



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STEINWAY & SONS RELEASES INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED PIANIST SU YEON KIM'S DEBUT ALBUM 'MOZART RECITAL'

The Korean pianist is the Grand Laureate of the 2021 Concours musical international de Montréal



June 20, 2023 - Steinway & Sons will release internationally acclaimed pianist Su Yeon Kim's first album, Mozart Recital on July 7. The young artist has spent much of her career delving deep into Mozart's music and is the 2021 Grand Laureate of the <u>Concours musical international de</u> <u>Montréal</u>. The elite-level competition was held online in 2021 and had exceptional reach internationally, bringing much attention to Su Yeon Kim's performance.

Within the album, Su Yeon Kim traverses the emotional highs and lows at the core of Mozart's catalog, from the humorous Variations on "Unser dummer Pōbel meint" and Gigue in G major to the grief-stricken Adagio in B minor and Allegro in G minor. Mozart Recital is available for purchase and streaming at www.steinway.com/music-and-artists/label/mozart-recital-su-yeon-kim

For Su Yeon Kim, recording Mozart's music is a feat that carries great weight, and must be done with care. Her studies at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg, and triumphs at the Mozart

International Competition and the Concours musical international de Montréal prepared her for the venture.

"Even after 10 years of diligent studies, I still felt like there were a few steps left before I fully understood Mozart's music and the spirit behind it," Su Yeon Kim said. "His music is full of life and power, encompassing the full spectrum of human emotions and transcending all eras and cultural boundaries."

Mozart Recital opens with the entertaining **Gigue in G major, K 574** "**Eine kleine Gigue.**" Mozart composed the Gigue in Leipzig on May 16, 1789, where it became part of the album of Saxon court organist, Herr Engel. The Baroque-style piece draws inspiration from traditional dances and later shifts into quirky rhythms and registers. The energetic feeling from the Gigue compliments the playful **Variations on** "**Unser dummer Pöbel meint**." Mozart first improvised the piece during one of his concerts with Gluck in attendance. The simple theme gives way into delightfully pretentious phases sure to entertain listeners.

The lively pieces continue with **12 Contredanses for Count Czernin, K 269b**, composed in 1777. Written for Johann Rudolf Count Czernin, the piece recalls the cheerful but complex styles of Alpine folk music. Contredanses made its own mark on folk music, with elements from the piece still being heard today at folk dance festivals in Salzburg.

The album features two of Mozart's more well-known sonatas: **Sonata No. 9 in D major, K 311** and **Sonata No. 12 in F major, K 332**. Su Yeon Kim describes the sonatas as "simple yet brilliant." While playing Mozart and the sonatas in particular, she often referenced pianist Artur Schnabel's words: "Mozart's sonatas are too easy for children and too difficult for artists."

Sorrowful, but no less brilliant are the **Allegro in G minor** and **Adagio in B minor**, Mozart's only complete composition in that key. The Allegro, while more obscure, evokes an atmosphere of grand tragedy, offering a tender listening experience.

The final piece **Ave verum corpus**, originally a motet, shows how Mozart can derive beauty from deep sorrow.

"Sharing Mozart's affection with listeners in every possible form was what I had in mind throughout the process of deciding the works for the album," Su Yeon Kim said. "I feel that I also learned, through Mozart's music, how to face myself in unfiltered way, how to accept and express from painful sadness to sheer joy."

ABOUT SU YEON KIM

The Korean pianist Su Yeon Kim achieved international acclaim when she won the first prize at the Concours musical international de Montréal 2021 and the second prize at the International Mozart Competition 2020 in Salzburg. Her recent debut appearance with the Orchestre

symphonique de Montréal under Maestro Osmo Vänskä in October 2022 marks a turning point in her career, after giving concerts in numerous prestigious venues throughout the world, such as Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, NDR-Sendesaal Hannover, Herkulessaal Munich, Franz Liszt Hall Budapest, Teatro alla Scala Milan, Mozarteum Grand Hall Salzburg, Salle Cortot Paris, Kennedy Center Washington D.C., Canadian Opera Company Toronto, Hamarikyu Asahi Hall Tokyo and Seoul Arts Centre, among others.

Su Yeon Kim has performed as a soloist with numerous orchestras, including the Royal Philharmonic, Slovakia Philharmonic, Orchestra dell'Accademia Teatro alla Scala, Salzburg Orchestra Soloists, Mozarteum Orchestra and Krakow Philharmonic. Her long-standing desire to learn the art of conducting an orchestra from the keyboard became a reality when the Steinway Prizewinner Concerts network invited her to participate in Paris Play-Direct Academy of the Orchestre de chambre de Paris which culminated in a performance at Philharmonie de Paris.

This season, Su Yeon Kim will regularly perform in Seoul as the Artist-in-Residence of Kumho Art Hall. Born in Seoul in 1994, Su Yeon Kim has studied with Choong-Mo Kang at the Korea National Institute for the Gifted in Arts, Eunok Kim and Eunju Heo. She moved to Salzburg at the age of 19 where she completed her studies under the tutelage of Pavel Gililov. In addition, she was mentored by Paul Gulda and received valuable inspiration from Alfred Brendel, Sir András Schiff and Robert Levin.

The **STEINWAY & SONS** music label produces exceptional albums of solo piano music across all genres. The label — a division of STEINWAY & SONS, maker of the world's finest pianos — is a perfect vessel for producing the finest quality recordings by some of the most talented pianists in the world.

-30-

CONTACT Amanda Sweet (347) 564-3371 amanda@bucklesweet.com