

# **The 67th Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition**



## **Digital Program**

Washington D.C February 5-27, 2022

**KFCHOPIN.ORG**

## KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

With great excitement and pride I welcome you to the 67th Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition. We are excited to present in 2022 the competition for young artists. This competition has a rich history of almost 70 years and is presented here in Washington D.C. for the first time. We invite you to watch the competition rounds online and in person at St. Ann Catholic Church here in Washington. I wish to all our contestants good luck and to all of you a wonderful weekend with the music of Chopin!



**Barbara Bernhardt, Director**

Kosciuszko Foundation  
Washington D.C.

## CHOPIN COMPETITION D.C.

It is my pleasure and great honor to welcome you to the 67th edition of the Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition. After two years of uncertainty and most of the public events cancelled or moved to a virtual setting, we at the Kosciuszko Foundation are beyond excited to be able to host and present to you a live portion of the competition here in Washington D.C. Our goal is to always foster the legacy of Poland's greatest composer and at the same time continue the rich tradition of this competition established more seventy years ago and whose laureates belong to the pinnacle of the 20th and 21st century pianism. As the Artistic Director, I would like to wish all the contestants the best of luck and inspired performances.



**Martin Labazevitch, Artistic Director**



**Jason Solounias**  
Competition Director



**Jolanta Stefanska**  
Advancement Director



**ReThink Classical**  
Media Partner



In 1949, to mark the centennial of the death of Fryderyk Chopin, the Kosciuszko Foundation's Board of Trustees authorized a National Committee to encourage observance of the anniversary through concerts and programs throughout the United States. Howard Hanson, then Director of the Eastman School of Music, headed this Committee, which included, among others, Claudio Arrau, Vladimir Horowitz, Serge Koussevitzky, Claire Booth Luce, Eugene Ormandy, Artur Rodzinski, George Szell, and Bruno Walter.

The Chopin Centennial was inaugurated by Witold Malcuzyński at Carnegie Hall on February 14, 1949. A repeat performance was presented by Malcuzyński eight days later, on Chopin's birthday, in the Kosciuszko Foundation Gallery. Abram Chasins, composer, pianist, and music director of the New York Times radio stations WQXR and WQWQ, presided at the evening and opened it with the following remarks:

In seeking to do justice to the memory of a musical genius, nothing is so eloquent as a presentation of the works through which he enriched our musical heritage. ... In his greatest work, Chopin stands alone ... Throughout the chaos, the dissonance of the world, Chopin's music has been for many of us a sanctuary ... It is entirely fitting that this event should take place at the Kosciuszko Foundation House. This Foundation is the only institution which we have in America which promotes cultural relations between Poland and America on a non-political basis. It has helped to understand the debt which mankind owes to Poland's men of genius.

At the Chopin evening at the Foundation, two contributions were made. The first, \$1,000 came from Madame Ganna Walska, the opera star; the second, for \$775, represented many smaller individual contributions. The fund was supplemented when Arthur Rubinstein donated the receipts from the national tribute to Chopin, held at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York on October 17, 1949. Additional funds came from a cycle of Chopin programs held at the Kosciuszko Foundation House in the 1949-1950 season. Performed by the Viennese pianist Robert Goldsand, who would himself head juries of the Chopin Piano Competition, these recitals featured Chopin's complete concert repertoire. The New York Herald Tribune reviewed the first Chopin evening, on November 14, 1949, as follows:

The Foundation's Hall is a large drawing room, and last night, save for a single shaded piano lamp, it was kept in darkness. Intimacy of surrounding, then, was the setting, and intimacy of style proved to be Mr. Goldsand's prime expressive means. He knows and understands the Chopin idiom and communicates its warmth, its wealth of epigram, its poetry and fire, with a minimum of effort. He plays gracefully, elegantly; he never toys with a thematic line, nor does he brutalize by pounding – as others do – Chopin's frequent heroics.

The first Chopin Piano Competition was held on June 15, 1950, for the scholarship established during the Chopin Centennial Year. The winner was not of Polish extraction, but a young Black American, Roy Eaton, a student at the Manhattan School of Music [and City College] of New York. It is interesting to note here that prior to Kosciuszko's departure for Europe in 1798, he directed Thomas Jefferson, the executor of his will, to sell the lands given him by a grateful American Congress for his services during the Revolutionary War, and to use the proceeds to purchase the freedom of Black slaves and to educate them to become good and useful citizens. Eaton's award in the Chopin Piano Competition, highly significant in the pre-Civil Rights era was made a special feature by the New York Times on June 17, and was given considerable space in other newspapers and magazines. He appeared on WNYC and CBS Radio, and subsequently with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He later earned an M.A. in musicology from Yale University, and in 1968 became vice-president of Benton and Bowles Company in New York.

During the early years of the Competition, scholarships were offered to a pianist and a composer, the fields in which Chopin excelled (the composition award was discontinued in 1956). Van Cliburn is probably the most famous Chopin Competition alumnus. A pupil of Rosina Lhevinne, Van Cliburn was the winner in 1952, at the age of 17. Six years later he won first prize in the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, a great icebreaker during the Cold War. On October 14, 1961, Van Cliburn, who had become a Patron Member of the KF, introduced his RCA all-Chopin album at the Foundation. On that occasion he remarked:

I do so very many times recall with such deep affection the very first time I sat at this piano. It was a very exciting moment for me to play at the Kosciuszko Foundation and to be an entry in the Chopin Competition, which was something of extreme distinction... But more than that, the people of this very wonderful organization have made for Poland and Polish art the world over a wonderful memorial of the past and an indication of the future.

The Chopin Piano Competition has become recognized nationally as an important stage in the lives of young pianists embarking upon a concert career following their studies. In surveying the list of winners, one finds men and women who have become well-known through success on the concert stage or as well-regarded professors and teachers throughout the United States. Through financial assistance to its winners, and their subsequent artistic achievements, the Kosciuszko Foundation, as a Polish American cultural/educational institution, has continued to make a substantial contributions to music in the United States.

## Thank You To Our Sponsors

The Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition is sponsored by the Kosciuszko Foundation from the Cierpik Fund, Jan Gorbaty Memorial Fund, and from the donation made by Ms. Krystyna Piorkowska to the Cultural Fund.

