

# NEWS

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## “Grateful to music, fate and listeners!”

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**Pianist Behzod Abduraimov about himself and the upcoming concert in Kansas City.**

The guest of our creative living room is Behzod Abduraimov, a talented pianist, winner of international competitions in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Italy, the USA and other countries. In 2009, the 18-year-old Behzod won the International Piano Competition in London, winning the Grand Prix. Since then, the pianist plays the most famous scenes in the world. In addition, Behzod is “ours” - for many years now he lives in Kansas City.

Behzod Abduraimov is from Tashkent. His mother, a piano teacher, became the first music teacher for her son. Behzod studied at the music school, and now Lyceum them. Uspensky in Tashkent, is a student of a wonderful

teacher Tamara Popovich. After graduating from the Lyceum, Behzod decided to continue his musical education abroad, his choice fell on the Juilliard School in New York. At the same time, Stanislav Yudenich, a famous pianist and teacher from Kansas City, will learn about Behzod. In 2007, he invites a young musician to study at Park ICM - International Center for Music.

**- Behzod, now you are in Kansas City after a busy tour. What cities have you visited this time and which of the many halls is your favorite?**

- I performed in Tampere, London, Madrid, Lyon and other European cities. All the halls in these cities are wonderful. Perhaps I will call Auditoria Nacional de Musica in Madrid - a hall with excellent acoustics.

**- Which composer and work is your favorite?**

- I can not name one composer or one piece. There are many names on the list of greats. But I'll say that at the time of the rehearsal for a certain concert, the composer, whose music I will play, becomes my favorite.

**- Who is your pianist idol?**

- There are a lot of them, of course. This is Vladimir Horowitz, and Sergey Rakhmaninov, as well as my favorite teacher - Stanislav Yudenich, who, however, is more than a teacher. He is my mentor whom I trust completely. I am grateful to Stanislav for helping me in becoming both a pianist and a musician. The most valuable thing is that Stanislav Yudenich never pressed me, but allowed me to create "my" music, my vision and interpretation of great works.

**- You performed with famous conductors of our time. Among them are Vladimir Ashkenazi, Kshishtov Urbansky, Charles Dutoit, and, of course, Valery Gergiev. With Gergiev, you have repeatedly been on the same stage in different cities of the world and twice in Kansas City. What are your impressions of working with musicians of such a rank?**

- It is a great honor and, of course, responsibility. O maestro Gergiev. It's nice and easy to work with him As a soloist, he gives me absolute freedom. And this is very important.

**- Which of the most important concerts for you?**

- These are the concerts when I have the opportunity to play music on such great stages as the Carnegie Hall, the Grand Hall of the Moscow State Conservatory, The Royal Albert Hall. When you realize that great musicians played in these halls before you, and I was given this honor, it really inspires. I am grateful to fate and music for such moments.

**- Have there been any cases of "unsuccessful" concerts?**

- Honestly, no. There are certain standards and, as a professional, I am always ready for a concert. The only thing that sometimes complicates the performance is frequent travels and flights. Like everyone else, I sometimes feel physical fatigue. It often happens that you arrive in the morning and in the evening - a performance. But when you find yourself on stage, when the music begins, when you hear applause, you forget about the difficulties. This inexplicable and amazing energy helps in the moment of fatigue and tension.

**- Behzod, what work would you call the most lyrical and emotionally filled? In which work is life itself embodied?**

- This is a difficult question, but I will try to answer. I think this is the 3rd concert of Rachmaninov.

This product is unusually large-scale and, moreover, difficult to perform. It is in this work, in my opinion, all the emotions and feelings inherent in man are embodied.

**- What is your purpose as a musician?**

- Probably, to convey to the listener the beauty of great music. And I am happy that I have this opportunity.

**- On January 19, in Kansas City, in the hall at 1900 Shawnee Mission Parkway Mission Woods, Kansas 66205, your "Love and Death" concert will be held where you will play Liszt and Wagner.**

- Yes, I am preparing an excellent program. And, taking this opportunity, from the heart I invite all readers of the newspaper "Russian America", your friends and relatives, to the concert. Happy New Year! I wish you happiness and, of course, new musical meetings and discoveries!

**Lana Yager**