

## Tzimon Barto | Biography

### Piano



The connection between poetry and music is for Tzimon Barto of utmost importance and meaning, both as a pianist and in his writings. This is also apparent in his musical interpretations: he takes an exceedingly personal and unconventional approach, captivating audiences with his zeal, exquisite sense of tonal color, subtle nuances and a superb technique. A colorful, surpassingly varied range of expressive elements from feather-light melodic lines to expressive chord series characterize his performance.

As one of the foremost American pianists, Tzimon Barto performs on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and in Asia. His international breakthrough occurred in the mid-1980's when he performed at the Wiener Musikverein and the Salzburger Festspiele on invitation of Herbert von Karajan. Tzimon Barto has since played with every major international orchestra and is regularly invited to many festivals.

Highlights of the last seasons were his performances at La Scala Milano as well as his Brahms piano concertos in Hong Kong and Malmo among many other concerts in Europe and Asia. In 2016/17, as part of his residency with the SWR Symphonieorchester he performed Ravel's Piano Concerto during an extremely successful tour of Spain. Another point on the program of the residency was the performance of Wolfgang Rihm's second Piano Concerto, which Rihm dedicated to Barto. The piece was premiered at the Salzburger Festspiele 2014 with the Gustav Mahler Jugendorchester, followed by a tour in Germany and Italy. This season Tzimon Barto will again perform many concerts in Germany and all over Europe.

Tzimon Barto's extensive discography includes albums featuring works by Haydn, Rameau, Schubert, Tchaikovsky, Schumann and Brahms. His latest release is dedicated to the Busoni version of Bach's Goldberg Variations, as well as the Paganini Variations of Liszt, Brahms, Lutoslawski and Rachmaninoff. The seldom heard Piano Concerto by Hans Pfitzner in E-flat Major has been released in 2013 under the Dresdner Staatskapelle label conducted by Christian Thielemann.

Born and raised in Central Florida, Tzimon Barto received his first piano lessons by his grandmother at the age of five. He studied under the famous music-pedagogue and pianist Adele Marcus at the Juilliard School of Music in New York, where he won the Gina Bachauer Competition in two consecutive years.

In 2006 he initiated "The Barto Prize", promoting contemporary piano compositions in an international competition and integrates the winning compositions in his season programs.

Tzimon Barto is an avid student of literature and languages. He speaks five living languages fluently, and currently studies Mandarin. He reads Ancient Greek, Hebrew and Latin. His book "A Lady of Greek Origin" was published in 2001 and 2008 and a stage version was performed in Frankfurt and Vienna. In 2010, his novel "Harold Flanders" was published.

**2018/2019 season | photo: Stella Dash**  
**Changes and abridgement must be coordinated with Künstlersekretariat Schoerke.**