The Embassy of the Republic of Poland  
Polish American Arts Organization, sponsor of the second prize  
IMF/WB Polish Club  
Pamela Polec  
Bozena Radzewicz-Bak  
Krzysztof Rucinski  
Izabela Rutkowska  
Jolanta Stefanska  
Piotr Trabinski  
Agnieszka Urbanowska  
Jaroslaw Wieczorek  
Katarzyna Zajdel-Kurowska

## Prizes

1st - \$5,000  
2nd - \$3,000  
3rd - \$2,000  
Szymanowski Prize - \$1,500

Performance Engagements during 2022-23 Season



Embassy  
of the Republic of Poland  
in Washington, D.C.





## Piotr Gajewski Jury Chair (United States)

"Immensely talented and insightful conductor, whose standards, taste and sensitivity are impeccable," raves The Washington Post. Piotr Gajewski, a student and disciple of the late Leonard Bernstein, continues to thrill audiences all over the world with inspiring performances of great music. "His courtly, conservative movements matched the music's mood. A flick of the finger, and a fanfare sounded. He held up his palm, and the musicians quieted. It was like watching a race car in the hands of a good driver," reports The Buffalo News.

Maestro Gajewski has one foot in the United States, as music director & conductor of the National Philharmonic at the Music Center at Strathmore (metropolitan Washington, DC), and the other in Europe, as a frequent guest conductor in his native Poland. His immense repertoire, most of it conducted without a score, amazes critics and audiences alike.

He is one of a select group of American conductors equally at home in nearly all musical genres. A recent season saw him conduct Bach at the Northwest Bach Festival, Prokofiev with the South Florida Symphony, and Copland in Jelenia Gora, Poland. While Gajewski freely admits that Mozart is perhaps his favorite composer, he ventures as far as the music of ABBA, Barry Manilow and beyond at pops concerts, and has also led several dozen world premieres, including a recent one of the opera *Lost Childhood* by the American composer Janis Hamer.

A committed arts educator, Maestro Gajewski is the muscle behind the National Philharmonic's groundbreaking "All Kids, All Free, All The Time" initiative, as well as the creation of summer institutes for young string players and singers, masterclasses with esteemed visiting artists, and a concerto competition for high-school students. Working with the local school system, Gajewski also established annual concerts for all second-grade students in Maryland's Montgomery County—some 12,000 each year.

In Poland Gajewski has appeared with the Warsaw, Wroclaw, Krakow and Silesian philharmonics, among others. Since 2007, he has regularly served as the only American on the jury of the prestigious Grzegorz Fitelberg International Competition for Conductors.

Gajewski began studying piano at age four. After emigrating to the United States, he continued his studies in the Preparatory Division of New England Conservatory, at Carleton College in Minnesota, and at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he earned B.M. and M.M. degrees in orchestral conducting. His conducting mentors, in addition to Bernstein—with whom he studied at the Tanglewood Music Center on a Leonard Bernstein Conducting Fellowship—include such luminaries as Seiji Ozawa, André Previn, Gunther Schuller, and Maurice Abravanel.

Maestro Gajewski's many honors include Poland's Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit, bestowed on him by the former president of Poland, and a prize at New York's Leopold Stokowski Conducting Competition. A true Renaissance man, Gajewski continues to play competitive soccer, holds a law degree and a license to practice law in two states, and from 2007 to 2011 served on the City Council in his hometown of Rockville, Maryland. Piotr Gajewski is represented worldwide by Sciolino Artist Management [samnyc.us](http://samnyc.us)



## Akiko Ebi (Japan)

Akiko Ebi, the first prize at the National Piano Competition in Japan, launched her international career as the winner of the Grand Prix in the International Long/Thibaud Competition in Paris with 4 special prizes given by A. Rubinstein etc. and as a finalist in the International Fryderyk Chopin Competition in Warsaw, earning the recognition of Martha Argerich. She continued her training at the Paris Conservatoire with A.Ciccolini, V. Perlemuter, C. Hansen, C.Zerah and L.Kentner.

She has performed throughout the world at Berlin Philharmony Hall, Gewanhaus concert Hall, Suntory Hall, Teatro Colon, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Salle Pleyel, Wigmore Hall, with outstanding orchestras and conductors such as Skrowacewski, F.Bruggen, Janowsky, Sinaisky, Foster, Sado, Gushulbauer, Pedro Ignacio Calderón, Milanov etc. As a chamber musician, she has given two-piano recitals with Martha Argerich and performed with Ivry Gitlis, Augustin Dumay, Régis Pasquier, Angela Hewitt, Michel Dalberto, the Morauges Quintet and the Parisii and Manfred Quartets. She appears regularly at festivals in La Roque d'Anthéron, Menton, Echternach, Nantes, Nice, Lugano, Lisbon, Toledo, New York, Tokyo, Salt Lake City and Warsaw etc.

Her discography includes Chopin's complete etudes, preludes, nocturnes and impromptus, as well as Chopin concerto No.1. Also works by Fauré, Franck, Grieg, Lekeu, Pierné, Ravel, Webern and Dynam-Victor Fumet (world first recording). She was awarded twice Grand Prix d'Or for her recording of the works of her discs of compositions by Hikari Ōe, which brought international attention to this gifted composer, who was born mute and mentally handicapped. For her services to French music, Ebi was named a Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres in 1993, and in 2002 she received Japan's prestigious ExxonMobile Music Prize.

She is often invited to give master classes in many countries as France, Spain, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Finland, many cities in USA, Canada, Argentine, Japan. She is often invited as a jury member at the international competitions such as Chopin International Piano Competition in Warsaw in 2010, 2015 & 2021, also was the president of jury at Hamamatsu International Piano Competition in 2012 & 2015. President of Chopin Society in Japan & Chairman of Yokohama City International Piano Concerts for young pianists.



## Krzysztof Jablonski (Canada/Poland)

Krzysztof Jablonski is Laureate of the F. Chopin International Piano Competition in Warsaw in 1985 as well as numerous top prizes at international piano competitions in Milan, Palm Beach, Monza, Dublin, New York, Calgary as well as Gold Medal at the A. Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in Tel Aviv.

For more than 30 years Jablonski is active performing solo, chamber music as well as with orchestras on stages in Europe, Americas, Asia and Israel in prestigious concert halls, including appearances on the Master Concert Series at Berliner Philharmonie. A frequent guest of many orchestras, performed under the baton of V. Gergiev, A. Boreyko, K. Penderecki, J. Semkow, J. Maksymiuk, F. Brueggen, W. Bothe, Y. Tezuka, T. Shimono, A. Wit, J. Krenz and with prominent ensembles such as Orchestra of the 18th Century, Berner Symphonie-Orchester, Radio-Sinfonieorchester Stuttgart des SWR, Duesseldorfer Symphoniker, Hamburger Symphoniker, Jenaer Philharmonie, Festival Orchestra of the Grand Teton Music Festival, Helsinki Philharmonic, Lahti Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, Kyushu Symphony Orchestra, Kirishima Festival Orchestra, National Philharmonic Orchestra in Warsaw, National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice. As chamber music recitalist he recently performed with Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Arto Noras, Konstanty Andrzej Kulka, Teng Li - to name just a few. He is a member of "Warsaw Piano Quintet" which was first founded by W. Szpilman in 1962.

