



## *News Update*

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### **The 2015 Chopin International Piano Competition Winner Seong-Jin Cho performs at the Shalin Liu Performance Center**

On **Sunday, February 25, at 3 pm**, the First Prize Winner at the **2015 Chopin International Piano Competition, Seong-Jin Cho, makes his debut at the Shalin Liu Performance Center**. With his intense reflection and expressive insight, the young South Korean pianist's mature musicianship and refined artistry has won a significant international following, underlined by the pop-chart-topping status of his Deutsche Grammophon debut album and invitations to appear at the world's foremost concert halls. Cho made several high-profile recital debuts this past season, notably at Carnegie Hall and as part of the Amsterdam Concertgebouw's Master Pianists series. Recital tours have taken him to Europe, Asia, and the United States, while orchestral solo performances have had him performing with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Munich Philharmonic, Warsaw Philharmonic, Orchestre de Paris, the Santa Cecilia Orchestra, and the St. Petersburg Philharmonic. In the 2017/18 season, he performed with Sir Simon Rattle and the Berlin Philharmonic stepping in for Lang Lang in that performance and several others in Germany and Asia.

Born in Seoul, he began playing piano at the age of six. His love for the instrument deepened after he began serious studies in 2004, and in 2008, Seong-Jin Cho won the Sixth Moscow International Frederick Chopin Competition for Young Pianists. The following year, he took First Prize at the Hamamatsu International Piano Competition in Japan. In 2012 he moved to Paris to study with Michel Béroff at the Conservatoire.

Paving the way to his victory at the Chopin International Competition, he had multiple successes with Third Prize at the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition and the 2014 Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition. When Deutsche Grammophon released performances recorded live during the 2015 Chopin International Piano Competition, the all-Chopin album was propelled to No.1 spot in the Korean pop chart. It has since registered a total of nine-times platinum sales in Korea, achieved gold status in Poland, the land of Chopin's birth, and attracted a worldwide following.

#### **PROGRAM**

BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 13 "Pathétique"

BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 30 in E major, Op. 109

DEBUSSY: Images, Book II

Cloches à travers les feuilles

Et la lune descend sur le temple qui fut

Poissons d'or

CHOPIN: Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Op. 58

A Pre-concert talk with Dr. Jeremy Gill will be held for ticketholders at 2 pm. The concert is sold-out at this time.

## HD BROADCASTS

On **Thursday, February 22 at 7 pm**, the National Theatre in London presents Tennessee Williams' twentieth century masterpiece **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof** in London's West End. Following his smash hit production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Benedict Andrews' 'thrilling revival' (*New York Times*) stars Sienna Miller alongside, Jack O'Connell and Colm Meaney. Tickets: \$22 Adults, \$15 Seniors & Students, \$5 Youth

On **Saturday, February 24 at 12:30 PM** (sold-out) with an encore showing on **Saturday, March 3 at 12:30 pm**, the **Metropolitan Opera Live in HD** brings an exciting young cast starring in Franco Zeffirelli's classic production of Puccini's *La Bohème*, the most-performed opera in Met history. Sonya Yoncheva stars as Mimì opposite Michael Fabiano as the passionate writer Rodolfo. Susanna Phillips reprises the role of the flirtatious Musetta and Lucas Meachem sings the role of her lover, the painter Marcello. The cast also features Alexey Lavrov and Matthew Rose as Rodolfo and Marcello's friends Schaunard and Colline and Paul Plishka as Benoit and Alcindoro in this performance, led by Marco Armiliato. Tickets: \$20-\$32. A Met Lunch is available for purchase (11:30 AM) at \$17/full lunch; \$12/half sandwich lunch.

On **Tuesday, March 6 at 7 pm**, the Bolshoi Ballet in HD presents **The Flames of Paris**. In the era of the French Revolution, Jeanne and her brother Jérôme leave Marseille for Paris in support the revolutionary effort that is taking over the capital. While fighting for freedom, they both encounter love along the way. Very few ballets can properly depict the Bolshoi's overflowing energy and fiery passion as can **Alexei Ratmansky's** captivating revival of **Vasily Vainonen's** "The Flames of Paris." With powerful virtuosity and some of the most stunning pas de deux, the Bolshoi Ballet displays an exuberance almost too enormous for the Moscow stage. Tickets: \$22 Adults, \$15 Seniors & Students, \$5 Youth

On **Saturday, March 10 at 12:55 pm**, the **Metropolitan Opera in HD** presents **Rossini's Semiramide** for the first time in HD. Angela Meade makes her Met role debut as the title character in *Semiramide*. Rossini's opera, which has not been seen at the Met in 25 years, will be conducted by Maurizio Benini and feature Elizabeth DeShong as the Commander of the Assyrian army Arsace, Javier Camarena as an Indian king Idreno, Ildar Abdrazakov as the prince Assur, and Ryan Speedo Green as the high priest Oroe. Tickets: \$20-\$32. A Met Lunch is available for purchase (12 PM) at \$17/full lunch; \$12/half sandwich lunch.

Unless otherwise indicated, all concerts and events are held at Rockport Music's stunning, seaside Shalin Liu Performance Center at 37 Main Street, Rockport, Massachusetts. Subscriptions are available with purchase of four or more concerts and subscribers receive a 10% discount. Please visit our website [rockportmusic.org](http://rockportmusic.org) or call the Box Office at 978-546-7391 for tickets or more details on upcoming concerts. Rockport Music is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and is supported in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



## ABOUT ROCKPORT MUSIC

Founded in 1981 as the Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Rockport Music presents exceptional concerts and cultural events in the "stunning acoustics and dramatic setting" (*Boston Globe*) of the Shalin Liu Performance Center. Best known for its summer chamber music festival featuring some of the world's finest ensembles and soloists, Rockport Music has expanded its offerings to include year-round presentations of jazz, folk, pop, and world music, high-definition broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera and National Theatre (London), and special film presentations. Education and community outreach activities serve nearly 10,000 students and adults throughout Cape Ann and the North Shore annually.