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Born in Montréal, Canadian pianist Lucille Chung has been acclaimed for her “stylish and refined” performances by Gramophone. She is the First Prize winner of the Stravinsky International Piano Competition and made her debut at the age of 10 with the Montréal Symphony Orchestra. Charles Dutoit subsequently invited her as soloist on the orchestra’s tour to Asia. She has performed with well known orchestras around the world including the Philadelphia Orchestra, Moscow Virtuosi, and BBC National Orchestra of Wales with conductors such as Krzysztof Penderecki and Vladimir Spivakov.

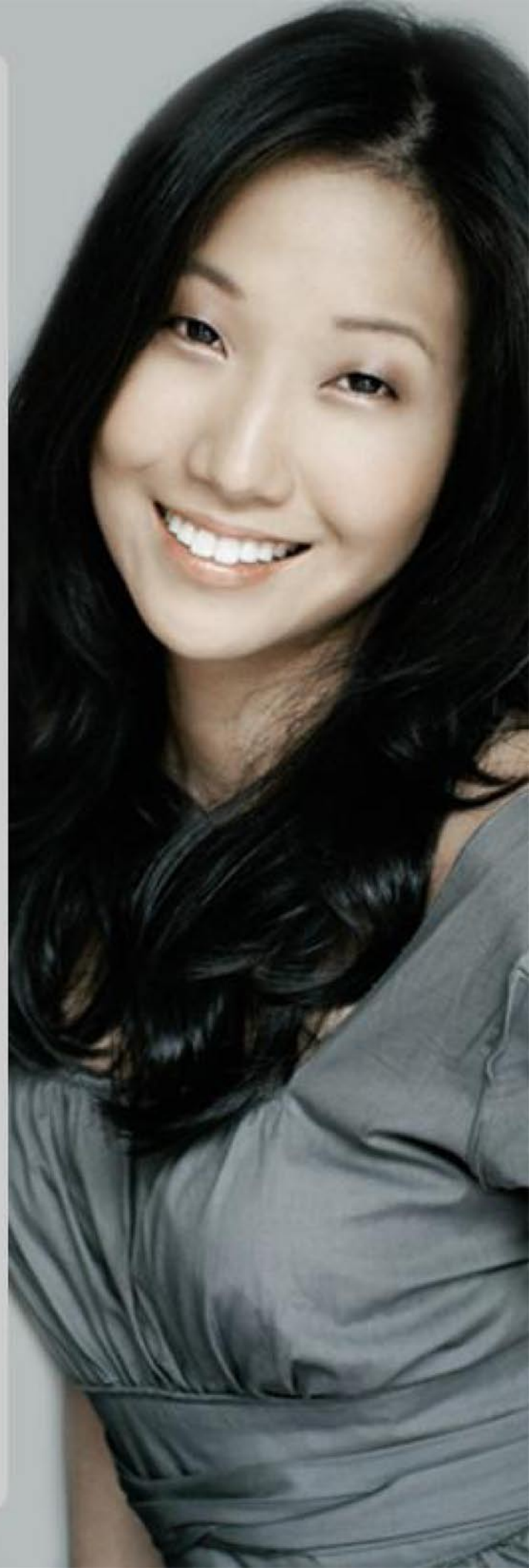
Lucille has given solo recitals on the finest concert halls including the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Wigmore Hall in London, Madrid’s Auditorio Nacional, and festivals around the world. She recently premiered the 6 Piano Etudes by I.D. Martinez at the Santander Festival.

Regarded as one of the most critically acclaimed pianists on the North American concert platforms, Lucille graduated from both the Curtis Institute and the Juilliard School before she turned twenty.

Since 2001 Lucille has been a recording artist of the Dynamic label and has been receiving excellent reviews worldwide for her discs of the complete works of Ligeti as well as Scriabin piano works.

She now records exclusively for Disques XXI-21/Universal.

www.lucillechung.com



A close-up portrait of a young woman with long, dark hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a black top. The background is dark and out of focus.

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Born in Montréal, Canadian pianist Lucille Chung has been acclaimed for her “stylish and refined performances” by Gramophone magazine, “combining vigor and suppleness with natural eloquence and elegance” (Le Soir).

She made her debut at the age of ten with the Montréal Symphony Orchestra and Charles Dutoit subsequently invited her to be a featured soloist during the MSO Asian Tour in 1989. Since then, she has performed an extensive concerto repertoire with over 50 leading orchestras such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, Moscow Virtuosi, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Flemish Radio Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica de Tenerife, Staatskapelle Weimar, Philharmonie de Lorraine, Orchestra Sinfonica Siciliana, Belgrade Philharmonic, the Seoul Philharmonic, KBS Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony, UNAM Philharmonic (Mexico), Israel Chamber Orchestra as well as all the major Canadian orchestras, including Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, National Arts Centre (Ottawa), Calgary, Winnipeg and Metropolitan, among others. She has appeared with conductors such as Krzysztof Penderecki, Vladimir Spivakov, Gerd Albrecht, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Peter Ondjjan and Charles Dutoit.

As a recitalist she has performed in over 30 countries in prestigious venues such as the Wigmore Hall in London, New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center and Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., the Dame Myra Hess Series in Chicago, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Madrid's Auditorio Nacional, the Great Hall of the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest, and the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels. Festival appearances include the Verbier Festival in Switzerland, MDR Sommer Festival in Dresden, Lübecker Kammermusikfest, Santander International Festival in Spain where she premiered the 6 Piano Etudes of Israel David Martínez, Felicja Blumental Festival in Israel, Montreal International Festival, Ottawa Chamber Festival, Vancouver MusicFest, Bard Music Festival in NY, International Keyboard Institute and Festival in NYC, ChangChun Festival in China, and the Bravissimo Festival in Guatemala.


