



Piano Tuomas Nikkanen



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Complete artist information including video, audio and interviews are available at www.pricerubin.com

Tuomas Nikkanen – Biography

Tuomas Nikkanen (b.1981) studied in the Sibelius-Academy graduating in 2010 (Master of Music). His teachers include Liisa Pohjola, Juhani Lagerspetz and Erik T. Tawaststjerna (son of the famous biographer of Sibelius, Erik Tawaststjerna). His studies in Sibelius-Academy also included lessons in composition under Finnish composer Tapio Nevanlinna. Nikkanen has also taken part of two master classes held by the renowned Finnish pianist, composer and conductor Olli Mustonen. Laszlo Simon, a friend and a mentor from whom he also got private lessons, considered Nikkanen the best of his generation of Finnish pianists. Nikkanen has also been a member of a group focused on new pianomusic and performing practices led by Finnish pianist Tuija Hakkila called PianoNow.

His international successes include a prize of "The Best Youngest Performer" in the International Artur Rubinstein Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland and a prize of the best performance of a Lithuanian pianowork in the International Ciurlionis Competition in Vilno, Lithuania. He was also one of the youngest finalists in the history of the Finnish Maj Lind-Pianocompetition at the age of 16 in 1997 and the winner along with the cellist Timo-Veikko Valve of the Juvenalia chamber music- competition of 1998 in Espoo, Finland.

At present, Nikkanen is one of most active musicians in Hämeenlinna, "The World Capital of Sibelius". His duties also include a vice presidency of the board of a Hämeenlinna chamber music society and the president of the Society of Iittala Music festival and he has also a great influence in organizing concerts and cultural events of his hometown, Hämeenlinna which is also the town where Jean Sibelius was born. Tuomas Nikkanen made in 2015 a recording of all the Ten pieces op.24 and the Piano sonata op.12 of Sibelius that was recorded in the actual Birthplace of Sibelius in Hämeenlinna.

The repertoire of Tuomas Nikkanen is wide-ranging. One could mention Mozart, which he prefers playing with period instruments, Chopin, Liszt, Schumann and other great romantics, pianomusic of Sibelius and other Finnish composers of the same period such as Toivo Kuula, music of the 20th century composers such as Prokofiev, Rahmaninov, Szymanowski, Messiaen, Boulez and Lutoslawski among others. In 2016 Nikkanen was awarded with the Sibelius Birthplace

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Tuomas Nikkanen – Biography

Medal by the Sibelius-society of Hämeenlinna for his work and interpretations of the life work of Jean Sibelius. He works also closely with contemporary composers such as Sampsa Ertamo and also is a member of the "Ears Open"-society founded among others, Esa-Pekka Salonen and Kaija Saariaho.

Nikkanen also plays lots of lied and chamber music and is an active partner of another Price Rubin & partners- artist, soprano Riitta Muikku.

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Tuomas Nikkanen – Press

“Tuomas Nikkanen belongs definately to the forefront of Finnish pianists. A full audience got what it expected, a whole-hearted and soulful interpertration of the Chopin second concerto played with abandonment. A proof of skill rarely heard in Hämeenlinna.”

– Vesa Rasta; Janakkalan Ilves

“TUOMAS NIKKANEN STARTLED AS A SOLOIST

The soloist of this evening, Tuomas Nikkanen is a talented pianist. He played the Chopin second concerto with a rare dignity. His values were clarity of thought and technique. His fingers are as solid as is his musicality.”

– Jari Pitkänen; Hämeen sanomat

“...it seemed as this 16-year old super-talent didn't realize how difficult work he was playing. Of course he did, but he managed to create an impression of facility.”

– Hannu-Ilari Lampila; Helsingin sanomat

“Tuomas Nikkanen fought himself to the finals (of the 1997 Maj Lind-competition) with an unhingedly tumultuos interpertration of the Rachmaninov Second Sonata. This 16-year old talent managed also to stop beside the russian yearning and nostalgia. In Nikkanen culminated also the enchantment of youth: a teddybear pulled out of a nursery playing with a big, unbreakable sound the same music that Horowitz held as his worehorse. This a grandpa like me could only watch and listen with an envy.”

– Jukka Isopuro; Helsingin Sanomat

“Tuomas Nikkanen did what one would like to hear in a concert. It is about an artist throwing himself in the music, that the artist has the courage to follow the emotions of the music and as a result pulling the audience with him. And that is exactly what Nikkanen did. The audience can just enjoy!

– Anja Kuoppa, Uusi Suomi

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Tuomas Nikkanen – Press

“The Vipunen of Sampsä Ertamo got its first performance by Tuomas Katajala and Tuomas Nikkanen and was performed magnificently. Nikkanen played the piano part with an extraordinary virtuosity and the performance could have easily been recorded then and there.”