Jablonski's somewhat romantic nature was shaping his music taste and interests over the years. Beside most popular works Jablonski has in his repertoire, he also plays some less known compositions such as Concertos by F. Riess, H. Litloff, E. Dohnanyi. He was invited to perform for ballet, opera and theatre spectacles as well as for spectacular, multi-discipline projects with multimedia presentations and lights such as Scriabin's "Prometheus" with Duesseldorfer Symphoniker, Ballet "Fortepianissimo" choreographed by Lorca Massine at the National Opera in Warsaw, original piano version of the Debussy's Pelleas et Melisande. He was invited to perform during the opening of the Wiener Opernball in Vienna together with the Vienna State Opera Ballet choreographed by Giorgio Madia. Jablonski also played for the crowd of thousands with Grant Park Orchestra and K. Urbanski at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park in Chicago.

In February of 2013, Jablonski performed Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto with Maestro Valery Gergiev and Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra during fundraising event "Clean Baltic Sea Concert" in Helsinki. This performance was streamed live over the Internet as well as recorded by Finnish Radio and TV.

2013 has brought Jablonski also to Japan where he performed Beethoven's Concerto with Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra following his successful appearances with Kirishima Festival Orchestra in 2012. In 2014 he played during Kirishima Festival again and in 2015, celebrating 30 years of his artistic career, performed Chopin's Concerto No. 1 with Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra - the same Piano Concerto he played during Finals of the F. Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw in 1985, where his international career began. Also in 2015, he performed Chopin's E minor Concerto once more with Warsaw Philharmonic under the baton of Maestro Jacek Kasprzyk. Jablonski concluded anniversary year performing Saint-Saëns' 2nd Piano Concerto in G minor with Warsaw Philharmonic under the direction of Patrick Fournillier in February of 2016.

He has made live recordings for radio and television in many countries as well as numerous CDs in Germany, Japan, and Poland. He was recently invited by the F. Chopin National Institute to record complete works by Chopin both on modern and historical pianos. Two first CDs (Etudes) were released in 2016 and 2017, and more will come soon. Jablonski himself says it is his once in a lifetime project, but he hopes to be able to complete this work in 3-4 years.

Studied with Janina Butor and Prof. Andrzej Jasinski. Worked during master classes with R. Kerer and N. Magaloff. Graduated with honors in 1987 from the Academy of Music in Katowice, where he later earned his Doctorate in 1996. He was a Professor at The F. Chopin University of Music in Warsaw from 2004 to 2017. He is currently a piano faculty at the Mount Royal University - The Conservatory in Calgary and at the University of Calgary and faculty member of the Morningside Music Bridge Program. He was also Professor of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lethbridge during 2016-2017. In addition to academic responsibilities, he presents master classes, lectures and is a jury member at international piano competitions including Chopin Piano Competitions in Warsaw, Toronto/Mississauga (Chair of the Jury), Miami, Tokyo and Foshan in China.



## Alexander Kobrin (United States)

In the 2019-2020 season Mr. Kobrin will be making his Carnegie Hall debut as well as concluding his Complete Beethoven Piano Sonatas project for WETA radio in Washington DC. His new Schubert and Hindemith CDs were released in 2019 on Centaur and Quartz labels.

In 2005, Mr. Kobrin was awarded the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Gold Medal at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Fort Worth, TX. His numerous successes in competitions also include top prizes at the Busoni International Piano Competition (First Prize), Hamamatsu International Piano Competition (Top Prize), Scottish International Piano Competition in Glasgow (First Prize)

Mr. Kobrin has performed with many of the world's great orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Russian National Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Verdi, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Moscow Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony, Berliner Symphony, Swedish Radio Symphony, Birmingham Symphony, Warsaw Philharmonic and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. He has collaborated with renowned conductors as Mikhail Pletnev, Mikhail Jurovsky, Sir Mark Elder, Vassiliy Sinaisky, James Conlon, Claus Peter Flor, Alexander Lazarev, Vassiliy Petrenko, Yuri Bashmet and many others.

He has appeared in recital at major halls worldwide, including the Avery Fisher Hall in New York, the Kennedy Centre in Washington, Albert Hall and Wigmore Hall in London, Louvre Auditorium, Salle Gaveau and Salle Cortot in Paris, Munich Herkulesaal and Berliner Filarmonia Hall in Germany, the Great Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire, Sheung Wan Civic Centre in Hong Kong, as well as Sala Verdi in Milan and many others. Other performances have included appearances at La Roque d'Anthéron, the Ravinia Festival, Ruhr Klavier Festival, the Beethoven, Busoni, Chautauqua and International Keyboard festival in NYC.

Annual concert tours include performances and masterclasses in major conservatories in Asia, Europe and USA. Before joining Eastman School of Music Alexander Kobrin was on the faculty of Gnessins State Academy of Music in Moscow, Schwob School of Music in Columbus, GA and in New York University. Mr. Kobrin regularly serves in the jury of international piano competitions, including Busoni, Hamamatsu, Rosalyn Tureck, Neuhaus and others.

Mr. Kobrin has released recordings on the Harmonia Mundi, Quartz, and Centaur labels, covering a wide swath of the piano literature to critical acclaim including "critic's choice" awards in Gramophone and Fanfare magazines.

Mr. Kobrin was born in 1980 in Moscow, Russia. He is a graduate of Gnessins Special Music School and Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory of professors Tatiana Zelikman and Lev Naumov studios.





## Piotr Paleczny (Poland)

Graduated from Warsaw's Academy of Music under Professor Jan Ekier. Winner of five international piano competitions: Sophia (1968), Munich (1969), Warsaw (1970), Pleven (1971), and Bordeaux (1972). Piotr Paleczny's international career developed pursuant to his success at the 7. Fryderyk Chopin Competition in Warsaw in 1970.

