

Violin Piano Duo of Volodja Balzalorsky and Aleksandar Serdar

Duo of two multiple award winning artists.

The violinist Volodja Balzalorsky and the pianist Aleksandar Serdar, both internationally acclaimed artists started to play together after meeting at Evmelia Festival in Greece in March 2015.

They successfully performed together at Festival Spectrum and Ljubljana Summer Festival in Slovenia, Festival-Incontri Musicali Cividale in Italy, The Kolarac Podium of Chamber Music in Belgrade, Serbia, Concerts Clàssics L'Escala Empuries 2017 in Spain, and International Concert Series Autonomusica Cosenza 2017. Highlights of the season 2017-2018 will include Tour of the Duo Balzalorsky-Serdar in various countries in Europe.

Volodja Balzalorsky is internationally acclaimed violinist. He is Two Time Winner of Independent Music Awards 2014 - on receiving top honors in the Live Performance EP category for Karol Szymanowski: Violin Sonata in D Minor with the pianist Hinko Haas, and Vox Pop Independent Music Award 2014 for Debussy Violin Sonata performing with the pianist Christoph Theiler.

He was also Four-Time Nominee of IMAs 2014.

Volodja Balzalorsky is recipient of several further international music awards such as The Hollywood Music in Media Award, The Inland Empire Music Award, The Ontario Independent Music Award, The Canary Island Music Award, Julij Betetto Music Award.

Numerous highly praised concerts, broadcasts, CD and TV recordings in various countries have established his reputation as an artist with a sensitive, intelligent, and intuitive gift of interpretation, a polished technique, and a rich, full tone.

After his successful performance in the international cycle Violin Virtuosos in Belgrade, the esteemed critic in former Yugoslavia, Slobodan Turlakov, defined his artistic personality with the following words: Volodja Balzalorsky is passionately devoted to violin, inspired by the flame which distinguishes the most refined and authentic violinists capable of building the dramaturgy of musical works in the most natural and persuasive manner. His interpretation calls for an exalted and compassionate listener, which is the *d i s t i n c t i o n* of rare and predestined musicians...(Vecernje Novosti, Belgrade).

Volodja Balzalorsky has been a guest artist at international festivals and concert series in various countries such as Italy, France, Austria, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Germany, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Turkey, Portugal, Norway, Denmark and USA.

Volodja Balzalorsky is particularly active in the field of chamber music. He works with many international groups and ensembles, and for several years has successfully performed in DUO with pianists Christoph Theiler and Hinko Haas. Critics comment

on the degree to which he is able to develop and maintain unity with his musical partners in this milieu, presenting ...an exceptional harmony of ease and authenticity of performance. He is a member of renowned Arael Piano Trio (www.amaeltrio.com). In 2015 he started to play in Duo with renowned pianist Aleksandar Serdar (www.aleksanderserdar.com).

Pianist

Aleksandar Serdar won several international competition awards including the Monza, Carlo Zecchi and Vercelli in Italy, Palm Beach and Cincinnati in the USA and the 4th prize at the Arthur Rubinstein competition in Tel Aviv. A native of Belgrade, Serbia, Aleksandar Serdar graduated from the Art Academy of Novi Sad and received his Master of Music degree at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore where he studied with Leon Fleisher for five years. Later he continued his studies with Sergio Perticaroli at the Academy of Santa Cecilia in Rome.

Currently, Serdar is a Professor of Piano at Academy of Arts in Belgrade and at the Faculty of Arts in Nis, both in Serbia.

Aleksandar Serdar performed in Italy (Conservatory hall in Milano, Palermo, Venezia, Roma, Bari, Trento, Reggio, Torino), the United States (namely at Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center in New York, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Washington DC), France (Paris-Musee d'Orsay, Auditorium du Louvre, Theatre du Chatelet, Nice, Lion, Orleon, Marseil, Toulouse and Festivals such as La Roque d'Antheron, Sully sur Loire, St. Riquier, Piano Jacobin, Radio France Montpellier), Switzerland (at the prestigious Zurich Tonehalle), Russia (at the Saint Petersburg festival and in Moscow), Israel, Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Slovenia (in Ljubljana, Bled Festival, Celje, Gorizia), Croatia (Zagreb and Dubrovnik Summer Festival), Brazil, Peru, Portugal (Lisabon festival Folles Journeaus), Maroco, Lebanon (Bustani Festival in Beirut), Thailand, Japan, Canada, Luxembourg, Germany (Munich, Nuremberg, Hamburg-Schwlesli Holstain festival).

Aleksandar Serdar played with such orchestras as the Dresden Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, Bremen Philharmonic, Slovenian Philharmonic, Sophia Philharmonic, San Jose Philharmonic, Cincinnati Philharmonic, Orchestre National de Lille, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Belgrade Philharmonic, Zagreb Philharmonic, Athens Philharmonic, Vancouver Island Symphony, Saint Petersburg Philharmonic, Israel Chamber Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Santa Cecilia and with conductors Marcello Viotti, Erich Kunzel, Emil Tabakov, Mendi Rodan, Jean-Claude Casadesus, Milan Natchev and Jeansuk Kahidze.

Serdar's CD, released by EMI Classics, in 1988 arouse strong interest from promoters and the press. His second double disc has been released in Luxembourg in December 2004. He has recently recorded a first CD for the Serbian discographic house PGP with an all- Baroque repertoire.