
Guest Artist Series

2010-2011 Season

Tuesday, November 2
Helen M. Hosmer Hall
7:30 PM

Brian Preston, Piano**Frederic Chopin
(1810-1849)**

Nocturne in F# major, Op. 15, No. 2

Mazurka in A-flat major, Op. 50, No. 2

Polonaise-Fantaisie in A-flat major, Op. 61

Scherzo No. 4 in E major, Op. 54

Pause

Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Op. 58

Allegro maestoso

Scherzo: Molto vivace

Largo

Finale: Presto non tanto

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Biography

Brian Preston has performed solo concerts throughout the U.S. and Canada, in the Virgin Islands, and in many of Europe's leading music centers. In 1981 he made his New York City debut at Lincoln Center with glowing reviews. He has five commercial recordings to date.

A most dedicated teacher, he is a member of the Nazareth College piano faculty near his private studio in Rochester. Mr. Preston's pre-college private students have won first prizes in numerous national, state and regional competitions. Several have been selected to perform with orchestras including the Rochester Philharmonic and the Niagara Falls Symphony.

A native of Aberdeen, Maryland, Brian Preston's formative years were spent studying piano with Baltimore's premier teachers Dr. Otto Ortmann and his daughter Dorothea Ortmann. In later high school years he worked with artist-teacher Konrad Wolff of the Peabody Conservatory. He made his concerto debut with the Baltimore Symphony at age 17 performing Mozart's Concerto in A Major, K. 488.

In 1981 Brian Preston became the only pianist since 1968 to be awarded the Artist Diploma from the Eastman School of Music where he received his Bachelor's and Master's of Music degrees under the tutelage of Cecile Genhart. While still a student, he performed both Brahms Concerti with the Eastman Philharmonia in the Eastman Theatre.

Mr. Preston has been a triple prizewinner in the Young Artist Competition of the National Federation of Music Clubs, a double prizewinner in the Washington International, and the first prizewinner of the Baltimore Music Club's Professional Division Competition.

Along with his teaching and performing career, Brian Preston serves as the Artistic Director of the Thousand Islands International Piano Competition in Cape Vincent, New York. He has served as Vice-President and Competition Chair for the NYS Federation of Music Clubs and remains active chairing various music organization committees.

Reviews

“There was a full measure of excitement in his playing, his touch and pacing were ideal.”
New York Times

“Finish and thoughtfulness made his recital an especially satisfying one.”
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“Extremely delicately developed feeling for sound nuances. And what tone!”
Berlin Tagespiegel

“A pianist possessing real charm, with musical instincts very intelligently put to work.”
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