Paleczny won the 3rd prize and received the Award of the Fryderyk Chopin Society for the best execution of a Polonaise. The 1970 edition of the competition was the first at which an American, Garrick Ohlsson, took top honors. Japanese pianist Mitsuko Uchida came second, and among Polish pianists, Janusz Olejniczak also emerged successful finishing in 6th place. Alongside Ohlsson, Paleczny was one of the favorites of the competition and easily advanced through earlier stages on his way to the final. It was with similar confidence and composure that he developed his international career, quickly achieving the status of Poland's most outstanding pianist. His repertoire is expansive, though he is most valued for his interpretations of the works of Chopin and other composers of the Romantic era. Paleczny is widely recognized for his executions of the piano concertos of Polish composers, including both of Chopin's concertos, the Concerto in a-minor op. 17 of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, the 4. Sinfonia Concertante op. 60 of Karol Szymanowski, and the Piano Concerto of Witold Lutosławski. He has enjoyed a lively career as a concert pianist on all of the world's continents since his success at the 7. Fryderyk Chopin Competition, appearing as a soloist with renowned orchestras like Warsaw's National Philharmonic Orchestra, the Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, the American Symphony, the Royal Philharmonic, the Concertgebouw, the BBC London Orchestra, the Yomiuri Nippon, the Tonhalle Zurich, the RAI Roma, the Santa Cecilia, the Mexico National, the Buenos Aires National, the Gewandhaus, and the National Orchestra Madrid.

Paleczny has performed in some of the world's most famous concert halls, including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall in New York, Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires, the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, and the Royal Festival Hall in London.

The pianist has lead master classes in Bordeaux, Amsterdam, Paris, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Mexico City, Tokyo, Lugano, and Warsaw, and sat on international piano competition juries in Warsaw, Paris, Santander, Tokyo, Hamamatsu, Prague, Taipei, Cleveland, and London.

Since 1993, Piotr Paleczny has been the artistic director of the oldest Polish music festival – the International Chopin Festival in Duszynki Zdroj.

Recordings of Piotr Paleczny's performances have appeared on albums published by Polskie Nagrania, EMI, BBC Classic, Pony Canyon, CD Accord, Olympia, Wifon, BeArTon, Sound, Naxos, and DUX. The annual "Musical America" named Paleczny's recording of Ignacy Jan Paderewski's Piano Concerto (Sound), for which he was accompanied by the Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Jerzy Maksymiuk, as the best ever recording of this work. Another of his recordings, Karol Szymanowski's 4. Sinfonia Concertante (EMI), appeared on the American market to win far-reaching acclaim. The pianist also recorded the complete Ballads, Sonatas, and Concertos of Chopin for BeArTon. These performances will be included in the label's National Edition of the Complete Works of Fryderyk Chopin.

Piotr Paleczny has an abundant concert repertoire within which the piano concertos of Polish composers constitute a significant position. In addition to the concertos of Chopin, Paderewski, and Szymanowski, Paleczny's repertoire includes the Piano Concerto of Witold Lutosławski, a work that the artist once performed under the direction of the composer himself. The pianist went on to record this same piece for the Naxos label with the Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Antoni Wit. His interpretation earned him broad critical and popular acclaim. One of the artist's most recent recordings, an album titled The Best of Fryderyk Chopin published by DUX, won him the "Fryderyk 1999" Award of the Polish Phonographic Academy.

In May of 1998, the President of the Republic of Poland granted Piotr Paleczny the academic title of professor. The artist has also received many prestigious Polish and international honors and awards. Paleczny currently heads the piano performance class at the Fryderyk Chopin Academy of Music in Warsaw.



## Contestant 1 Jiana Peng (China, 25)

Born in Sichuan, China, Jiana Peng is the winner of the 2020 International Chopin Piano Competition (Corpus Christi). She will be performing her debut solo recital in Carnegie Hall and releasing her all-Chopin debut album in 2022. She is also a winner of the finalist award in the New York International Piano Competition, Tuesday Musical Scholarship, Nice Côté d'Azur International Piano Competition, the Cleveland Pops Orchestra Music Scholarship Competition, and the Cleveland Institute of Music Concerto Competition. Jiana made her orchestral debut with the Cleveland Pops Orchestra in Severance Hall at the age of 16. She has since performed with the Oberlin Conservatory Orchestra, Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra, and Philharmonic Orchestra of University of Alicante (Spain) under the batons of Raphael Jimenez, Carl Topilow, Kimbo Ishii-Eto, and Uri Segal. Her recent performing highlights include her artistic collaboration with the world-renowned Portuguese pianist Maria João Pires in summer 2019. They launched and performed together the first edition of the itinerary festival "Days of Wisdom" in Cervia de Ter, Spain. She was also invited to share concerts with Pires in Belgais, Portugal. Jiana performed in numerous festivals, including Music Fest Perugia, PianoTexas International Festival, Dubrovnik Summer Music Festival, Duszyniki Piano Master Course, Katowice International Piano Masterclass, and Radziejowice Piano Master Course. She received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music studying with Antonio Pompa-Baldi and Haesun Paik, as well as her Artist Diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory studying with Stanislav Ioudenitch. She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music under the guidance of Kevin Kenner.

### First Round

Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 1  
Etude in G-sharp minor, Op. 25 No. 6  
Waltz in F major, Op. 34 No. 3  
Ballade No.2 in F major, Op. 38

### Second Round

Polonaise in F-sharp minor, Op. 44

Mazurkas, Op. 30  
No. 1 in C minor  
No. 2 in B minor  
No. 3 in D-flat major  
No. 4 in C-sharp minor

Etude in F-Major, Op.10 No. 8

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 21 in B-flat major  
No. 22 in G minor  
No. 23 in F major  
No. 24 in D minor

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Mazurkas, Op. 50  
No.1 Sostenuto - molto rubato  
No. 2 Allegramente - poco vivace  
No. 3 Moderato  
No. 4 Allegramente, risoluto

Chopin: 24 Preludes, Op. 28

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 2 in F Minor, Op.21



## Contestant 2 (WITHDRAW) Timothy Jones (United States, 24)

Award-winning American pianist Timothy Jones has established himself as a versatile talent who possesses an abundance of creative and artistic energy. Timothy has performed in venues worldwide, including Lincoln Center, the DiMenna Center, the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, Academy of Music in Krakow, and Harris Hall, amongst others. During the summers he has been invited to study and perform at many prestigious international music festivals: Aspen Music Festival and School, Chautauqua Institute, Bowdoin International Music Festival, and Virtuoso e Belcanto Festival. He has benefited greatly in masterclasses and lessons for Richard Goode, Leon Fleisher, Boris Berman, Boris Slutsky, and the Dover Quartet (chamber music). Timothy was recently a semifinalist at the 2020 National Chopin Competition and has won first prizes as the youngest competitor in both the 2017 MTNA National Young Artists Competition and the Russell C. Wonderlic Competition. After graduating with a B.M. from the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University under Marian Hahn, Timothy pursued a M.M degree at the University of Texas at Austin studying with Anton Nel. Currently Timothy is continuing his education at the University of Texas with Anton Nel by pursuing a DMA degree. He is the recipient of the Joe and Teresa R. Long Piano Scholarship from the University of Texas and the Lilian Gutman Memorial Prize from the Peabody Institute.

