

Dr. Oliver Salonga, *piano*

Praised for his emotional energy and technical brilliance, Oliver Salonga has enthralled music aficionados in the concert halls of the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Philippines, Australia, and China. He gained national recognition after winning first prizes in the National Music Competition for Young Artist twice in a row in 1998 and 2001. He graduated from the Philippine High School for the Arts with High Honors and as Outstanding Graduate Artist in Music in 2003. With all these achievements, he has had a graceful transition from being a child prodigy to an artist of high musical insights.

Oliver Salonga received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Piano Performance at University of Southern California with minors in Music Analysis, Arts Management, and Collaborative Arts. He obtained his Master of Music and Artist Diploma in Piano Performance at the Cleveland Institute of Music and was awarded the Zellen Piano Prize in 2009 and 2011 respectively.

As a veteran of international competitions, Salonga won Gold Medal in 2008 Joenju International Piano Competition in South Korea. Also, he has been invited to the world's most prestigious competitions which includes 2008 Florida International Piano Competition, 2010 Hilton Head International Piano Competition, 2011 Scottish International Piano Competition, 2011 Rina Sala Gallo International Piano Competition to name a few. His past mentors include Dr. Angela Cholakian, Mr. Antonio Pompa-Baldi, Dr. Roberta Rust, and Mr. Norman Krieger.

His concerto repertoire ranges from classical concertos of Beethoven to contemporary concertos of Prokofieff and has performed with international orchestras such as Jeonju Symphony, Manila Symphony Orchestra, Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra and Sydney Symphony Orchestra. His solo performances were radio broadcasted and live streamed at Hilton Head Classical Radio Station, WXEL 90.7, DZFE 98.7 and Dulwich College, UK.

As a pedagogue, he has given masterclasses at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, University of the Philippines, University of Sto. Tomas, Children's Talent Education Center, Clarion for the Performing Arts, Philippine Suzuki Association and Philippine High School for the Arts. He has taught at Soochow University School of Music and Shanghai United International School. He will join the international piano faculty of FaceArt Institute of Music in Shanghai on August, 2017. He will be an adjudicator for the Semi-Finals of upcoming National Music Competition for Young Artist this November. Upcoming engagements include recitals in Shanghai Oriental Arts Center and Shanghai Symphony Hall.