

Steinway Society Announces Fall 2021 Home Concert Hall Series

Virtual series continues to bring outstanding piano performances to classical music lovers

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San Jose, CA—Four outstanding international classical pianists will be performing for Steinway Society – The Bay Area this Fall in the Home Concert Hall virtual series.

Steinway Society's 27th season launches in September with American pianist Claire Huangci, followed by Finnish performer Juho Pohjonen, and Russian artists Anna Tsybuleva and Nikolay Khozyainov.

"We place the utmost importance on the comfort and safety of our patrons," said Kathy You Wilson, Steinway Society President. "Accordingly, we've decided to present the first four concerts of the season as a continuation of our Home Concert Hall series--making these performances available directly in your home over the Internet.

"We hope to return to live performances in early 2022—presuming it is safe and feasible to do so," she added.

Innovative Video Performances Watched at Your Leisure

The series consists of recordings produced specifically for Steinway Society – The Bay Area that are not available elsewhere on the Internet.

Each month's concert is released on a given date. Viewers will be able to view the recording as many times as they would like during the four-day performance window. Each artist has been invited to give a short talk before the performance about their choice of pieces, their musical lives, and how the pandemic has impacted them. A recorded pre-concert lecture by Bay Area classical music expert Dr. Gary Lemco will be available for complimentary download as well.

Prices Set Low to Allow Greater Participation

Now in its second season, the Home Concert Hall offers highly affordable ticket prices. Virtual tickets are priced at \$25 per concert for one viewer, and \$35 for two or more attendees. The entire four-concert series is available at the special promotional price of \$90 for one viewer, and \$125 for two or more attendees.

"With our virtual Home Concert Hall series, every seat is always a front-row seat," said Kathy You Wilson. "This allows classical music lovers in the Bay Area and around the world to join us for these

exceptional performances, while we continue to provide support to outstanding artists whose livelihoods are still severely impacted by the pandemic.”

Sponsored by MTAC Santa Clara County Branch

This season’s concerts are presented in memory of Frieda Ann Murphy by the Music Teachers’ Association of California (MTAC) Santa Clara County Branch. Frieda Ann Murphy was a native Californian who was an accomplished concert organist, as well as a member of the American Guild of Organists, and the Music Teachers’ Association of California (MTAC). In 2019, the MTAC Santa Clara Branch established annual keyboard performances in her memory.

Tickets Available Now

Tickets for the performances may be purchased in advance by going to steinwaysociety.com/tickets/ or by contacting the Steinway Society box office at 408-300-5635.

Performance Details

Who: Steinway Society - The Bay Area presents

What: The Fall 2021 Home Concert Hall

When: September through December 2021

Artists:

- Claire Huangci – September 17-20, 2021
- Juho Pohjonen – October 15-18, 2021
- Anna Tsybuleva – November 19-22, 2021
- Nikolay Khozyainov – December 10-13, 2021

Where: Online at www.steinwaysociety.com

Tickets:

Single tickets: \$25 for one viewer; \$35 for two or more attendees

Four-Concert Subscription: \$90 for one viewer; \$125 for two or more attendees

www.steinwaysociety.com

About the Artists

Claire Huangci - September 17-20, 2021

American pianist Claire Huangci began her international career at the age of nine, quickly standing out as an expressive interpreter of Chopin—winning first prizes at the Chopin competitions in Darmstadt and Miami in 2009 and 2010. In 2011, she was the youngest participant to receive second prize at the ARD International Music Competition in Munich. Since then, Claire has given solo recitals and appeared with international orchestras in prestigious halls in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Claire’s wide range of repertoire spans from Bach and Scarlatti to Bernstein, Gulda, and Corigliano. Her acclaimed CDs include solo performances of Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Scarlatti, Chopin, and

Rachmaninoff, as well as several performances with orchestras. Her 2020 chamber music debut album with the Trio Machiavelli garnered outstanding reviews for the group's interpretations of the Ravel trio and Chausson piano quartet.

"...radiant virtuosity, artistic sensitivity, keen interactive sense and subtle auditory dramaturgy."
-Salzburger Nachrichten

Photo courtesy of the artist

Juho Pohjonen – October 15-18, 2021

Finnish pianist Juho Pohjonen has received widespread acclaim for his profound musicianship and distinctive interpretations of repertoire from Bach to Salonen. His interpretations are known for their intensity, thoughtfulness, and fearless musical conviction. He performs widely in Europe, Asia, and North America. He has won numerous prizes in both Finnish and international competitions. In 2009, Sir András Schiff chose Pohjonen for Germany's Klavier Festival Ruhr Scholarship and its prestigious invitation to play at the Festival.

"... pearly tone, articulate touch and supple legato phrasing ... His sensitivity in unfurling Chopin's intimate musical grammar was always evident."
-Chicago Tribune

Photo by J Henry Fair

Anna Tsybuleva – November 19-22, 2021

Described by *Gramophone* magazine as embodying "superb pianism and intelligent musicianship," Russian pianist Anna Tsybuleva emerged into the international spotlight in 2015 when she won first prize in the Leeds International Piano Competition. Her winning performances include top prizes at the Gilels, Hamamatsu, and Takamatsu international piano competitions.

Anna has appeared on some of the world's greatest stages in Europe and Asia. She has completed post-graduate studies at the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory. Her debut recording, *Fantasiën (Fantasies)*, has garnered strong praise for its imaginative and carefully crafted program.

A pianist of rare gifts. Not since Murray Perahia's triumph in 1972 has Leeds had a winner of this musical poise and caliber."
-International Piano Magazine

Photo by Olympia Orlova

Nikolay Khozyainov – December 10-13, 2021

The New York Times wrote that the music world was taking notice of the “stunning virtuosity and prodigious technique” of Nikolay Khozyainov, and audiences agree: they have acclaimed his performances at Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, and Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow.

He made his debut at the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatory at the age of seven and went on to study at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory. Khozyainov has won first prizes in numerous international competitions and was awarded Distinction in the 2010 Fryderyk Chopin Competition, where he was the youngest finalist.

His powers of expression as a great Romantic artist perhaps come in part from the way Khozyainov views music. As he told *Russian Mind*, “Whenever I play, I express what I am feeling and thinking about the music and give all of my heart to the audience. I aim to be myself and always try to be completely honest. Every composer speaks as if they were addressing their god and, when re-creating their works, we performers should seek to find that voice.”

“He has everything: a big sound, splendid technique, and a musicality far beyond his years. This CD would do credit to any pianist...”
— *Fanfare*

Photo by Teruyuki Yoshimura

About the Steinway Society – The Bay Area

Steinway Society - The Bay Area is a nonprofit organization based in Silicon Valley. Now in its 27th season, this dedicated group of musicians, pianists, teachers, and arts lovers promotes excellence in piano performance and music education. Each season, Steinway Society presents a series of classical piano concerts featuring international award-winning pianists, as well as an active school music program. For more information on season subscriptions, individual tickets, the artists, and Steinway Society, go to www.SteinwaySociety.com or contact (408) 300-5635.

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