

Vittorio FORTE

Pianist

English BIO

Born in Italy, Vittorio Forte is considered **one of the leading pianists** of the new Italian school. (from an interview written by J.C. Hoffel  for Concertclassic.com)

He began studying piano at the age of nine. After taking a somewhat unconventional route, he met Jos  **Lepore**, an Argentinian teacher and a student of Carlo **Zecchi**, who noticed the young pianist's musical abilities.

For three years he continued his piano studies in advanced courses with such pianists as Gy rgy **S ndor**, Mikhail **Petukhov** and Edith **Murano**.

In just a few years, he won several prizes at piano competitions in Italy (Ostuni, Lamezia, Modica). The First Prize at the international competition in Zumaia, Spain, allows him to make his d but with an orchestra in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9 "Jeunehomme".

In 1998, laureate of the Citt  di Valentino International Music Competition, Vittorio Forte leaves Italy to settle on the French shores of **Lake Geneva**.

After numerous European concerts, he is awarded a scholarship from the Violeta Minkova Foundation during a tour of **Bulgaria (Sofia, Pleven)**.

At the **Lausanne Conservatory** (Haute  cole de Musique), he continued his studies with Christian **Favre**, who has a major impact on his musical development, and takes part in master classes conducted by Paul **Badura-Skoda**, Jean-Marc **Luisada** and Fran ois-Ren  **Duch ble**. The latter selects him to play Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 "Emperor" with the **Lausanne Chamber Orchestra**.

Having caught the eye of William Grant **Nabor **, he was selected as one of the most talented contemporary pianists at the **Lake Como International Piano Academy**. There he receives guidance from such masters as Stanislav **Ioudenitch**, Andreas **Staier**, Menahem **Pressler** and Fou **Ts'ong**.

At the **Vlado Perlemuter Grand Prix** in France, he is awarded two prizes, including the **Chopin Prize** for best interpretation of the Polish composer's works.

Seeking to discover new pianistic horizons, Vittorio Forte decides to devote his first compact disc, released under the **Lyrinx** label, to the Italian composer Muzio **Clementi**. Critics in France, Germany and Japan are unanimous, and the disc is selected as one of the **best new CDs by the German radio station Hr2-kultur**.

Following the success of his first CD, Vittorio Forte continues his concerts in **Europe** and in the **United States**, where he plays in **New York** at the atmospheric Bargemusic and for the Yamaha Artists Service.

He also performs at the **Castiglione del Lago Festival**, and the **Bocconi University "Stagione musicale"** in Italy and at the **Kawai Concert Series** in Germany, **St Barnabas music season (London**

– **UK**), Opera in **Umea (Sweden)**, Sérénade du palais (**Geneva**), **Pro Nota series (Germany)**, **Picanya Temporada (Spain)**. He records a new album devoted to Robert Schumann (Lyrix).

In France, he has taken part in several festival and concerts' series as well as International Piano Festival **La Roque d'Antheron**, the Pianos Folies in **Le Touquet**, the **Elne Piano Fortissimo** International Festival, the Autour d'un piano Music Festival, the Nouveaux Talents Festival (where he is obtained "Public award"), the Clef de Soleil Festival and the **Liszt en Provence** Festival, **Solistes à Bagatelle**, **Goethe institut series** in **Paris**, ...

He has performed with the Bacau Orchestra, Caen Orchestra, « Musiciens of Europe » Orchestra, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, Accademia delle Muse Orchestra, Ribaupierre Orchestra and Geneva Sinfonietta Orchestra in Switzerland, Italy, France, Belgium.

His recording devoted to **Couperin & Chopin** was nominated at the **ICMA 2014** (International Classical music Awards) and obtained excellent reviews in France, Germany, Benelux. He is invited for radio broadcasting programs in Italy, France and Switzerland.

His **CD**, « **Voyage Mélodique** » devoted to **transcriptions (Liszt and E. Wild)** of piano works originally composed for voice and piano from **Schubert to Gershwin**, has been awarded in Belgium, France, Switzerland, for its originality and the eclectic choices of works.

Recently, Vittorio Forte recorded for AEVEA an album with the complete Chopin Waltzes (released in 2018), and for Odradek records an astonishing project of C.P.E. Bach keyboard works (JOKER Crescendo, 5 Stars CLASSICA, 5 DIAPASONS) which is nominated for **ICMA 2020**.

The new album of Vittorio Forte "Earl Wild: [Re] Visions" is devoted to the transcriptions of the great american pianist.

In addition to his concert activities, Vittorio Forte gives master classes for professional and advanced students within the **C.A.P.A.** (Centre d'Activités Pianistiques & Artistiques) and he is the artistic director of « Piano Intime » concerts' series in Montpellier.

"This musician of high lineage is quite an artist, and not only one of the most gifted pianists of his generation. »

Jean-Charles Hoffelé - Classica

"Vittorio Forte's way of making all the fingers sing on the keyboard is admirable...Vittorio Forte is unrivalled in his ability to unravel the melodic interlacing, the backgrounds, or to bring out such a sinuous line from the depths of the piano. His intimate and rhythmically smooth playing is able to reach an orchestral density, all the more remarkable as it does not call for muscular strength.

What a grace, smiling moreover ! "

Alain Lompech - Diapason

" From listening to Forte's poetic reading, it is easy to understand both why C.P.E. Bach was so admired by Haydn and how he remained a strong influence on Beethoven. »

Patrick Rucker - Gramophone Magazine

"A magnificent disc (C.P.E. Bach - Abschied)... admirable celebration of the cantabile... Sensational! »

Philippe Cassard - France Musique

"It's a piano that is as subtle, fresh and attentive to the slightest breath in the melodic line, all thanks to an accompaniment that brings dynamism and underlying energy that is more than primordial to Chopin, a kind of motor that nothing can stop. Between purity and emotion, the language proposed here enjoys a certain freedom which is perfectly in tune with Chopin's discourse. Everything is measured, thoughtful and always timely. A beautiful piano... poetry in music. »

Ayrton Desimpelaere - Journalist Crescendo Magazine

"Vittorio Forte's C.P.E Bach performances are highly inspired and charming, revealing the composer's virtuosity, his impulsive rhetoric and his genuine poetry as well."

Rémy Franck - President of Int. Classical Music Awards - Editor-in-Chief Pizzicato Mag.

"In its natural elegance, Vittorio Forte's playing forces admiration with humility and grace".

J.J. Millo – OpusHD

"From concert to concert, from exploration to exploration, Vittorio Forte builds bridges between worlds, strengthens his playing, the module between shadow and light, gives it a delicacy, a sound of its own, makes beauty vibrate. »

Sarah Franck - Arts'chipels

"...Conquered by his delicate, beautifully chiselled and valiant playing. And his oral presentation of the works was a model of relevance and clarity. This pianist deserves our undivided attention."

Bertrand Boissard - journalist Diapason

"A great piano moment, great art! Success guaranteed! A pianist not to be missed. »

Patrice Imbaud - Music Education Magazine