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YU-CHIEN (BENNY) TSENG, *violin*

Yu-Chien (Benny) Tseng is rapidly building an international reputation as an emerging young soloist of enormous promise praised for his “grace, poise, and blistering virtuosity.”

Following his win at the XV International Tchaikovsky Violin Competition in 2015, he has made a series of major debuts with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Munich Philharmonic, Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra and Czech Philharmonic Orchestra. Signed to Deutsche Grammophone in 2016, his first project, a recital disc, was being recorded in Berlin in October 2016 and was released in January 2017. His second album has been recorded with Maestro

Mikhail Pletnev and the Russian National Orchestra, featuring Tchaikovsky violin concerto and other celebrated works by the composer, and will be released in 2018.

A student of eminent pedagogues Aaron Rosand and Ida Kavafian at the Curtis Institute of Music, Tseng previously won first prizes at the Singapore International Violin Competition, Sarasate Violin Competition in Pamplona, Spain and the Isang Yun Violin Competition in Korea.

After his German debut with the Saarbrücken Radio Orchestra, the critic praised his performance of the Beethoven Violin Concerto: “Classically balanced without showing off; Sensitive, discreet nuances; Highly cultured sound; graceful and playful, relaxed elegance without attitude – Exemplary!”

Yu-Chien has appeared as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Mariinsky theatre Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Belgium, Orquesta Sinfónica de Navarra, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Taiwan Philharmonic, China Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Sinfonietta and many others. He has worked with Maestros such as Valery Gergiev, Jiří Bělohlávek, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Osmo Vänskä and Jacek Kasprzyk.



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At the Tchaikovsky Competition, his winning performances in the final round featured two of the most iconic concertos in the violin repertoire, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius, attracting the attention of Maestro Valery Gergiev, who invited him to perform at the maestro's festival in Mikkeli, Finland, as well as the White Night Festival in St. Petersburg and the Far East Festival in Vladivostok. He also performed both the Tchaikovsky and Brahms concertos with Gergiev and the Munich Philharmonic on their tour to Taiwan in November 2015. Tseng has frequently performed in recital in Europe, America and Asia.

Born in Taipei Taiwan, Benny Yu-Chien pursued his studies in the Curtis Institute of Music from the age of 13. He plays the 1732 Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesu Ex "Castelbarco-Tarisio" on loan from the Chi-Mei Culture Foundation, Taiwan.