

DI WU

Finalist

Thirteenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition

Praised in the *Wall Street Journal* as “a most mature and sensitive pianist” and named one of the “up-and-coming talents” in classical music by *Musical America*, Chinese pianist Di Wu continues to grow her reputation as an elegant and powerful musician. She has charmed audiences around the world with her “charisma, steely technique, and keen musical intelligence” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*) and her “fire and authority” (*Washington Post*).

Ms. Wu made her professional debut at the age of 14 with the Beijing Philharmonic and has since been in high demand as recitalist and soloist. Highlights of the past season include a performance with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Christoph Eschenbach at Verizon Hall, performing Messiaen’s rarely-heard *Turangalila-Symphonie*, as well as a return engagement with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. She has also appeared with The Philadelphia Orchestra, Hamburg Philharmonic, New York Pops, National Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Colorado Springs Philharmonic, and Erie Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2010, Ms. Wu was presented in an arena concert as soloist in the *Nodame Cantabile Orchestra Concert–Grand Finale*, appearing in front of an audience of over 11,000 people and recorded for release by Epic Records.

Sought after as a recitalist, Ms. Wu made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2005 in Weill Recital Hall and in 2009 in Alice Tully Hall at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts as winner of The Juilliard School’s Petschek Award. She has also made debuts at the Ravinia Festival in Chicago, May Festival in Cincinnati, CU Artist Series in Boulder as a special guest artist of the Takács Quartet, and the Steinway Society Bay Area in San Francisco. Other engagements have taken her throughout the United States, China, Canada, Barbados, and Hong Kong. Ms. Wu has toured Europe extensively, playing recitals at the Mozart Gesellschaft Dortmund, Klavier-Festival Ruhr, and Busoni International Piano Festival, and at such venues as the Musée d’Orsay and Musée de Grenoble.

In 2009, Ms. Wu was named a finalist of the Thirteenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Among her competition awards, Ms. Wu also counts the 2007 Astral National Audition, which won her representation by Astral Artists, and the Vendome Virtuosi prize at Lisbon’s Vendome Competition in 2009.

Ms. Wu’s recording of Brahms’ *Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Books I and II* received praise from *Musical America*, who wrote “Her account of the Brahms is amazing. She takes all the difficult options

(her glissandos are unbelievable!), and she conjures from the piano absolutely gossamer, violinistic textures, joyous humor, and brilliant air-borne tempos.”

Born in China, Ms. Wu moved to the United States in 1999 to study at the Manhattan School of Music with Zenon Fishbein. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music, studying with Gary Graffman. She went on to The Juilliard School, where she earned a Master of Music degree under Yoheved Kaplinsky and an Artist Diploma under the guidance of Joseph Kalichstein and Robert McDonald.

The petite pianist describes herself as a “huge foodie” and enjoys cooking and sampling New York City’s wide array of restaurants.

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Please disregard all previous biographical information about Ms. Di Wu. All changes to this biography must be approved by the artist.