



Alexander Korsantia, piano

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770 - 1827)

Six Variations in F Major, op. 34

Ludwig van Beethoven

Sonata in E flat Major, op. 7

- I. *Allegro molto e con brio*
- II. *Largo, con gran espressione*
- III. *Allegro*
- IV. *Rondo: Poco allegretto e grazioso*

intermission

Franz Schubert
(1797 – 1828)

Sonata No. 21 in B flat Major, D.960

- I. *Molto moderato*
- II. *Andante sostenuto*
- III. *Allegro vivace con delicatezza*
- IV. *Allegro ma non troppo*

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

8:00 p.m.

Chapin Hall

Williamstown, Massachusetts

See music.williams.edu for full details and additional happenings as well as to sign up for the weekly e-newsletters.

Upcoming Events:

Wed Apr 5	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC Having Never Written a Note	Chapin Hall, stage
Wed Apr 5	4:15pm	Master Class - Alexander Korsantia, piano - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Thu Apr 6	4:15pm	Master Class - ICE - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Apr 7	8pm	ICE - Visiting Artist Series	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Sat Apr 8	4pm	Williams Handbell Choir	Chapin Hall
Wed Apr 12	12:15pm	MIDWEEKMUSIC in the Chapel	Thompson Memorial Chapel
Wed Apr 12	4:15pm	Prof. Tim Rommen - Class of 1960 Lecture	Bernhard Room 30
Fri Apr 14	7pm	Chamber Orchestra of Williams	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Mon Apr 17	4:15pm	Brad Wells - Faculty Talk	Bernhard Room 30
Wed Apr 19	8pm	Lakou Mizik - Visiting Artist Series	Chapin Hall
Fri Apr 21	7:15pm	Pre-Concert Talk with Ronald Feldman, conductor of the Berkshire Symphony	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Fri Apr 21	8pm	Berkshire Symphony Student Soloist Gala	Chapin Hall
Fri Apr 21	8pm	Kusika/Zambezi Marimba Band Spring concert	MainStage, '62 Center
Sat Apr 22	4pm	Williams Gospel Choir	Chapin Hall
Sat Apr 22	6:30pm	Kurt Pfrommer '18, tenor - Student Performance	Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall
Sat Apr 22	8pm	Kusika/Zambezi Marimba Band Spring concert	MainStage, '62 Center

*Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.*



Alexander Korsantia, piano

Dubbed “a major artist” by the *Miami Herald* and a “quiet maverick” by the *Daily Telegraph*, pianist Alexander Korsantia has been praised for the “clarity of his technique, richly varied tone and dynamic phrasing” (*Baltimore Sun*), and a “piano technique where difficulties simply do not exist” (*Calgary Sun*). The *Boston Globe* found his interpretation of *Pictures*

of an Exhibition to be “a performance that could annihilate all others one has heard.” And the *Birmingham Post* gushed that “his intensely responsive reading was shot through with a vein of constant fantasy, whether musing or mercurial.” Ever since winning the First Prize and Gold Medal of the Arthur Rubinstein Piano Master Competition and the First Prize at the Sidney International Piano Competition, Korsantia’s career has taken him to many of the world’s major concert halls, collaborating with renowned conductors such as Valery Gergiev, Christoph Eschenbach, Gianandrea Noseda and Paavo Järvi and orchestras as the Chicago Symphony, Kirov Orchestra and Israel Philharmonic.

In the 2016-17 Season Mr. Korsantia will appear with the Stuttgart Philharmonic under Dan Ettinger as well as make a return appearance to the Duluth Superior Symphony. Recent engagements have also included Rachmaninov’s Piano Concerto No. 3 with Gergiev and the Mariinski Orchestra in Eliat, Israel, followed by a tour across that country with the Camerata Israel performing the 1st Concerto by Shostakovich, a work later repeated at the Batumi Festival in Georgia under Maxim Vengerov. Korsantia also performed with the Israel Symphony, Mannheim Symphony, and Goteborg Symphony.

Earlier, Korsantia made his debut with the Cincinnati Symphony and Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2, and performed with the Omaha, Elgin and Pacific Symphonies. These concerts followed a stint with the Israel Philharmonic under Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos the previous summer, where he performed Beethoven’s Concerto No. 5, “Emperor” and the Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2 nine times. In Europe he was heard on tour with the Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, performing Chopin’s Piano Concerto No. 2 in France and Germany, as well as with the Noeburg Chamber Orchestra across Germany. He also gave recitals at the Festival Piano Jacobins in Toulouse as well as in Calgary, Lodz, and his hometown, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Other noteworthy engagements have included a televised performance of Rachmaninov’s Piano Concerto No. 3 at the White Nights Festival in St. Petersburg; performances at the Stresa Festival in Italy under the baton of Yuri Bashmet; concerts at the Newport, Tanglewood, Vancouver, and Gilmore festivals; with the symphony orchestras of Vancouver, Omaha, Oregon, and Louisville; and with the RAI Orchestra in Turin, Oslo Philharmonic, Orchestra of and the City of Birmingham, the Georgian State Orchestra, the Kirov Orchestra, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, and others. He has also participated in a United States recital tour with renowned violinist Vadim Repin.

A veritable superstar in his country of birth, Korsantia performed at the inauguration of Georgian President Saakashvili in 2004, a year after National Television released a full-length documentary about him. In 1999, he was awarded one of the most prestigious national awards, the Medal of Honor, bestowed on him by then-President Eduard Shevardnadze.

Born in Tbilisi, Georgia, Alexander Korsantia began his musical studies at an early age. Among his mentors are his mother, Sventlana Korsantia and Tengiz Amiredjibi, Georgia’s foremost piano instructor. In 1992, he moved his family to the United States and joined the famed piano studio of fellow Georgian, Alexander Toradze, at Indiana University. Korsantia resides in Boston where he is a Professor of Piano on the faculty of the New England Conservatory.