

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet



French pianist Jean-Efflam Bavouzet combines a rare elegance and clarity in his playing with a deep and thoughtful musicality. His insatiable enthusiasm and curiosity has led him to explore a repertoire ranging from Haydn, Beethoven, Bartok and Prokofiev to contemporary works by composers such as Bruno Mantovani and Jörg Widmann – both with whom he enjoys a close friendship. As well as performing, he has also recently completed a transcription for two pianos of Debussy's famous dance poem *Jeux*; which is to be published by Durand with a foreword by Pierre Boulez.

Bavouzet has maintained a close relationship with Boulez ever since their first appearance together with the Orchestre de Paris in 1998 with Bartok's Piano Concerto No. 3. They will next appear together in summer 2008 with the BBC

Symphony Orchestra. Other upcoming dates for Bavouzet include a Wigmore Hall recital in March 2008 and again in 2009, and a recital within the International Piano Series at the Queen Elizabeth Hall. He will appear with the National Orchestra in Dublin and Pascal Rophé in May 2008, and will perform the complete Beethoven Sonatas in the Great Hall of the Forbidden City in Beijing throughout the 2008/09 season.

In France, recent engagements have included Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No.3 with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France at Salle Pleyel with Vladimir Ashkenazy, in December 2007. In September 2007 Bavouzet performed Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris and Lawrence Foster in Paris.

In Germany, Jean-Efflam Bavouzet recently performed Messiaen's *Turangalila Symphony* with the Deutsches Sinfonie Orchester Berlin and Ingo Metzmacher. In the first part of this concert, he gave a solo recital playing Ravel's *Miroirs*. Other recent engagements have included performances in the Berlin Philharmonie at the Berliner Festwochen under the direction of Zoltan Kocsis for the 80th birthday celebration of György Kurtág, and a tour with the Orchestra of the Saarländischer Rundfunk and Jacques Mercier in September 2007.

An exclusive recording artist for Chandos, Jean-Efflam Bavouzet is currently midway through a recording project of Debussy's Complete Works for Solo Piano. The recently released second instalment was 'Editor's Choice' in the January issue of *Gramophone* magazine, as well as 'Disc of the Month' in *Classic FM* magazine, and 'Diapason d'Or' in *Diapason* magazine. The first volume has won the 'Choc de l'année' 2007 in the *Monde de la musique* magazine. Previous recordings include the complete works for solo piano by Ravel as well as a CD with works by Liszt on MDG. On Harmonic Records, Bavouzet's Haydn recordings feature on the list of *Le Monde de la Musique*'s '150 best ever piano recordings'.

A former student of Pierre Sancan at the Paris Conservatoire, Alexander Edelman and Dimitri Bashkirov, Jean-Efflam Bavouzet was introduced to Sir Georg Solti in 1995, who invited him to give his debut with the Orchestre de Paris; Bavouzet is considered as the Maestro's last discovery. In 1986 Bavouzet took the first prize in the International Beethoven Competition in Cologne. He has also been awarded the Steven de Groote Chamber Music Prize at the Van Cliburn Competition, and is a Professor for Life in the Piano Department of the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold, Germany.

2007/08 season only. Please contact HarrisonParrott if you wish to edit this biography.