### First Round

Schzero No.3 Op.39 in C-Sharp Minor  
Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 1  
Waltz in A-flat major, Op. 34 No. 1  
Etude in C-sharp minor, Op. 10 No. 4

### Second Round

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 8 in F-sharp minor  
No. 9 in E major  
No. 10 in C-sharp minor  
No. 11 in B major

Mazurkas, Op. 17  
No. 1 in B-flat major  
No. 2 in E minor  
No. 3 in A-flat major  
No. 4 in A minor

Andante Spianato et Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

### Semifinal Round

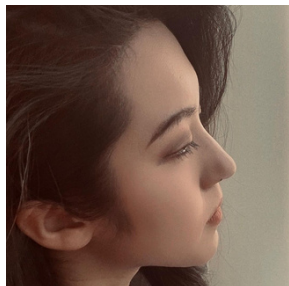
Chopin: Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23

Szymanowski: from Mazurkas Op. 50  
No.1 Sostenuto - molto rubato  
No. 2 Allegramente - poco vivace  
No. 3 Moderato  
No. 4 Allegramente, risoluto

Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Op. 58  
I. Allegro maestoso  
II. Scherzo: Molto vivace  
III. Largo  
IV. Finale: Presto non tanto; Agitato

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op.11



## Contestant 3 Biguo Xing (China, 22)

As the winner of the Aspen Piano Concerto Competition, Biguo appeared as the soloist with Aspen Philharmonic Orchestra at Benedict Music Tent under the baton of Maestro Patrick Summers. Biguo has won numerous prizes at the 1st Beijing International Fryderyk Chopin Competition For Young Pianists, Hilton Head International Piano Competition, and the Xinghai Cup Piano Competition. In addition, she has won the The Central Conservatory of Music Middle School's first prize scholarship and third prize scholarship several times. Biguo is also the winner of the BNP Paribas "Rising Stars" Piano Festival Award. Biguo has appeared at Aspen Music Festival, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Beijing Concert Hall, Meany Hall of Performing Arts at University of Washington, Piano aux Jacobins Festival in China, Mengminwei Concert Hall of Tsinghua University, and on China Central Television (CCTV). She is also a two time laureate of the MacKenzie Awards, given by the International Keyboard Institute & Festival. Biguo was a recipient of the New Horizons Fellowship at Aspen Music Festival and School and she was awarded the Yamaha Music Scholarship in 2014. She is currently enrolled in the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's Degree at The Juilliard School under the guidance of Hung-Kuan Chen, she also studied chamber music with Emanuel Ax and Jerome Lowenthal. As a Columbia-Juilliard Exchange student she studies philosophy at Columbia University.

### First Round

Etude in C major, Op. 10 No. 1  
Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No. 1  
Waltz in C-sharp minor, Op. 64 No. 2  
Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52

### Second Round

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 16 in B-flat minor  
No. 17 in A-flat major  
No. 18 in F minor  
No. 19 in E-flat major

Mazurkas, Op. 33  
No. 1 in G-sharp minor  
No. 2 in D major  
No. 3 in C major  
No. 4 in B minor

Andante Spianato et Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Etudes, Op. 4  
No. 1 Allegro moderato  
No. 3 Andante in modo d'una canzone (con dolore)

Chopin: Etudes, Op. 10

Chopin: Fantasia in F minor, Op. 49

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op. 11





## Contestant 4 Breno Alves de Souza (Brazil, 19)

Breno Alves de Souza graduated at the technical course of piano at the Professional Education Center Escola de Música de Brasília, in Brasília - Federal District, Brazil. Currently, he is a student at the Universidade de Brasília – UnB, Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil. Breno has participated in piano competitions held in Brazil and abroad including 3rd place at the XI International Piano Competition Professor Edna Bassetti Habith, in Curitiba - Paraná, Brazil; 2nd place in the XXVII Souza Lima National Piano Competition, in São Paulo - São Paulo, Brazil; 1st place at the XVI National Piano Competition Cora Pavan Capparelli, in Uberlândia - Minas Gerais, Brazil; 3rd in the 2nd WPTA FINLAND, online edition, Finland; 3rd place at the 2nd WPTA SINGAPORE, online edition, Singapore; 1st place at the VII Festival - Competition Pianissimo 2020, Colombia; among others. Breno has participated in festivals, masterclass with renowned pianists and performed as a soloist with the Brasília Symphony Orchestra.

### First Round

Etude in C Major, Op.10 No.1  
Etude in F Major, Op.10 No. 8  
Etude in G-sharp minor, Op.25 No. 6  
Nocturne in B major, Op. 9 No. 3  
Waltz A-flat major, Op. 34 No.1

### Second Round

Polonaise in E-flat minor, Op. 26 No.2

Mazurkas, Op. 17  
No. 1 in B-flat major  
No. 2 in E minor  
No. 3 in A-flat major  
No. 4 in A minor

Preludes, Op. 24  
No. 16 in B-flat minor  
No. 17 in A-flat major  
No. 18 in F minor  
No. 19 in E-flat major

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Sonata Op. 21 No. 2 in A major,  
I. Allegro assai

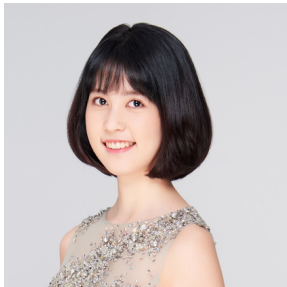
Chopin: Ballade No. 3 in A-Flat Major, Op. 47

Chopin: Barcarolle in F-Sharp major, Op. 60

Chopin: Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35  
I. Grave – Doppio movimento  
II. Scherzo  
III. Marche funèbre: Lento  
IV. Finale: Presto

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op.11



## Contestant 5 Yun Chih Hsu (Taiwan, 24)

Yun Chih Hsu, praised as an artist of as “One of the most potential young pianists” as well as “The mature performance and stage charm is beyond her age, and she has an excellent sensitivity and a clever idea to music.” (Dimitry Bashkirov) Hsu performed with numerous orchestras including the Forth Worth Symphony, National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, Capella Bydgostiensis, and the Juilliard Orchestra. Solo appearances include a recital in the National Concert Hall, National Public Radio’s program “From the Top”. Venues include Taiwan National Concert Hall, Lincoln Center, Alice Tully Hall, and Barcelona Palau de la Música Catalana, Filharmonia Pomorska. First Prize Winner of the 12th Taipei International Chopin Piano Competition, the semi-finalist of the 11th International Paderewski Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland. In 2017, Hsu was awarded to be the winner of the New Music Star Concert series in the New Taipei City, Taiwan; moreover, became the ambassador of the 2020 Music Rising Star.