– Erkki Korhonen; Sibelius-society newsletter

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Tuomas Nikkanen – Repertoire

Repertoire list:

1) Concerti:

- Mozart nr.17 in G, Nr.22 in E flat
- Beethoven nr.3 in c-minor
- Mendelssohn nr.1 in g-minor
- Chopin nr.2 in f-minor
- Rahmaninov nr.3 in d-minor
- Jolivet

2) Sonatas:

- Mozart nr.7 in C K.309; nr. 11 in A ("Turkish march") K.331; nr.14 in c-minor K.457; nr.15 in F K.533
- Haydn in C Hob. XVI: 48; in E flat Es 3
- Beethoven nr.1 in f-minor op.2/1; nr.8 in c-minor ("Pathetique") op.13, nr.14 in c-sharp-minor ("Moonlight") op.27/2; nr.18 in E flat op.31/3; nr.24 in F sharp op.78; nr.26 in E flat ("Les adieux") op.81a; nr.31 in A flat op.110
- Schubert in f-minor (incomplete); in A D.959
- Chopin nr.2 in b flat-minor
- Brahms nr.1 in C op.1
- Sibelius op.12
- Ilmari Hannikainen: Sonata in c-minor op.1
- Scriabin nr.2 in g-sharp-minor ("Sonata-fantasy") op.19; nr.3 in f sharp.minor op.23
- Rahmaninov nr.2 in b flat minor op.36 (1st version, 1913)
- Prokofiev nr.2 in d-minor op.14; nr.5 in C (second version)
- Szymanowski nr.1 in c-minor op.8
- Boulez nr.1
- Tauno Marttinen op.90

3) Other solo

- J.S. Bach: English suite nr 1 in A; Toccata in G; DWK I & II (selections)
- Schubert: Wanderer Fantasy; 10 Variations in F D.156; Impromptus op.90; Moment musicaux (selection) Schubert-Liszt: Auf dem wasser zu singen;

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Tuomas Nikkanen – Repertoire

Ständchen; Gretchen am spinnrade

- Chopin: Fantasy in f-minor op.49; Polonaise-fantasy op.61; Ballades 1 & 2; Scherzi 1 & 4; Polonaise op.53; Waltzes op.34, op.42 & op.64; Mazurkas op.24 & op.63; Preludes op.28; Etudes op.10 & 25; Nocturnes op.9; op.27; op.55 & op.62; Barcarolle op.60
- Schumann: Arabeske, Fantasy pieces op.12 (selection); Nachtstücke (selection); Novelette nr.8 in f sharp-minor
- Clara Wieck-Schumann: Toccata & Notturmo from pieces op.6
- Liszt: Hungarian rhapsodies 2 & 9 ("Carnival in Pest"); Transcendental studies; Concert Etude in D flat ("Un sospiro"); Consolations; Liebestraum 3; Ballade nr.2 in b-minor, Funerailles; Legend nr.2
- Bruckner: Fantasia; Erinnerung
- Tchaikovsky: Romance op.5, Capriccio op.8, Two Pieces op.10
- Sibelius: Ten Pieces op.24; The Trees op.75; Finlandia op.26, Valse Triste op.44
- Heino Kaski: Prelude "Pankakoski"; Nocturne op.17; Humoresque; Night by seashore;
- Selim Palmgren: Nocturne in Three Scenes op.72
- Toivo Kuula: Complete piano works (Three Fairytale-Pictures op.19; Six Pieces op.26, Three Pieces op.3b; Two Pieces op.37; Mutton Dance; Air Varie & Inventio; Schottis; Autumn Song)
- Ilmari Hannikainen: Trois Valses mignonnes op.17; Feux Follets
- Scriabin: Impromptus op.12; Etudes op.2, 8 & 42 (selection),
- Andrei Schulz- Evler: Concert Arabesques on motifs by Johann Strauss
- Alexander Glazunov: Grand Valse de concert in E flat op.41
- Rahmaninov: Ten Preludes op.23 (complete); Etude-Tableaux in c-sharp-minor op.33

- Szymanowski: Variations op.3; Etudes op.4; Preludes op.1; Mazurkas op.50/1-4
- Mozowski: Etude in A flat from etudes op.72
- Faure: Impromptus nos:1-3, Valse-caprice nr.1 in A
- Debussy: Suite Bergamasque; Valse romantique
- Ravel: Pavane
- Ciurlionis: Prelude and Fugue in b flat minor; Preludes (selection)
- Lutoslawski: Two etudes
- Messiaen: Le Loriot (Catalogue d'oiseaux); Vingt Regards (selection)

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- Rautavaara: Ikonit (Icons) op.6
- Barkauskas: Third Ciurlionis-Legend
- Tauno Marttinen: Water drops; In the Japanese garden
- Tomi Räisänen: Insiders (for three players)
- Maria Kallionpää: Triptych for piano
- Sampsa Ertamo: Centaur; Dryad; Hydra

Compositions:

1) Chamber music:

- Polonaisefantasy for two pianos (2003)
- Variazioni per violino e pianoforte op.3 (2004)

2) Pianoworks:

- Garden in the autumn (1995)
- Meditation (1998)
- Come on, lets Play! (2005)

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Tuomas Nikkanen – YouTube Links

Insiders

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1OYdVu6ycg>

Rachmaninoff, Vesenije vody

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsGbjA5eBjw>

Schulz-Evler/Strauss

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOhfNjVWYyU>

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