

## Kimberly Chen Afanasova (China/TW)

Kimberly's performance of Brahms was described by The New York Times as "fully polished and warm-blooded," and the Barletta Post Italy called her "a girl (who) makes the piano speak..." Her repertoire ranges from Bach to Ligeti and includes many contemporary works. Kimberly has gained an enviable reputation as both soloist and recitalist, having won some major international competitions. These include the first prize in the 5th Mauro Paolo Monopoli International piano competition in Italy and the Frederic Chopin International competition in Taiwan. Beginning her musical studies in her native Taiwan, Kimberly was a child prodigy and was later accepted to the Juilliard School in New York under Martin Canin and Ruth Slenczynska. After receiving her Bachelor of Music degree, she decided to move to Russia. She got her Ph.D. from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory under Alexander Mndoyants and Ekaterina Mechetina. Her studies have been supported by innumerable scholarships and awards, including Juilliard scholarships and the National Education Scholarship of Taiwan. Kimberly performs regularly in the United States, Europe, Russia, Japan, and Taiwan. As a soloist, she has collaborated with orchestras such as the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan, Boston Longwood Symphony Orchestra, and Bartella Chamber Orchestra in Italy. In 2016, she joined the piano faculty at the National Taiwan College of Performing Arts and has given masterclasses throughout Taiwan.