

Jonathan Plowright : Biography 2023



Described by Gramophone magazine as *'one of the finest living pianists'* Jonathan Plowright has, over the past 30 years, attracted tremendous international acclaim from critics, colleagues and audiences alike for his award winning recordings and performances. Highly respected for his virtuosic, powerful and deeply poetic musical interpretations of both standard and unfamiliar repertoire, Jonathan has performed worldwide as a recitalist and appeared with numerous leading conductors, orchestras and ensembles.

Jonathan has recorded a large and diverse range of music for the Hyperion, Warner, Dux and BIS Record labels. As well as achieving chart success, his interpretations have won accolades such as *Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik*, *Gramophone Editor's Choice*, *BBC Music Magazine Choice*, *Diapason d'Or*, *FonoForum Tipp*, *CD of the Week* on Classic FM, ABC Classic FM, the Daily Telegraph and Sunday Times, and nominations for Gramophone and International Classical Music Awards.

His recordings of the complete Brahms solo piano works for BIS Records, received many 'Editor's Choice' awards and 5* reviews; his performances being compared favourably to the great Brahms interpreters of all time, and hailed as a 'benchmark series'. His interpretations are being compared to the likes of Lupu, Katchen, Arrau and Pires, and have been described as "a stunning achievement". In 2020 Gramophone Magazine listed them on their 50 greatest ever Brahms recordings. As a result of this success, Jonathan was given his own 'Brahms Plus' six concert Artistic Series at the Wigmore Hall in London, performing the complete solo piano works over two seasons 2018-20.

Over the past two decades Jonathan has also become a well known ambassador of neglected Polish Romantic piano repertoire, largely due to his recordings of music by such composers as Michał Bergson (World Premiere Recording of newly discovered Concerto), Jerzy Gablenz (World Premiere Commercial Recording), Henryk Melcer, Ignacy Paderewski, Władysław Żeleński and Aleksander Zarzycki. Collaborating with the Karol Szymanowski Quartet, Jonathan Plowright has made recordings of chamber works by Ignacy Friedman, Ludomir Różycki, Juliusz Zarębski and Władysław Żeleński. These have led to numerous concert appearances throughout Poland, with many invitations to perform for significant Polish musical anniversaries and celebrations, most notably the opening ceremony of the 'Year of Paderewski' in 2001, the 2010 Chopin Anniversary, and the '100 for 100' celebrations of Polish Independence in 2018.

Born in Yorkshire, England, Jonathan won the Gold Medal at the Royal Academy of Music studying with Alexander Kelly, and a Fulbright Scholarship to the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore where he won the Peabody Concours and Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Award. At this time Jonathan also won the Gold Medal at the Royal Overseas League and the European Piano Competition.

Jonathan was on the Keyboard Faculty of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland from 2007- 2020, and in 2013 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music.

<http://www.jonathanplowright.com/>