### First Round

Nocturne in B major, Op. 62 No. 1  
Etude in F major, Op. 10 No. 8  
Waltz in A-flat major, Op. 42  
Barcarolle in F-sharp major, Op. 60

### Second Round

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

Mazurkas, Op. 33  
No. 1 in G-sharp minor  
No. 2 in D major  
No. 3 in C major  
No. 4 in B minor

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 21 in B-flat major  
No. 22 in G minor  
No. 23 in F major  
No. 24 in D minor

### Semifinal Round

Chopin: Andante Spianato et Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

Szymanowski: Mazurkas, Op. 62  
No. 1 Allegretto grazioso  
No. 2 Moderato

Chopin: Sonata No. 3 in B major, Op. 58  
I. Allegro maestoso  
II. Scherzo: Molto vivace  
III. Largo  
IV. Finale: Presto non tanto; Agitato

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op. 11



## Contestant 6

### Daniel Szefer (United States/Poland, 23)

Daniel Szefer had his first piano lesson at the age of seven and was introduced to the public in Miami, Florida by the Chopin Foundation of the United States in 2010. Szefer was one of eight international students invited to study at the Sergei Babayan Academy at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2012. The same year, he gave a solo concert at the Chicago Symphony Center. He had his orchestral debut at 13 with the Oistrach Symphony Orchestra led by Mina Zikri and concertized with this orchestra for the next three years. Szefer is an active chamber musician and a member of the Walden Trio. With Walden, he has performed throughout Canada, the United States, Mexico, and Norway. The group has competed at the Fischhoff Nation Chamber Music Competition and has attended Orford Musique, Festival del Lago, and the Trondheim International Chamber Academy. At Trondheim, they had the opportunity to collaborate with Asbjørn Nørgaard, violist from the Danish String Quartet, and worked under musicians from the group, Stockholm Syndrome, as well as Joseph Kalichstein. Daniel spent three years in Calgary Pro Musica's Young Artist Development Program. As a member of the program, he has gone to elementary schools throughout the city, giving music education workshops and assemblies, with a focus on literacy and appreciation. He has had masterclasses under artists such as Yoheved Kaplinsky, Robert McDonald, Garrick Ohlsson, Dang Thai Son, Boris Slutsky, among others. He was a top prize winner at the Arthur Fraser International Piano Competition, a finalist and prize-winner at the Prix Orford Musique, and in March 2018 was the winner of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition. Szefer recently completed his Bachelors at the University of Calgary under Dr. Krzysztof Jablonski and is currently pursuing his Masters at Northwestern University with Dr. James Giles.

#### First Round

Nocturne in F-sharp minor, Op. 48 No. 2  
Etude in G sharp minor, Op. 25 No. 6  
Waltz in A-flat major, Op. 64 No. 3  
Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52

#### Second Round

Andante Spianato et Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

Mazurkas, Op. 59  
No. 1 in A minor  
No. 2 in A-flat major  
No. 3 in F-sharp minor

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 11 in B major  
No. 12 in G-sharp minor  
No. 13 in F-sharp major  
No. 14 in E-flat minor

#### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: Metopes, Op. 29  
I. Wyspa syren (The Isle of the Sirens)  
II. Calypso  
III. Nausicaa

Chopin: Sonata No. 3 in B minor, Op. 58  
I. Allegro maestoso  
II. Scherzo: Molto vivace  
III. Largo  
IV. Finale: Presto non tanto; Agitato

#### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 2 in F minor, Op. 21



## Contestant 7

### Jan Antoni Gzella (Poland, 24)

Jan Antoni Gzella born on June 13th 1997 in Poznan, Poland. He began learning piano at the age of 5 years old. Since he was 7 years old he took part in many piano competitions in Poland and abroad. At the age of 15 he performed the first movement of F. Chopin Piano Concerto in e minor op. 11 with the Bydgoszcz Philharmonic Orchestra. Two years later he was invited by Professor Ligija Triakina for the first time to come to Moscow (Russia) to perform series of recitals during Polish-Russian art festival "Youth Academy of Art". Since then he was invited to perform at this festival three more times. In 2015 Jan was awarded a scholarship from Polish Prime Minister for exceptionally music accomplishments. In September 2018 thanks to the Richard F. Matthews bursary he came to Calgary to take part in Advanced Performance Program at Mount Royal University Conservatory where he studies with Professor Krzysztof Jabłoński. During his first year at the program he won the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition.

#### First Round

Etude in C major, Op.10 No.1  
Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No.1  
Waltz in A flat major, Op. 34 No.1  
Polonaise in A major, Op. 40 No.1

#### Second Round

Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53

Mazurkas Op. 33  
No. 1 in G-sharp minor  
No. 2 in D major  
No. 3 in C major  
No. 4 in B minor

Preludes Op. 28  
No. 4 in E minor  
No. 5 in D major  
No. 6 in B minor  
No. 7 in A major

#### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Mazurkas Op. 50  
No.1 Sostenuto - molto rubato  
No. 2 Allegramente - poco vivace  
No. 3 Moderato  
No. 4 Allegramente, risoluto

Chopin: Scherzo No. 2 in B flat Minor, Op. 31

Chopin: Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35  
I. Grave – Doppio movimento  
II. Scherzo  
III. Marche funèbre: Lento  
IV. Finale: Presto

#### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op.11





## Contestant 8 Talon Smith (United States, 19)

Talon is under the mentorship of Garrick Ohlsson and is a private student to Kevin Kenner, having previously studied with Eduardus Halim. Talon has participated in numerous masterclasses given by such pianists as Dang Thai Son, Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń, Ewa Pobłocka, Sergei Babayan, Jerome Lowenthal, and Oxana Yablonskaya. He has performed in Europe and the USA as a solo artist and a guest artist with various orchestras. He has garnered first prize in over 40 piano competitions, including the Gold Medal at the Gina Bachauer International Junior Piano Competition, and was a top prize winner at the 2020 US National Chopin Piano Competition.

