attended Columbia University, where he majored in French. Emanuel captured public attention in 1974 when he won the first Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Competition in Tel Aviv and in 1979 he won the coveted Avery Fisher Prize in New York.

This season Emanuel joins the Wiener Philharmoniker and long-time collaborative partner Bernard Haitink at the Salzburg, BBC Proms and Lucerne Festivals, as well as the London Symphony Orchestra and Sir Simon Rattle on an extensive tour of China and Hong Kong, and joining the Rotterdam Philharmonic at home in the Netherlands and on tour to the United States. He also returns to the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Europe, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia and Tonhalle Zurich, playing concertos by Brahms, Mozart and Chopin. During Summer 2020 Emanuel will also join the Staatskapelle Dresden on tour in the Mediterranean with Myung-Whun Chung. He also performs extensively in North America, including three concerts with regular partners Leonidas Kavakos and Yo-Yo Ma at Carnegie Hall in March 2020. Further participation in Carnegie Hall's celebration of Beethoven's 250th birthday will culminate in a solo recital in May preceded by recitals in Madison, Santa Barbara, Orange County, Washington, Las Vegas and Colorado Springs. With orchestra he can be heard in Houston, Baltimore, Atlanta, San Diego, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Montreal, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

Always a committed exponent of contemporary composers, with works written for him by John Adams, Christopher Rouse, Krzysztof Penderecki, Bright Sheng, and Melinda Wagner already in his repertoire, most recently he has added HK Gruber's *Piano Concerto* and Samuel Adams' *Impromptus*.

A Sony Classical exclusive recording artist since 1987, recent releases include Brahms Trios with Yo-Yo Ma and Leonidas Kavakos, Strauss' *Enoch Arden* narrated by Patrick Stewart, and discs of two-piano music by Brahms and Rachmaninoff with Yefim Bronfman. In 2015 Deutsche Grammophon released a duo recording with Itzhak Perlman of Sonatas by Fauré and Strauss, which the two artists presented on tour during the 2015/2016 season. Emanuel has received GRAMMY® Awards for the second and third volumes of his cycle of Haydn's piano sonatas. He has also made a series of Grammy-winning recordings with Yo-Yo Ma of the Beethoven and Brahms sonatas for cello and piano. His other recordings include the concertos of Liszt and Schoenberg, three solo Brahms albums, an album of tangos by Astor Piazzolla, and the premiere recording of John Adams's *Century Rolls* with the Cleveland Orchestra for Nonesuch. In the 2004/05 season Emanuel also contributed to an International EMMY® Award-Winning BBC documentary commemorating the Holocaust that aired on the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

A frequent and committed partner for chamber music, he has worked regularly with such artists as Young Uck Kim, Cho-Liang Lin, Yo-Yo Ma, Edgar Meyer, Peter Serkin, Jaime Laredo, and the late Isaac Stern.

Emanuel lives in New York with his wife, the pianist Yoko Nozaki, and they have two children, Joseph and Sarah. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and holds honorary Doctorates of music from Yale and Columbia Universities.

For the most up-to-date biography, please contact us. This biography should not be edited without permission from Askonas Holt.

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