

Alfred University's MostArts Festival to host legendary Horowitz Piano

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The late Vladimir Horowitz, legendary pianist, playing the famed CD 503 Steinway

ALFRED, NY The legendary Steinway & Sons Model D Horowitz Piano, on a tour throughout North America, will make a stop in Alfred as part of Alfred University's upcoming MostArts Festival, scheduled for July 8-14.

The stunning piano a nine-foot grand and one of Steinway's most revered designs has been on tour throughout the United States. The tour provides a rare opportunity for the public to see, hear, touch and even play CD 503, the fabled piano that accompanied classical titan Vladimir Horowitz (1903-89) on tour. It was known to be one of Horowitz's favorite instruments.

Horowitz, a Steinway Artist Immortal, is widely considered one of the greatest pianists of the 20th century. His colorful personality and astounding performances enthralled audiences for decades.

Early in 1934, as a wedding present, Steinway & Sons presented Horowitz and his wife Wanda with a Steinway Model D, Serial #279503. In the early 1940's, this piano was replaced with #314503, now known simply as CD 503. Horowitz kept the piano in his New York townhouse and used it in many recitals and recordings in the 1970s and 1980s. He famously demanded that the piano be his exclusive touring instrument during the last four years of his life, including for his triumphant return to the former Soviet Union for performances in Moscow and Leningrad (St. Petersburg) in 1986.

"The MostArts Festival is honored to be a part of a national tour to showcase the personal Steinway & Sons piano of perhaps the greatest pianist of the 20th Century, Vladimir Horowitz," said Lisa Lantz, Artistic Director of the MostArts Festival and Young Pianist Competition, and professor of music at Alfred University.

“Having the Horowitz Steinway at Alfred University for the 2018 MostArts Festival is a very rare and special opportunity. I hope that it brings inspiration to our eight competition finalists as well as other musicians and piano lovers who attend this year’s MostArts Festival. They will have the unique opportunity to not only hear this notable instrument, but also the chance to play it. This particular instrument is an extraordinary piece of classical music history.”

Since its founding in New York in 1853, Steinway & Sons has been considered the world's premier piano manufacturer. Known for their exceptional craftsmanship, Steinway & Sons pianos are built in one of two company-owned and operated factories: Astoria, NY, and Hamburg, Germany. Steinway & Sons pianos are still constructed primarily by hand, using many of the techniques developed over 160 years ago. Today, Steinway & Sons also offers the Boston and Essex piano lines. For more information, visit www.steinway.com.

Festival audience members will have a chance to hear the Horowitz Steinway each evening from 7-7:20 p.m., when pianists Anthony Pattin and Lucy Mauro perform in the lobby of Miller Theater prior to the MostArts Festival Evening Concert Series.

The MostArts festival begins with the Opening Gala Concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 8, in Miller Theater. The concert will feature the talents of Alice Zhang, winner of the Young Pianist Competition from the 2017 MostArts Festival. Zhang will perform Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the International Festival Orchestra, under the direction of Maestro Yuval Zaliouk.

Other events scheduled throughout the week will include a number of musical performances and concerts, workshops and art exhibitions in the University’s museums and galleries.

Once again, the Festival will offer the noontime "Sound Bites Sampler" Chamber Music Series. The free performances feature various groups of musicians performing gems of the chamber music repertoire. The Evening Concert Series includes internationally-renowned pianists Andreas Klein and Angelin Chang, and violinist Blanca Cecilia Gonzalez.

Eight finalists in the Young Pianist Competition, from across the United States ages 13-18, will vie for a \$10,000 grand prize, given in memory of late Alfred University faculty member and longtime Wellsville resident Robert Hutter. These extraordinary young musicians will perform solo recitals as well as concertos with the Festival Orchestra during the final round of the competition.

In addition to great music, there will be an opportunity to see great art during the "Music Under the Stars" Gallery Hop and BBQ featuring the Alfred Art Walk. Visitors are invited to take the tour to various galleries on campus and around the Alfred community. The Art Walk culminates at the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, an exhibition by ceramic artist, Cristina Cordova, and another featuring selected prints by Elisabeth Pellathy, Lee Somers, and Scott Stephens.

A variety of one-day workshops for all levels of ability are offered in clay, plein air, creative writing, guzheng, food carving, cooking classics, flower arranging, and a very special free children's mural project. Space is limited for each workshop, so sign up today. Information and Registration can be found on the [MostArts website](#) under Workshops.

For more information on the Festival, including a complete schedule of events, and to purchase tickets, please visit the [MostArts website](#). Ticket inquiries can also be made by emailing MostArts@alfred.edu or by calling Lantz at 607-871-2569.