

SHELDON ARTISTS

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Tom Borrow, *pianist*

In January 2019, Tom Borrow was called on to replace renowned pianist Khatia Buniatishvili in a series of 12 concerts with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. At only 36 hours' notice, he performed Ravel's Piano Concerto in G to sensational public and critical acclaim. The chief music critic of the Israel Broadcasting Corporation, Yossi Schiffmann, hailed his performance as "brilliant... outstanding", ending his review with the words, "Tom Borrow is already a star and we will all surely hear more about him". Following this successful series Tom was further presented by the IPO in gala concerts held by the orchestra in London and Mexico City. International Piano magazine's Summer 2019 issue included a two-page feature on Tom, calling him "the very definition of 'one to watch'". Gramophone magazine has also featured him as an outstanding young artist to watch.

Born in Tel Aviv in 2000, Tom Borrow has performed as soloist with all major orchestras of his native country, including the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra and the Israel Symphony Orchestra, among others. He began studying piano aged five with Dr. Michal Tal at the Givatayim Music Conservatory, and currently studies with Prof. Tomer Lev, Head of the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music at Tel Aviv University. For the past four years Tom has been regularly mentored by Murray Perahia, through the Jerusalem Music Centre's program for outstanding young musicians.

Tom has won every national piano competition in Israel, including first prize at the Israeli Radio & Jerusalem Symphony Young Artist Competition in Jerusalem, and three first prizes at the "Piano Forever" Competition in Ashdod (in three different age categories). In the summer of 2018 Tom won the prestigious "Maurice M. Clairmont" award, given to a single promising artist once every two years by the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and Tel-Aviv University.

After the Israel Philharmonic success, Tom has been invited by major orchestras around the world - the coming seasons will include debuts with the London Philharmonic, Santa Cecilia Orchestra, Czech Philharmonic, Sao Paulo Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic, 'La Verdi' Orchestra of Milan, New Jersey Symphony, and others - and is invited by leading conductors including Semyon Bychkov, Thierry Fischer, Xian Zhang, Omer Weller, Dan Ettinger and Yoel Levi. Tom has also recently toured to Eastern Europe with the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, to regular standing ovations, and to South Korea with the Tel Aviv Soloists.

Equally in-demand on the recital front, Tom is scheduled to make debuts with several leading recital series in North America (including Vancouver Recital Society and James Ehnes's Seattle Chamber Music Society). Elsewhere, 2021 will also see his debuts at the Verbier Festival, the Tsinandali Festival (Georgia), and the Biarritz Piano Festival. Previously he has performed at the Oxford Piano Festival, Tel Hai International Piano Masterclasses and Music Fest Perugia.

Tom regularly plays in chamber ensembles, as part of the Jerusalem Music Centre's David Goldman program for outstanding young musicians, and has performed in several live broadcast concerts of the Israel Broadcasting Authority. Throughout the many masterclasses Tom has participated in, he had the privilege of working under the instruction of such prominent artists and pedagogues as Sir András Schiff, Christoph Eschenbach, Richard Goode, Menahem Pressler, and Tatiana Zelikman, among many others.

Tom has started to attract attention from some of the piano world's leading media commentators. As well as the International Piano feature, WWFM Radio in the US recently featured him as an outstanding young talent, with the much-respected presenter Jed Distler commenting, "Tom Borrow is an immensely talented young pianist...keep your eye on this really, really talented youngster - he is special". International Piano also livestreamed Tom's recital for the Rubinstein Virtual PianoFest. Tom recently signed to Hanssler Classic - Germany's largest independent classical music recording label. His first album, 'Romantica', is due for release in the near future.

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"An exciting young artist"

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-- Jed Distler, WWFM

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