

## Biography

### Louis Lortie

(piano)



[www.louislortie.com](http://www.louislortie.com)

The highly esteemed French Canadian pianist **Louis Lortie** has extended his interpretative voice across a broad range of repertoire rather than choosing to specialize in one particular style. *The London Times* has identified the artist's "combination of total spontaneity and meditated ripeness that only great pianists have".

He has recently performed with the Chicago Symphony, the Sydney Symphony, the Royal Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, both Dallas Symphony and Hong Kong Philharmonic with Jaap Van Zweden, the Warsaw Philharmonic, and toured with the Leipzig Gewanhaus, the La Scala Orchestra and Beethoven Orchester Bonn. Upcoming engagements include the Philadelphia Orchestra (Yannick Nezet-Seguin), the Montreal Symphony (Sir Andrew Davis) where he will perform the rarely heard Vaughn Williams Piano Concerto, OSESP Sao Paulo, Berlin Symphony (Sir Mark Elder), Adelaide Symphony and WASO Perth, and recitals at London's Wigmore, in Aldeburgh, Raiding Liszt Festival and Sao Paulo (complete Annees de Pelerinage), and Chopin recitals in Toronto, Ottawa, Atlanta, Montreal, Vancouver, Seattle, La Jolla, Berlin, Bonn, Rheingau and Florence.

Louis Lortie has been named Artist in Residence of the Shanghai Symphony for the 2017-2018 season, which will involve three different residency periods, plus a tour including performances in Tibet.

Mr. Lortie has performed with the world's leading conductors, including Riccardo Chailly, Jaap Van Zweden, Kurt Masur, Seiji Ozawa, Charles Dutoit, Neeme Järvi, Sir Andrew Davis, Emmanuel Krivine, Sir Mark Elder, Andres Orozco-Estrada, Yannick Nezet-Seguin and Osmo Vänskä. His play/conducting engagements are with great orchestras worldwide.

He has made more than 45 recordings for the Chandos label, covering repertoire from Mozart to Stravinsky, including a set of the complete Beethoven sonatas and the complete Liszt "Annees de Pelerinage", which was named one of the ten best recordings of 2012 by the New Yorker Magazine. His recording of the Lutosławski Piano Concerto with Edward Gardner and the BBC Symphony received high praise, as did a recent Chopin recording (he is recording all of Chopin's solo piano music for Chandos), which was named one of the best recordings of the year by the *New York Times*. Recently released recordings are Chopin Waltzes ("This is Chopin playing of sublime genius"- *Fanfare Magazine*), Saint Saens' *Africa, Wedding Cake, and Carnival of the Animals* with Neeme Jarvi and the Bergen Philharmonic, and Rachmaninov's complete works for two pianos with Helene Mercier. Future recordings are Poulenc works for piano and orchestra with the BBC Philharmonic, Faure piano works, and Scriabin piano works. For the Onyx label, he has recorded two highly acclaimed CDs with violinist Augustin Dumay.

In 2016, Louis Lortie became Master in Residence of the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel of Brussels, following Maria Joao Pires, who carried that title for four years. Mr. Lortie studied in Montreal with Yvonne Hubert (a pupil of the legendary Alfred Cortot), in Vienna with Beethoven specialist Dieter Weber and subsequently with Schnabel disciple Leon Fleisher. In 1984, he won First Prize in the Busoni Competition and was also prizewinner at the Leeds Competition. He has lived in Berlin since 1997 and also has homes in Canada and Italy.

**2017/2018**

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