In 1989, she was recognized on the international scene as the First Prize winner at the Stravinsky International Piano Competition. She won Second Prize at the 1992 Montreal International Music Competition, at which she also won a Special Prize for the best interpretation of the unpublished work. In 1993, she received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Governor General of Canada and in 1994 won the Second Prize at the First International Franz Liszt Competition in Weimar. In 1999, she was awarded the prestigious Virginia Parker Prize by the Canada Council for the Arts.

She graduated from both the Curtis Institute of Music and the Juilliard School before she turned twenty. She decided to further her studies in London with Maria Curcio-Diamand, Schnabel's last student, at the "Mozarteum" in Salzburg with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling and received the Konzertexam Diplom from the Hochschule "Franz Liszt" in Weimar, where she worked with the late Lazar Berman. She also graduated from the Accademia Pianistica in Imola, Italy with the honorary title of "Master" and most recently from the SMU Meadows School of the Arts under Joaquín Achúcarro, where she is now on the faculty. Ms. Chung is the recipient of the prestigious Honors Diploma at the Accademia Chigiana in Siena, Italy.

Lucille Chung has been hailed as “a considerable artist, admirable for her bold choice of music” by the Sunday Times for her recordings of the complete piano works by György Ligeti on the Dynamic label. The first volume was released in 2001 to great critical acclaim, receiving the maximum R10 from Répertoire in France, 5 Stars from the BBC Music Magazine, and 5 Stars on Fono Forum in Germany. The final volume, which also contains works for two pianos, was recorded with her husband, Alessio Bax and once again received the prestigious R10 from Répertoire. Her all-Scriabin CD won the “Best Instrumental Recording” prize at the 2003 Prelude Classical Awards in Holland as well as the coveted R10 Répertoire in France. She also recorded the two Mendelssohn Piano Concerti on the Richelieu/Radio-Canada label, which was nominated for the Prix Opus in Canada. In August 2005, she recorded Saint-Saëns' Carnival of the Animals with the Fort Worth Symphony under Maestro Miguel Harth-Bedoya, which was released in 2006. In 2007 she also released a solo album for the Fazioli Concert Hall Series. Lucille has just signed an exclusive recording contract with Disques XXI-21/Universal and her first album featuring music by Saint-Saëns will be released in October 2009.

Lucille is fluent in French, English, Korean, Italian, German, and Russian. She and husband, pianist Alessio Bax make their home in New York City and are artistic co-directors of the Dallas-based Joaquín Achúcarro Foundation.

www.lucillechung.com



“...riveting, illuminating, fiery, transcendental pianism...”
Jed Distler, New York Concert Review

“Ms. Chung, a first-rate pianist by any standard and a name to watch.”
Young, American Record Guide

“Chung exudes grace and poise at the keyboard, directing all of her energy toward making the music speak clearly.”
John Terauds, Toronto Star

Lucille Chung on the Fast Track
“...Chung’s blazing gutsy performance was exciting and rewarding...”
Arthur R. Smith, The Washington Post

“Lucille Chung’s stylish and refined performance...with imperturbable clarity and insight”
Bryce Morrison, Gramophone Awards Issue

“Lucille Chung’s brilliant, crystalline performances are certainly very impressive indeed.”
Misha Donat, BBC Music Magazine

“Chung showed poetry in her fingers...”
Lloyd Dykk, Vancouver Sun

“...a bravura display of extroversion and sensitivity.”
Joshua Kosman, San Francisco Chronicle

“Lucille Chung’s cultivated pianism and individual artistry”
Jed Distler, ClassicsToday.com

“This was vivid, stylish, and convincingly lyric playing, and Chung gave an unstinting display of her masterly pianism.”
J.H. Snape, Review Vancouver

“She proved herself to be a versatile, intelligent artist.”
Andrew Thompson, Winnipeg Free Press, Canada

“Chung’s kind of lyrical poise makes a far stronger statement than the forceful playing that almost every pianist nowadays thinks mandatory. Chung showed that less could be more.”
Ilse Zadrozny, The Gazette, Montréal

“Chung’s playing is characterized by an inner freedom and coloring of sounds as well as an amazing musical harmony.”
Rena Shereshevskaya, New Times Soviet Weekly of World Affairs

“La séduction enflammée et raffinée de Lucille Chung ... alliant vigueur et souplesse, dans une éloquence aussi naturelle qu’élégante.”
Michel Debrocq, Le Soir, Bruxelles

“Pleine de moyens, la jeune interprète possède un pouvoir certain, celui de susciter graduellement l’intérêt de spectateur, pour finir par le plonger dans une sorte de joie bienfaisante.”
Richard Boisvert, Le Soleil, Québec

“... elle a une incroyable façon de retenir la tension qu’elle génère, qui peut rendre fou... La force qu’elle développe est étonnante pour une telle jeune femme, à en faire oublier sa virtuosité et sa technicité par un charme vraiment étonnant...On reparlera d’elle...”

R10
Jean Vermeil, Répertoire, France

“Elle allie la science à la spontanéité, avec une technique invisible. C’est tout l’art du naturel.”

R10
Jean Vermeil, Répertoire, France

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