

ENRIQUE GRAF

Enrique Graf was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, and is now an American citizen. He started studying piano at the age of four with his mother. After winning all of the national competitions in Uruguay, he went to the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University to study with Leon Fleisher on a full scholarship from the Organization of American States and the Peabody.

In 1977 he won First Prize in the National Ensemble Piano Competition, the following year Mr. Graf was the First Prize winner in the William Kapell International Piano Competition and in 1981 he won the East and West International Competition in New York City.

Graf has given recitals all over the world and has been featured soloist with such orchestras as the Baltimore, Indianapolis, New Jersey, Nashville, Pittsburgh, Richmond, Florida, West Virginia, Illinois, Flagstaff, Augusta, Greenville, Charleston, New York City and Jupiter Symphonies, the Symphony of the Americas, the National Chamber Orchestra, the Illinois Chamber Orchestra, the American Chamber Orchestra, the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, Sinfonia da Camara, Florida Virtuosi Orchestra, the Puerto Rico Symphony, the Montevideo Philharmonic, the Lviv Philharmonic, the Moscow Philharmonic, the Janacek Philharmonic in the Czech Republic, and the National Orchestras of Ukraine, Chile, Uruguay, Peru and Colombia.

He has appeared at Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Krannert Center, Carnegie Recital Hall, the Cultural Center of Manila, Teatro Opera in Buenos Aires, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Florida, South Bay Center for the Arts in Los Angeles, the Chautauqua Festival, Young Keyboard Artists International Festival in Ann Arbor, the San Miguel de Allende Chamber Music Festival in Mexico, the University of Maryland and University of Houston International Piano Festivals, Spoleto International Piano Festival in Italy, "Contrasts" Festival in Lviv and Kiev Music Fest in the Ukraine.

As a chamber musician he has toured with Cuarteto Latinoamericano, the Baltimore Wind Ensemble, the American Chamber Players, the Prague Wind Quintet, the Ives Quartet, violinists Andres Cardenes and Lee Chin, and the Apollo String Quartet.

An all Poulenc CD with the Charleston Symphony was a pick of the month by the *Sunday London Times* and was awarded five stars in *Classic CD*. His debut recording *Enrique Graf plays Bach* was called "An end to the discussion of whether or not Bach should be played on the piano" by Paul Hume of the *Washington Post*. Other recordings of Mozart Sonatas, the Liszt Sonata, the Grieg Concerto, Edward Hart's Tidal Concerto, Gershwin's Concerto in F and two Beethoven Concertos have received such praise as "ideal performances" (*Fanfare*).

Graf taught for fourteen years at the Peabody Preparatory, became chairman of the piano department, received the Directors' Recognition Award for Outstanding Teaching and in 1989 became Artist in Residence at the College of Charleston, was given the Distinguished Research Award and in 2007 was named University Artist in Residence. Since 1996 Graf has been Artist Lecturer at Carnegie Mellon University. His students have won many national and international competitions. He has been a member of the jury in competitions all over the world and has given master classes in such prestigious schools as Yale University, Oberlin and Eastman Conservatories, the Shanghai and Kiev Conservatories and the Hong Kong Academy for the Performing Arts.

Graf is Founder and Artistic Director of the International Piano Series in Charleston and the Young Artist Series in the Piccolo Spoleto Festival and is co-director of Music Fest Perugia in Italy. Graf is editor of a new edition of Mozart piano sonatas to be published jointly by G Schirmer and Hal Leonard.

He has been awarded a Fellowship from the Aspen Institute Executive Seminar, the Music Fellowship from the South Carolina Arts Commission, Career Grants from the Charles Del Mar and Astral Foundations, and the Immigrant Achievement Award from the American Immigration Law Foundation.

The New York Times described Graf's appearances as "a triumph, in all respects" and The Washington Post has called him on different occasions "memorable, elegant, masterful, and refined".

UPDATED AUGUST 12, 2007 – PLEASE DO NOT USE PREVIOUS DATED VERSIONS