Pierre-Laurent AimardPiano

“A brilliant musician and an extraordinary visionary” *(Wall Street Journal)*, Pierre-Laurent Aimard is widely acclaimed as an authority on music of our time while also recognised for shedding fresh light on music of the past.

In the 2025/26 season, Pierre-Laurent celebrates the 100th birthday of his longtime friend and collaborator György Kurtág with recitals at the Budapest Music Centre, Philharmonie Luxembourg and as part of his residency with Madrid’s Centro Nacional de Difusión Musical. J. S. Bach’s *Well-Tempered Clavier* Vol.2 also constitutes a programme mainstay throughout the season surrounding the release of the album in October 2025, which follows 11 years after the success of Vol.1. Scheduled performances include Concertgebouw Amsterdam, London’s Southbank Centre, Konzerthaus Dortmund, Stockholm Konzerthaus, Seattle Benaroya Hall, Chamber Music Detroit and Boston Celebrity Series. Aimard’s extensive recital schedule also includes the Louvre, NTCH Taipei, NCPA Beijing and Shanghai Concert Hall. With orchestra, Aimard makes solo appearances across the season with the New York Philharmonic, Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Stuttgart Kammerorchester, Hamburg Symphoniker, NDR Radiophilharmonie, Concerto Budapest, Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo, Westdeutscher Rundfunk, Singapore Symphony and Seoul Philharmonic.

Aimard has enjoyed close collaborations with leading composers, including Helmut Lachenmann, Elliott Carter, Harrison Birtwistle, György Kurtág, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Marco Stroppa and Olivier Messiaen, and given many notable premieres; most recently *DIVISONS* for four hands by George Benjamin at Berlin’s Boulez Saal, which he repeats in the 2025/26 season at 92NY, the Library of Congress in Washington, and London’s Wigmore Hall. He also continues his associations with regular chamber music partners, most notably Isabelle Faust, Jörg Widmann and Jean-Guihen Queyras, touring Amsterdam’s Muziekgebouw, Kölner Philharmonie, Konzerthaus Wien, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, and Madrid’s Auditorio Nacional with Messiaen’s *Quartet for the End of Time*.

In 2025 Aimard released *Kurtág: Játékok*. The latest in a series of critically acclaimed collaborations with Pentatone, it was awarded five stars by BBC Music Magazine. It follows *Schubert: Ländler* (2024), the complete *Bartók Piano Concertos* with Esa-Pekka Salonen and San Francisco Symphony Orchestra (2023), *Visions de l’Amen* (2022) recorded with Tamara Stefanovich, Beethoven’s *Hammerklavier Sonata* & *Eroica Variations* (2021), and Messiaen’s magnum opus *Catalogue d’oiseaux*(2018),which garnered multiple awards, including the German Record Critics’ Award.

Aimard is widely recognised as an innovative curator and uniquely significant interpreter of piano repertoire from every age. Previous residencies include the complete cycle of Beethoven’s piano concertos for Musikkollegium Winterthur and ground-breaking projects at Porto’s Casa da Musica, New York’s Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, Konzerthaus Vienna, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Lucerne Festival, Mozarteum Salzburg, Cité de la Musique in Paris, Tanglewood Festival, the Edinburgh Festival, and as Artistic Director of the Aldeburgh Festival from 2009 to 2016.

The recipient of many prizes, Aimard was awarded the prestigious International Ernst von Siemens Music Prize in 2017 in recognition of a life devoted to the service of music and the Leonie Sonning Music Prize, Denmark’s most prominent music award in 2022. A member of the Bayerische Akademie der Schönen Künste, Aimard has held professorships at the Hochschule Köln and was previously an Associate Professor at the College de France, Paris. In spring 2020, he re-launched a major online resource in collaboration with the Klavier-Festival Ruhr, Explore the Score, which centres on the performance and teaching of Ligeti’s piano music.