### First Round

Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 1  
Grande valse brillante in E-flat major, Op. 18  
Etude in C minor, Op. 10 No. 12  
Ballade No. 2 in F major, Op. 38

### Second Round

Polonaise in F-sharp minor, Op. 44

Mazurkas, Op. 24  
No. 1 in G minor  
No. 2 in C major  
No. 3 in A-flat major  
No. 4 in B-flat minor

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 15 in D-flat major  
No. 16 in B-flat minor  
No. 17 in A-flat major  
No. 18 in F minor

### Semifinal Round

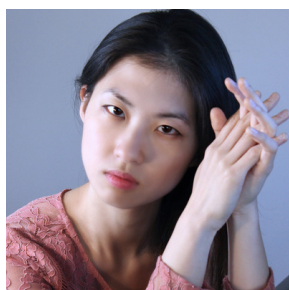
Chopin: Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35  
I. Grave – Doppio movimento  
II. Scherzo  
III. Marche funèbre: Lento  
IV. Finale: Presto

Szymanowski: Metopes, Op. 29  
I. Wyspa syren (The Isle of the Sirens)  
II. Calypso  
III. Nausicaa

Chopin: Scherzo No. 4 in E major, Op. 54

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 2 in F minor, Op. 21



## Contestant 9

### Min Joo Yi (South Korea, 27)

From Bellevue, Washington, Min Joo Yi is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Musical Arts with Professor Yong-Hi Moon at Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University, with a graduate assistantship in accompanying. She also received her Master of Music (MM) and Graduate Performance Diploma degrees (GPD) at Peabody. She received her bachelors degree (AB) in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, along with a music performance certificate, at Princeton University. Her former teachers include Francine Kay, Duane Hulbert, and Michi North. Min Joo has been named a two-time recipient of the 2020-2021 and 2019-2020 Caswell and Constance Caplan Peabody Career Development Grant, 2018-2019 Leo B. Swinderman Prize, 2017 & 2018 Clara Ascherfeld Award, three-time 2016-2018 Loraine Bernstein Memorial Fund, 2014- 2016 Princeton University Scheide Scholarship, 2013 CBC Spouses Heineken USA Performing Arts Scholarship, 2012 National YoungArts Foundation Merit Scholarship, 2010 Evelyn Lindblad Folland Endowment Fund Award, and 2010 Donna & Edwin Kornfeld Piano Scholarship. She received full fellowships to the Art of the Piano Festival, Kaplan Fellowship Program at the Bowdoin International Music Festival, and PianoTexas International Festival and Academy. She has also been recognized in the 2020 Miami Chopin National Piano Competition (semifinalist), 2019 Yale Gordon Piano Competition (third prize), 2019 American International Piano Competition (semifinalist), 2019 Concours International Piano Campus (bronze medal), 2017 Young Artists Concert Series of Sarasota National Competition (fourth prize), 2013 Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Competition (second prize), the 2011 Schimmel USASU International Piano Competition (bronze medal), 2011 New Orleans International Piano Competition (semifinalist), 2010 New York International Piano Competition (finalist), and 2010 Music Teachers National Association Piano Competition (second place in senior division national finals). Beyond music, her biology research has been published in the journals *Frontiers in Microbiology* and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, and has also been reviewed in PNAS "Front Matter." In her spare time, she enjoys drawing, and learning to play the organ and harpsichord.

### First Round

Waltz in A-flat major, Op. 42  
Etude in C major, Op. 10 No. 7  
Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No. 1  
Scherzo No. 4 in E major, Op. 54

### Second Round

Mazurkas, Op. 17  
No. 1 in B-flat major  
No. 2 in E minor  
No. 3 in A-flat major  
No. 4 in A minor

Polonaise in A-flat major, Op. 53

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 13 in F-sharp major  
No. 14 in E-flat minor  
No. 15 in D-flat major  
No. 16 in B-flat minor

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from *Metopes* - III. Nausicaa

Szymanowski: from *Mazurkas* Op. 50,  
No.14. *Animato z elegancja i grandezza*

Chopin: Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35  
I. Introduction: Grave - Doppio movimento  
II. Scherzo  
III. Marche funèbre: Lento  
IV. Finale: Presto

Chopin: Etude Op. 25 No. 7 in C-sharp minor

Chopin: Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No.2 in F minor, Op.21



## Contestant 10

### Fantee Jones (United States, 28)

Taiwanese-American pianist, Fantee Jones of Roseville, California gave her first solo recital at the age of seven and made her concerto debut performing Mozart's Piano Concerto in A Major, K. 488 at age ten. She has continued her noteworthy accomplishments winning many awards in various international competitions. She was a semi-finalist at the 2020 National Chopin Piano Competition, winner of the 2019 Eastman School Concerto Competition, finalist at the 2018 Serge and Olga Koussevitzky Young Artist Awards, prizewinner at the 2018 Los Angeles International Piano Competition, and a winner of the PianoTexas International Young Artists Concerto Competition, among others. As a result, she performed the Prokofiev 3rd Piano Concerto with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Lio Kuokman. Miss Jones made her first Carnegie Weill Hall appearance in May 2005 and has also performed at Benaroya Hall and Lied Center of Kansas in the United States, National Recital Hall in Taiwan, Sendai City Cultural Center in Japan, Seoul Arts Center in South Korea, TempPELLiaukion Kirkko "Rock Church" in Finland and Verbrugghen Hall in Australia, as well as on Cunard and Princess Cruise Lines. In addition to the piano, she also plays violin and flute. Miss Jones was a member of the Sacramento Youth Symphony (SYS) Premier Orchestra first violin section for five seasons. She went on the European tour with the SYS in 2007, performing on both piano and violin. Miss Jones has also served as one of the Evening Division piano accompanists at the Juilliard School, playing piano concerti and violin sonatas with various pianists. Miss Jones began piano training with her mother, Tiffany Jones, at the age of three. Her past teachers include Tien Hsieh, John McCarthy, and Dr. Marc Silverman. She received her Bachelor of Music as the recipient of the distinguished Roy M. Rubinstein prize at the Manhattan School of Music and a Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School in 2016. She was a recipient of the Elizabeth Pariset prize and graduated with a Master of Musical Arts degree from the Yale School of Music in 2018, studying under the tutelage of Hung-Kuan Chen. Most recently, she was the recipient of the Excellence in Accompanying Awards at the Eastman School of Music, where she is continuing her studies with Alexander Kobrin, pursuing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance and Literature and a minor in Piano Pedagogy.

