

PAAVALI JUMPPANEN – pianist

Finnish pianist **PAAVALI JUMPPANEN** won First Prize in the US 2000 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, and four special prizes: the Bruce Hungerford Memorial Prize, the Maurice M. Clairmont Piano Prize, the Joseph Kalichstein Piano Prize, and the Pennsylvania Presenters' Prize, a thirteen-concert tour throughout the state. He is also the recipient of the first Miriam Horowitz Meckler Award, established by YCA alumna pianist Ruth Laredo.

In 2001, the Young Concert Artists Series presented Mr. Jumppanen's New York debut at the 92nd Street NY. *The New York Times* reported that his playing was "fresh and exciting," and that "he performs with immense power and an extraordinary range of colors." Mr. Jumppanen also debuted in the Young Concert Artists Series at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC and at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, and performed in New York at the Morgan Library and at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall. In 2002, Mr. Jumppanen made his New York concerto debut with the New York Chamber Symphony conducted by Gerard Schwarz at Alice Tully Hall, and he has also performed as soloist in the US with the symphonies of Pasadena, Flagstaff, Paducah & Fort Smith.

Performances in the 2004 season included tours in Australia as soloist with the Melbourne Symphony and the West Australian Symphony Orchestras, as well as a series of solo recitals in Adelaide, Melbourne, Cairns, Brisbane, Canberra and Sydney. In 2004 Mr Jumppanen also performed concerts in France, Italy, Germany and Norway with the Oslo Philharmonic, and an appearance with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra. In the 2004/2005 season in the U.S., Mr. Jumppanen will appear with Tulsa's Signature Symphony, and also return to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, where he will perform the complete Beethoven Violin Sonatas with violinist Corey Cerovsek, and give recitals for the Classical Concert Series in North Carolina and the Weis Center for the Performing Arts in Lewisburg, PA. The Boston Gardner Museum has also invited Paavali to play 32 Beethoven sonatas in 8 concerts within two years from Jan' 2007.

Winner of the First Prize in Finland's national Maj Lind Competition in Helsinki at the age of nineteen, Mr. Jumppanen has since performed as soloist with all of Finland's orchestras, including the Tapiola Sinfonietta, the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Helsinki Philharmonic, with whom he has just appeared in a return engagement as soloist in the Liszt Piano Concerto No. 2. He has also performed with the Belgrade Philharmonic and with Switzerland's Basel Symphony Orchestra, played at the Kuhmo, Loviisa, Sibelius and Kitayushu Chamber Music Festivals in Finland, and appeared at the famed La Roque d'Anthéron Festival in France. From 2004, Mr. Jumppanen has served as Artistic Director for Finland's Lemi-Lappeenranta Music Festival.

Born in Espoo, Finland, Paavali Jumppanen began to play the piano at the age of five at the Espoo Music Institute, where he studied with Marja Huhtamäki and Katarina Nummi. He studied at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki with Margit Rahkonen, and has performed in master classes for Murray Perahia, Dimitry Bashkurov, Pascal Devoyon, and Eero Heinonen. From 1997-2000, he worked with Krystian Zimerman at the Music Academy of Basel in Switzerland.

Mr. Jumppanen frequently programs contemporary works, and has performed the Dutilleux Sonata and the Boulez Sonata for these composers. Paavali Jumppanen recorded the 3 Boulez Piano Sonatas in June '04, released on the Deutsche Grammophon label in January '05, with excellent reviews. He was nominated for the Cannes MIDEM conference "Victoires de la Musique prize for 2005", and received the German Records Critics Prize in April'05.

"...his technique is big and his imaginative daring even bigger.." - - The Boston Globe

"...his playing is fresh and exciting.." - The New York Times

" At the Kennedy Center Jumppanen left no doubt that he has the dexterity of a Paganini and the strength of a Titan" - The Washington Post

"...his playing is fresh and bracing, like a cool Artic breeze..." – The Adelaide Advertiser

"...he played this very difficult piece (Boulez Sonata No.1) with mastery of idiom and an impressive communication of structure..." – The Melbourne Age

" ..he added more glory from his concerts in Adelaide, Melbourne and Perth to his glowing overseas reviews, and his Brisbane performance showed they were no idle claims. He is everything the critics say of him and more..." – Brisbane Courier Mail