

## Dr. Lei Weng

Pianist Lei Weng was hailed as "the exceptionally brilliant Chinese pianist" in his Seattle debut with the Northwest Mahler Festival Symphony when he performed Rachmaninoff's third piano concerto. *New York Concert Review* acclaimed Lei Weng for his Carnegie Hall sold-out debut as "a colorist of exemplary control". Followed by an immediate re-invitation, Lei Weng returned to Carnegie Hall two months later, when *New York Concert Reviews* remarked: "Weng displayed a powerhouse technique and provided good contrast with delicate moments."

Lei Weng is the laureate of many national and international competitions, including the top prizes in the Isabel Scionti International Piano Competition and the Camerata Piano Competition, Silver Medal in the Wideman International Piano Competition and 3rd prize at the Kingsville International Competition. He was also a prizewinner in the China National Piano Competition and the TCU/Cliburn Competition.

Lei Weng has performed at such world most prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, and Steinway Hall Center in New York, Phillips Collections in Washington D.C., Beijing Music Hall, Taichung National Symphony Hall, Kaohsiung Cultural Center, Banff Center in Canada, Tanglewood Festival, Messiaen Festival and Linton Chamber Music Series.

As an orchestral soloist, Lei Weng has appeared with orchestras from Cincinnati, Seattle, Indiana, Louisiana, Fort Worth, Greeley, Beijing, Tianjin, Qingdao, Kaohsiung, as well as Taitung University Symphony, China National Symphony and Chorus, and UNC Symphony Orchestra.

Lei Weng's performances have also been critically acclaimed as "spirited and full of nuances" by *The Cincinnati Post*. *The Herald Times* calls him "colorful and flamboyant." China's *Tianjin Daily* remarked on his "profound and immense artistry" and Scott Cantrell, music critic from the *Dallas Morning News* wrote: "Fabulous playing – really fresh, personal! I love the unpredictability, the willingness to take chances, not just to sound like someone else."

Engagements for Lei Weng in next season include concert tour and masterclasses in the U.S., solo debuts in Korea and Taiwan's National Music Hall. He will be performing as a soloist with Greeley Philharmonic, Orchestra Seattle, Tianjin Symphony and UNC Wind Ensemble.

A dedicated educator, Lei Weng is an Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Northern Colorado, where he teaches applied piano to talented students from the America, Asia and Europe. He has been annually invited as the guest professor by such major conservatories in Asia as Central Conservatory, China Conservatory and Tianjin Conservatory. In summer of 2009, Lei Weng toured eight major conservatories in China and Taiwan, giving a series of acclaimed recitals and masterclasses.

Students of Lei Weng have won many competitions, including Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition, Steinway Competition, Yamaha Competition,

Symphony in the Valley Young Artist Competition, and have performed with Arapahoe Symphony, Symphony in the Valley, and at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Lei Weng is a featured artist of the Prestige Artist Foundation in New York, and Swiss Global Artistic Foundation in Switzerland and England.

Lei Weng is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Colorado Piano Festival at University of Northern Colorado.