

Can Çakmur  
Piano



*"Faced with an artist who is still so young (he was born in 1997), it is customary to say that he is promising. It is not much a risk to say that this is already a master."*  
Patrice Liebermann, Crescendo

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**Turkish pianist Can Çakmur (Pronounced: Djahn Tchakmur) is the first prize winner of the 10th Hamamatsu International Piano Competition in 2018 (where he also won the Chamber Music Prize) and the Scottish International Piano Competition in 2017.**

Can has performed in a variety of concert halls worldwide; including Wigmore Hall in London, Glasgow Concert Hall, Eindhoven Muziekgebouw, Tokyo Opera City, Muza Kawasaki Hall as well as the most prestigious concert venues in his homeland, Turkey. He has appeared in the most important classical music festivals in the country including the Istanbul Music Festival, where he headlined the opening concert in 2015 with Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra under Sascha Goetzel.

2019/20 season saw him successfully debut with numerous European, Japanese and Turkish orchestras including the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Telavi International Music Festival Orchestra, the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Sapporo Symphony, the Osaka Symphony Orchestra, the Çukurova State Symphony Orchestra as well as the Presidential Symphony Orchestra and in halls such as Paris Salle Cortot and Wigmore Hall. He headlined the finale concert of the Festa Summer MUZA Kawasaki with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra conducted by Tadaaki Otaka. His recital at the Sumida Triphony Hall in Tokyo was recorded and broadcast by NHK in a 4K video production. Recent and forthcoming season highlights include Louis Vuitton Foundation in Paris, Carnival of the Animals with MDR Sinfonieorchester, Mozart and Addinsell Concertos with Camerata Schweiz at KKL Luzern, Kyoto Symphony Orchestra, Wiener Konzerthaus as well as ongoing appearances across Eurasia.

Can's latest SACD released in last October with BIS Records for the second time, featuring Franz Liszt's arrangement of Schubert's Schwanengesang has received glowing reviews from international critics including Diapason, Gramophone, Pizzicato and Crescendo. Diapason commented that "As Çakmur writes, "None of the pieces seem to have an end - instead, they vanish into thin air. " A treat from start to finish, simmered by an authentic musician and an equally wise and sensitive commentator: a short video on YouTube and his presentation texts bear witness to this." Gramophone commented that "...Given the wealth and range of his musical imagination, not to mention his genuine pianistic gifts, I believe Can Çakmur is someone from whom we can confidently and happily expect to hear a great deal more." With this groundbreaking album Can won the Young Artist of the Year at the International Classical Music Awards. "Benefitting from a superb technique he is a sensitive and rhetoric musician. After having received an ICMA Award in the Solo Instrument category last year, he is getting ICMA's Young Artist of the Year Award this year, which is also unique in our awards' history." (ICMA, January 2021)

Along with recitals and orchestral concerts, chamber music occupies an important place in Can's programme. Among his regular partners are cellists Alexandre Castro-Balbi and Friedrich Thiele, contrabassist Dominik Wagner and in trio formation Veriko Tchumburidze and Dorukhan Doruk. In January he performed a live radio concert for Deutschlandfunk recorded at the Goethe Museum in Weimar with Nikita Geller, Stefan Zientek, Neasa Ní Bhriain and Friedrich Thiele. He also recorded a recital for Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes with Dominik Wagner. In 2019, he performed with cellist Jamal Aliyev at the St. Magnus Music Festival in Orkney which was recorded live for BBC Radio 3. In 2018 he performed at the Istanbul Music Festival during "Festival Meetings" with violinist Alican Süner and cellist Jamal Aliyev.

Born in 1997 in Ankara, Can began his music education with Leyla Bekensir and Ayşe Kaptan. His studies with Jun Kanno

and Emre Ően lasted for six years and influenced him greatly. He received Diplome de Virtuosite from La Schola Cantorum in Paris with highest honours under the guidance of Marcella Crudeli in 2014. Can has also received a scholarship from the International Academy of Music in Liechtenstein and has participated in the Intensive Music Weeks and activities by the Academy. He currently pursues his studies with Grigory Gruzman in University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar and continues to work privately with Diane Andersen in Belgium.

Can is the recipient of the “2015 Young Musician Award” at 5th Donizetti Classical Music Awards in Istanbul, the 2018 DAAD-Prize of the University of Music Franz Liszt Weimar and the 2018 Aydin Gn Encouragement Award by Istanbul Culture and Arts Foundation. An avid writer and speaker, Can has written over 50 articles for the Turkish classical music magazine “Andante” and occasionally gives lectures on music across a variety of platforms.

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