

Simone Pedroni

Biography July 2024

Simone Pedroni is an award-winning artist of the highest caliber, celebrated the world over for his effortless virtuosity, mystifying color palette and his commanding, charismatic stage presence. A pupil of Piero Rattalino at the Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi of Milan and of Lazar Berman and Franco Scala at the Academy “Incontri col Maestro” of Imola, Simone Pedroni won the Gold Medal at the prestigious Van Cliburn Competition in Texas in 1993.

This grand award launched his solo career, and since then he has been a soloist in high demand, performing all over the world in recital and with some of the most highly acclaimed orchestras, and has collaborated with conductors such as Sir Yehudi Menuhin, Vladimir Spivakov, Zubin Mehta, Eliahu Inbal, Stanisław Skrowaczewski, Gianandrea Noseda, Roberto Abbado, Oleg Caetani, Leonard Slatkin, Riccardo Chailly and Vladimir Ashkenazy.

He has performed at the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, Carnegie Hall in New York, at the Herkulesaal in Munich, the Filharmonia Narodowa in Warsaw, and the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, as well as at numerous other sold-out concerts in the United States, Japan and China.

Also in demand as a recording artist, Mr. Pedroni has recorded for various record labels: Philips Classics, La Bottega Discantica (Goldberg Variations by Bach and music by Liszt), LOL Records (music by Mussorgsky, Pärt, Schubert, Scarlatti, Bach/Busoni, Chopin, Gottschalk, Horowitz), and Decca Records (the Piano Concerto in E minor by Nino Rota, “Piccolo mondo antico”).

In addition, Mr. Pedroni has recorded for Varèse Sarabande, the largest film-score label in the world, *Themes and Transcriptions*, a piano recital entirely dedicated to the music of John Williams. The recording was officially approved by Maestro Williams himself. (All of these recordings are also available on iTunes.)

From the 2007/08 season until 2016, he was an Artist-in-Residence of the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano, where he performed the world première of Luis Bacalov's Piano Concerto and with whom he made his début as a conductor in September 2015, receiving great accolades for a program dedicated to the *Star Wars* music by John Williams. The sold-out concert was a huge success with the public and critics alike.

In 2014 Mr. Pedroni also created the acclaimed Alagna Music Festival “Da Bach a Williams”, of which he is currently the Artistic Director. It features world-renowned soloists and chamber ensembles, selling out consecutive concerts to rave reviews.

With the American flutist Sara Andon he released the double album for SONY CLASSICAL “Cinema Morricone”, with his own transcriptions and arrangements.

In 2022 he has been chosen as a soloist in the “Abrahamic Symphony” commissioned by the Abu Dhabi Festival and composed of Ihab Darwish, David Shire & John Debney.

For Warner Classics Pedroni recorded the double album “John Williams Reimagined”, in trio with Sara Andon and Cecilia Tsan. The new transcriptions created by Pedroni and present in this recording, have been praised by John Williams with these words: “Pianist Simone Pedroni, flutist Sara Andon, and cellist Cécilia Tsan have conceived, produced and recorded a new trio album of my music that brings me great joy. With their new arrangements and their particularly fine artistry, they have enhanced and elevated my music and I heartily recommend their recording to all who might enjoy this repertoire”.