### First Round

Nocturne in F-sharp major, Op. 15 No. 2  
Etude in C-sharp minor, Op. 10 No. 4  
Waltz in F minor, Op. 70 No. 2  
Waltz in F major and Op. 34 No. 3  
Ballade No. 3 in A-flat major, Op. 47

### Second Round

Mazurkas, Op. 24  
No. 1 in G minor  
No. 2 in C major  
No. 3 in A-flat major  
No. 4 in B-flat minor

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 1 in C major  
No. 2 in A minor  
No. 3 in G major  
No. 4 in E minor

Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise, Op. 22

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Mazurkas, Op. 50  
No. 1 Sostenuto - molto rubato  
No. 5 Moderato  
No. 6 Vivace

Chopin: Fantasia in F minor, Op. 49

Chopin: Barcarolle in F-sharp major, Op. 60

Chopin: Sonata No.1 in C minor, Op. 4  
I. Allegro maestoso  
II. Menuetto  
III. Larghetto  
IV. Finale: Presto

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op.11



## Contestant 11 Kevin Tu (China, 19)

Kevin Tu was born in Denver, USA in November 2002. At the age of 6, he began to play piano and learn martial arts. At age 9, he and his family settled in Shanghai due to his parent's work, and received formal systematic music studies under Catherine Su, Dr. of the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory. During his studies, he received recognition from the master classes of Viardo, Pisarev, Bashkirov, etc. In 2018, he was admitted to the Central Music School of the Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory and the Gnessin Moscow Special School of Music at the same time. He studied in the Gnessin Moscow Special School of Music under the famous master, Vladimir P. Ovchinnikov, winner of the International Tchaikovsky Competition, Leeds International Piano Competition and professor of The Moscow Conservatory. During his studies, he gave concerts and recitals in Moscow, St. Petersburg, USA, Shanghai and Taiwan. In 2018, he was invited to cooperate with The Philharmonic Orchestra of The Alexander Theater in St. Petersburg, Russia, and won excellent praise. In November 2019, he was recommended to perform in the Chopin International Art Festival held by the Chopin Music Society in Moscow as the Guest performer of Chopin's Concerto. In 2021, he was admitted to the Piano Department of Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory of Music with honors and is now studying there, in the class of Vladimir P. Ovchinnikov.

### First Round

Etude in C-sharp minor, Op. 10 No. 4  
Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No. 1  
Waltz in A-flat major, Op. 34 No. 1  
Scherzo No. 3 in C-sharp minor, Op. 39

### Second Round

Mazurkas, Op. 50  
No. 1 in G major  
No. 2 in A-flat major  
No. 3 in C-sharp minor

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 9 in E major  
No. 10 in C-sharp minor  
No. 11 in B major  
No. 12 G-sharp minor

Andante Spianato et Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Sonata No. 1 in C minor  
I. Allegro moderato

Chopin: Ballade No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 52

Chopin: Nocturne in C-sharp minor, Op. 27 No. 1

Chopin: Mazurkas op. 17  
No. 1 in B-flat major  
No. 2 in E minor  
No. 3 in A-flat major  
No. 4 in A minor

Chopin: Scherzo No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 31

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op. 11





## Contestant 12 Xi Zu (China, 27)

Born on 24 December 1994. In 2018 he completed his studies with Katarzyna Popowa-Zydroń, Piotr Kępiński and Paweł Wakarecy at the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz, having previously attended the class for special talents at Bydgoszcz School of Music. He has won numerous prizes, including the grand prix and a special prize in the Scholarship Pianists' Tournament in Ostrow Wielkopolski, first prize in the 'Youngsters Interpret Chopin' Festival in Konin, second prize in the Asia-Pacific International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition 2018, 3rd prize in the 70th Wideman international piano competition 2021. He is currently studying at the University of Miami.

### First Round

Etude in C major, Op. 10 No. 1  
Nocturne in D-flat major, Op. 27 No. 2  
Waltz in A-flat major, Op. 42  
Ballade No. 2 in F major, Op. 38

### Second Round

Nocturne in C minor, Op. 48 No. 1

Preludes, Op. 28  
No. 21 in B-flat major  
No. 22 in G minor  
No. 23 in F major  
No. 24 in D minor

Mazurkas, Op. 59  
No. 1 in A minor  
No. 2 in A-flat major  
No. 3 in F-sharp minor

Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53

### Semifinal Round

Szymanowski: from Mazurkas Op. 50  
No. 1 Sostenuto - molto rubato  
No. 2 Allegramente - poco vivace  
No. 3 Moderato  
No. 4 Allegramente, risoluto

Chopin: Barcarolle in F-sharp major, Op. 60

Chopin: Mazurkas Op. 56  
No. 1 in B major  
No. 2 in C major  
No. 3 in C minor

Chopin: Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 35  
I. Introduction: Grave - Doppio movimento  
II. Scherzo  
III. Marche funèbre: Lento  
IV. Finale: Presto

### Final Round

Chopin: Concerto No. 1 in E Minor, Op. 11

Schedule is in Eastern Standard Time

## Sunday February 6 First Round

Broadcast on the Kosciuszko Foundation YouTube Channel

- 12:00 - 2:30 Opening remarks and Session 1
- 3:00- 5:00 Session 2

## Saturday February 12 Second Round

Broadcast on the Kosciuszko Foundation YouTube Channel

- 10:00 - 12:30 Session 1
- 1:00 - 3:30 Session 2

## Sunday February 13 Second Round

Streamed on the Kosciuszko Foundation YouTube Channel

- 12:00 - 2:30 Session 3
- 5:00 announce semifinalists

## Friday February 25 Semifinal Round

Live Performance at St. Ann Catholic Church 4001 Yuma St NW, Washington, DC 20016

Live Stream on St. Ann Church YouTube Channel

- 2:00 PM Jiana Peng
- 3:00 PM Biguo Xing
- 4:00 PM Yun Chih Hsu
- 5:00 PM Break
- 5:30 PM Daniel Szefer
- 6:30 PM Min Joo Yi
- 7:30 PM Fantee Jones

Results announced after the conclusion of the semifinal round

## Saturday February 26 Live-Streamed Masterclasses 12PM-3PM

Masterclass with Akiko Ebi, Alexander Kobrin, Piotr Paleczny and three semifinalists.

At St. Ann Catholic Church 4001 Yuma St NW, Washington, DC 20016

Live Stream on St. Ann Church YouTube Channel

## Sunday February 27 Final Round

Concerto Performance with members of the National Philharmonic and Maestro Piotr Gajewski

- 3:00 Finalist 1
- 3:50 Finalist 2
- 4:40 Finalist 3

7:15 Award Ceremony and reception at the Residency of the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland.

Invitation Only. Watch livestream at Kosciuszko Foundation YouTube Channel