

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 16 November 2016

Sydney Symphony Orchestra announces Nobuyuki Tsujii to replace pianist Hélène Grimaud in its 2017 season

The Sydney Symphony Orchestra (SSO) has announced the return to Sydney of famed Japanese pianist Nobuyuki (Nobu) Tsujii in its 2017 season due to the withdrawal of pianist Hélène Grimaud.

Grimaud has cancelled her appearances in Australia in May 2017 for personal reasons.

It was only four weeks ago that Sydneysiders were stunned by the debut performances of 28-year old Tsujii during the SSO's Beethoven Festival, and many audience members are still talking of the experience.

According to Murray Black in The Australian newspaper:

“Tsujii was born blind. When he won the 2009 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Cliburn described Tsujii’s performance as miraculous and divine. Having now heard him live, I can only endorse Cliburn’s judgment.

“The fact that Tsujii performs at the highest level as a classical concert pianist is both a remarkable achievement and a tribute to the power of the human spirit. His interpretation of Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No 3 was one of the most admirable and inspiring things I have witnessed.”

SSO Managing Director Rory Jeffes agrees that to witness Tsujii in performance is something quite sublime.

“There was magic in the air when Tsujii performed with the Orchestra in October this year, and the overwhelming positive response both from our audiences and the SSO musicians themselves meant we wanted to invite him back to Sydney as soon as possible.

“While we are disappointed Hélène Grimaud’s fans won’t have a chance to see her in 2017, we are thrilled that Tsujii accepted our offer to perform once again with the SSO. These are concerts not to be missed,” said Jeffes.

Tsujii will perform Chopin’s Piano Concerto No.2 with the SSO at the Sydney Opera House on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 May.

Tsujii will also give a recital performance on Monday 22 May at City Recital Hall Angel Place featuring Beethoven’s famous ‘Appassionata’ and ‘Moonlight’ sonatas and Bach’s Italian Concerto.

All previously issued tickets sold as part of a package or package add-on for Hélène Grimaud’s Sydney concerts will now be valid on the same date/s for the Tsujii performances. For further information, ticket-holders should contact the SSO box office on 02 8215 4600.

Single event tickets to all concerts in the SSO's 2017 season go on sale from Monday 28 November. Subscription package tickets, including concerts now featuring Nobuyuki Tsujii are immediately available and can be purchased via www.sydneyssymphony.com or via the SSO Box Office on 02 8215 4600.

NOBUYUKI TSUJII SYDNEY PROGRAMS

Nobuyuki Tsujii plays Chopin

Fri 19 May, 8pm

Sat 20 May, 8pm

CHOPIN Piano Concerto No.2

DVOŘÁK Symphony No.8

Bramwell Tovey, conductor

Nobuyuki Tsujii, piano

Nobuyuki Tsujii in Recital

Mon 22 May, 7pm

JS BACH Italian Concerto, BWV 971

MOZART Sonata in B flat, K570

BEETHOVEN Moonlight Sonata, Op.27 No.2

BEETHOVEN Appassionata Sonata, Op.57

ENDS

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