



Andrea Padova

The brilliant Italian pianist Andrea Padova was recognized early on as a young virtuoso and a musician of great promise by both Leonard Bernstein and Pierre Boulez. He first fulfilled this promise by winning "J.S. Bach International Piano Competition" in 1995. Since then he has concertized throughout the world, including New York (Carnegie Hall), Washington (Washington Performing Arts Society), Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Pasadena (Ambassador Auditorium), Montreal, Vancouver, Prague, Munich (Gasteig), Athens, Tel Aviv (Friends of the Israel Philharmonic), Istanbul (Presidential Symphony Orchestra Hall), Rome (Radio Symphony Orchestra) and Milan (Teatro alla Scala). Following his New York debut in 1997 the critics praised his "extraordinary gifts, pulsating interpretation, and modern and vibrating conception". His last Washington performance prompted the Washington Post to write "the pianist Andrea Padova turns sound into poetry. His virtuosity, sensitively managed, resounds through every measure".

Born in 1962, he studied piano with Vincenzo Vitale, Aldo Ciccolini, Eric Larsen and composition with Franco Donatoni at the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome. Later he developed his knowledge of 18th century performance practice and that of ancient instruments. In addition to the "J.S. Bach International Piano Competition", Mr. Padova has been the recipient of many other prizes, including those from the competitions "J. Hofmann", "Ibla Grand Prize" and "V. Bellini". Harold Schonberg wrote of Padova's first CD, a strong personality, conviction, freedom, and style". His second CD, on the Stradivarius label, was named one of the three best piano recordings of 1997 by CD Classics Magazines.

Widely considered as a leading interpreter of Bach (he is often called upon to give master classes on Bach on the modern piano) he is no less at home in the classic and romantic repertoire. The Saarbruecker Zeitung observed that "this versatility marks him as a musician of top rank".

Andrea Padova brings the fiery excitement of virtuosity to his performances, but never at the expense of the music. He is a remarkable musician with tremendous skills of artistic expression reminiscent of the great pianistic communicators of the past.

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