

Biography

Sitkovetsky Piano Duo,

Alexander Sitkovetsky, violin

Wu Qian, piano

1st prize winners of the prestigious Trio di Trieste Duo Competition 2011 in Italy, Alexander Sitkovetsky and Wu Qian have been performing together for over 10 years. They have given concerts as a duo in various venues in Germany, Italy, Estonia, at the Wigmore Hall in London, other venues in the UK and also in New York. Upcoming concerts include tours in Italy and Germany, performing both recitals and double concertos, as well as their Carnegie Hall Debut at Weill Hall.

Alexander Sitkovetsky, born in Moscow into a family with an established musical tradition, made his concerto debut at the age of eight and the same year came to study at the Menuhin School. Lord Menuhin was his inspiration throughout his school years and they performed together on several occasions including the Bach Double Concerto, Bartok Duos at St James' Palace, and when Alexander played the Mendelssohn concerto under Menuhin's baton. He has gone on to perform with the Netherlands Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, and the BBC Concert Orchestra, among many others. Julia Fischer, Janine Jansen, Misha Maisky, Polina Leschenko and Julian Rachlin are among the colleagues with whom he has shared the stage. Alexander has recorded for Angel/EMI, Decca and Orfeo including the Bach Double Concerto with Julia Fischer. Plans last season included concerto engagements in England, Germany, Holland, Spain and Russia and as well as recital and festival appearances in England, France, Holland, Norway, Japan, Romania and the USA. In 2011-12, Alexander has debuted with the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra at the Melbourne Arts Festival and has upcoming dates with the Brussels Philharmonic, Konzerthaus Orchester Berlin, "I Virtuosi Italiani" the Basel Kammerorchester and the Aargauer Symphony Orchestra. Alexander will join New York City's prestigious "Chamber Music Society Two" at Lincoln Center. He joins forces with Wu Qian and cellist Leonard Elschenbroich in the Sitkovetsky Piano Trio, performing frequently at London's Wigmore Hall and across the U.K and Europe in such venues as Amsterdam's Concertgebouw and the Frankfurt Alte Oper.

Wu Qian, selected by The Independent as "classical music's bright young star for 2007," was

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born in Shanghai, where she received her early training before coming to the Menuhin School at age thirteen. At fifteen, she performed Mozart's Concerto (K.449) in Queen Elizabeth Hall and again at the Menuhin Festival in Switzerland. She was soloist with the Philharmonia Orchestra performing Saint-Saens Concerto No. 2 in St. John Smith's Square. Qian made her London recital debut at The South Bank Purcell Room in 2000 and has since played there again on several occasions, including a recital broadcast by BBC Radio 3 the following year. Qian has given recitals throughout Europe and U.S. including the Steinway Halls of Hamburg and New York, where her performance was broadcast throughout Asia. She has performed in London's Wigmore and Royal Festival halls, as well as Bridgewater Hall, also a major venue in the UK. Qian made her recital debut in City Hall, Hong Kong and her debut recording was released in April, 2009 on the Dal Segno label to critical acclaim. This season she has made her recital debut at the Chamber Hall of Amsterdam's Concertgebouw and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC and has performed other recitals in Hamburg, Frankfurt, Berlin, Padova and Koblenz. Qian has represented China at the Europalia Festival in Belgium performing Chopin's 2nd Piano Concerto on tour with the Brussels Philharmonic, and has performed the "Yellow River" Piano Concerto at Toronto's Center for the Arts. Future dates include debuts with "I Virtuosi Italiani" Chamber Orchestra, Konzerhaus Orchester Berlin and performances in Italy, UK and Germany.

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