



Pascal AMOYEL (Piano - France)

Photo : Jean-Baptiste Millot

Winner of the 2005 Music Award in the "Instrumental Soloist of the Year" category, Pascal Amoyel was awarded a Grand Prix du Disque in Warsaw in 2010 by the prestigious Chopin Society for his *Complete Nocturnes* alongside Martha Argerich and Nelson Freire, a recording described by *Classica* magazine as a "miracle that we no longer dared to hope for, that we listen to with our mouths open, overwhelmed by such beauty". His interpretation of Liszt's *Funérailles* was also hailed as a historic benchmark, and his recording of *Harmonies Poétiques et Religieuses* also by Liszt was voted one of the 5 best of 2007 by the Arte channel.

At the age of 10, when he began his piano studies at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris (Marc André's class), he was quickly spotted by Georges Cziffra, whom he then followed to France and Hungary. At 17, after a scientific baccalaureate, he decided to devote himself entirely to music. He obtained a concert degree from the Ecole Normale de Paris, the First Prizes in Piano and Chamber Music at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris (class of Jacques Rouvier and Pascal Devoyon), became a laureate of the Menuhin and Cziffra Foundations, and subsequently won the First Prize at the International Competition for Young Pianists in Paris. He also received advice from Daniel Blumenthal, Aldo Ciccolini, Lazar Berman, Maria Curcio, Véra Gornostaeva, Dominique Merlet, Dériré N'Kaoua, Jacqueline Landowski and Lev Naoumov.

It was the beginning of an international career that led him to perform on the greatest stages: Berlin Philharmonic, Muziekgebouw of Amsterdam, Palais des Beaux-Arts of Brussels, Cité de la Musique and Salle Pleyel in Paris, United States, Canada, Russia, China, Korea...

His solo recordings or with cellist Emmanuelle Bertrand have received the highest awards: Gramophone, Cannes Classical Awards, Télérama ffff, Diapason d'Or of the year, "Choc" of the Monde de la Musique, 10 by *Classica*, Annual Award of the German Record Critics... In his capacity as composer, Pascal Amoyel is a laureate of the Fondation d'Entreprise Banque Populaire. He is notably the author of the *Job cycle*, or *Dieu dans la tourmente* and of *Lettre à la femme aimée au sujet de la mort* (on poems by Jean-Pierre Siméon).

He is also involved in the creation of new concert forms: his show *Block 15 or Music in resistance* (directed by Jean Piat) was a great success and was adapted for France Télévisions; he also created *Le pianiste aux 50 doigts* and *Le jour où j'ai rencontré Franz Liszt* (directed by Christian Fromont) which were sold out at the Avignon Festival and for several months at Théâtre Le Ranelagh in Paris. Recently, he has created the family show

Une petite histoire de la grande musique. At the moment, his show *Looking for Beethoven* is a great success.

Professor of piano and improvisation at the Rueil-Malmaison Conservatoire, he created the Juniors Festival, in which children are the actors, including those with disabilities. He created and directs the Notes d'automne festival and is the sponsor of more than forty creations (with Jean-Pierre Marielle, Barbara Hendricks, Natalie Dessay, Richard Bohringer, Jacques Gamblin, Patrick Bruel...). He is also artistic advisor to the Estival de la Bâtie d'Urfé.

He is the author of the book *Si la musique t'était contée* (bleu nuit) and has produced a series of programmes on France Culture named *Une histoire de la musique*. First Grand Prix Arts-Deux Magots for "a musician with qualities of openness and generosity", Jean-Pierre Bloch de la Licra Prize for "the connection with human rights in his work", he is the sponsor of the association APTE, which gives music lessons to autistic children.

He was appointed to the ranks of Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres and Chevalier of the Ordre des Palmes Académiques.