

## Maciej Raginia (Poland)

Polish pianist Maciej Raginia is in demand as a soloist around the UK and abroad he has appeared on Polish television several times, winning prizes in several international piano competitions. Praised for his ‘strong artistic personality’ (Tydzien Polski), ‘mastery of the piano’ (Markische Allgemeine) ‘subtle tonal colours’ (Potsdamer Neueste Nachrichten) and ‘great powers of communication from the platform’ (British pianist Andrew Ball), over the last decade Maciej has toured Europe and Asia giving concerts in the Gewandhaus, Mendelssohn-Saal and the Mendelssohn-Haus (Leipzig), the Hochschule für Music und Theater and the Niedersächsischer Landtag (Hannover), the Schloss Glienicke (Potsdam), King’s College (Cambridge), St. John’s Smith Square and St Martin-in-the-Fields (London), the Auditorio (Zaragoza) and the Nuevo Casino Principal (Pamplona) and Tokyo’s Toppan Hall, among many others. In 2016 Maciej joined PIANO WEEK as the creative director, following in the footsteps of his pianist wife Samantha Ward, its founder & artistic director. Throughout 2017, 2018 and 2019 he toured with the festival to all of its international residencies in the UK, China, Japan, Germany and Italy, and he performed in concert with Samantha and world-renowned Australian pianist Leslie Howard at the festival’s Moreton Hall School and London residencies. Maciej received his first piano lessons from Aleksandra Walczak and Krystyna Filipowska in Poland, before he continued his studies with American pianist Kevin Kenner at the Royal College of Music in London. In 2008, supported by a City of London Corporation Scholarship Award, he gained a Masters Degree in Music Performance from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama under the tutelage of the Senior Professor Joan Havill. He has also trained in masterclasses with some of the world’s legendary pianists, musicologists and pedagogues such as Robert Levin, the late Halina Czerny-Stefanska, Grigory Sokolov’s pupil and assistant Alexei Orlovetsky and Elisabeth Leonskaja; a relationship which has continued to the present day.