



THE YOUNG VIRTUOSI

**NEW ZEALAND
AND AUSTRALIA**
24 OCTOBER –
18 NOVEMBER 2024

JENNY JIN
VIOLIN

FIRST PRIZE WINNER OF THE 2023 MICHAEL HILL
INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

JEONGHWAN KIM
PIANO

FIRST PRIZE WINNER OF THE 2023 SYDNEY
INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

PRESENTED TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP BY

 Chamber Music
New Zealand

HILL FAMILY
FOUNDATION
for ARTS
AND MUSIC

Piano+

 Auckland
Philharmonia.

2024 TOUR DATES & CENTRES

AUCKLAND

24 OCTOBER 7:30pm
Auckland Town Hall
Jenny performs with the Auckland Philharmonia, conducted by Shiyeon Sung

PALMERSTON NORTH

27 OCTOBER 7:30pm
St Peter's Anglican Church

HAWKE'S BAY

29 OCTOBER 7:30pm
MTG Century Theatre

HAMILTON

30 OCTOBER 7:30pm
Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts

INVERCARGILL

31 OCTOBER 7:30pm
Civic Theatre

NELSON

1 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
Nelson Centre of Musical Arts

CHRISTCHURCH

3 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
The Piano: Centre for Music and the Arts

QUEENSTOWN

4 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
Lodge at The Hills

DUNEDIN

5 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
Glenroy Auditorium

NEW PLYMOUTH

8 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
4th Wall Theatre

WELLINGTON

9 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
St Andrew's on The Terrace

AUCKLAND

10 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
Concert Chamber

SYDNEY

16 NOVEMBER 7:30pm
Sydney Conservatorium of Music

MELBOURNE

18 NOVEMBER 7pm
Melbourne Recital Centre



Yeyeong “Jenny” Jin VIOLIN

2023 Michael Hill International Violin Competition winner, Jenny, hails from South Korea.

In addition to this first prize at last year's competition, Jenny was also named as the winner of the Chamber Music Prize, and was the recipient of the Sheila Smith Prize, a three-year loan of an exquisite Domenico Montagnana violin, c1735 – 39, facilitated through the Rare Violins of New York Consortium. She has also won top prizes at the 2022 Zhuhai International Violin Competition and the 2020 Stulberg International String Competition.

Jenny started her violin studies at the age of two and was admitted to the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia at the age of nine, studying with the renowned pedagogue Ida Kavafian. Jenny currently attends The Juilliard School as a proud recipient of the Kovner Fellowship, studying with Itzhak Perlman and Li Lin.

Jeonghwan Kim PIANO

Jeonghwan Kim was the winner of the 2023 Sydney International Piano Competition where he received the first prize along with two special prizes: the Best Overall Concerto Prize and a prize for his performance of Bartók's second piano concerto.

Jeonghwan began his piano studies at the age of six, winning a number a competitions which led to his acceptance into the Seoul Arts Center Academy for Young Talented Musicians at nine years old. He moved to Berlin when he was 11, and has studied at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler in the class of Professor Konrad Maria Engel since 2007.

In 2019, Jeonghwan won the Aarhus International Piano Competition in Denmark, prompting immediate invitations to perform with the Aarhus and Odense Symphony Orchestras.

In 2022, he was awarded first prize at the Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy competition in Berlin, and the audience prize at the Sendai International Piano Competition.

Jeonghwan has given concerts in major halls in Berlin, Weimar, Hamburg, and Aarhus, among others.



Jenny and Jeonghwan will record their debut album during this tour to be produced by Atoll Records for release in 2025.



Our broadcast partners will broadcast live the 24 October concert with the Auckland Philharmonia and will record the 10 November Auckland recital.

PROGRAM

Henryk Wieniawski	<i>Polonaise de concert, Op 4</i>
Eugène-Auguste Ysaÿe	Sonata No 5
Frédéric Chopin	<i>Andante spianato and grand polonaise brillante, Op 22</i>
Michael Norris	<i>Waipounamu</i>
Camille Saint-Saëns	Violin Sonata No 1 in D minor, Op 75

Duration: 75min, no interval

Henryk Wieniawski

Polonaise de concert, Op 4

Full of rhythmic energy and soaring lyrical passages, The Polonaise de concert couples the spirit of Polish folk dance with the brilliance of Wieniawski. He was just thirteen when he sketched the original version and developed it over the years into the self-assured virtuosic statement we hear today.

Eugène-Auguste Ysaÿe

Sonata No 5

L'Aurore
Danse rustique

Ysaÿe: composer, conductor, the 'tsar' of the violin as Nathan Milstein called him – such was his contribution to the instrument. A hundred years after the Six Sonatas for Solo Violin were written they remain an apex achievement for violinists, demanding a mastery of technique the highest order alongside heartfelt passion. The No. 5 in G major was dedicated to fellow Belgian violinist Mathieu Crickboom.

Frédéric Chopin

Andante spianato and grande polonaise brillante, Op 22

Chopin's first composition at age seven was a polonaise, followed by twenty-three more written throughout his life. The *grande polonaise brillante* for piano and orchestra came first in 1831. In 1834, he wrote the *Andante spianato* – meaning 'even' or 'smooth', this is the only instance of spianato used in Chopin's works – and placed it before the grande polonaise, creating a seamless masterpiece which can be played with or without orchestra.

Michael Norris

Waipounamu

Fixed electronics featuring Ariana Tikao & Jerome Kavanagh (taonga pūoro) and Mana Waiariki (violin).

'Te Waipounamu' is the te reo name for New Zealand's South Island, meaning 'greenstone waters' – Norris weaves a 'sonic tapestry' with the violin, taonga puoro and electronic effects to portray the rugged and magical landscapes, the depths from which the pounamu originates. *Waipounamu* was the set piece for the 2023 Michael Hill International Violin Competition.

Camille Saint-Saëns

Violin Sonata No 1 in D minor, Op 75

Allegro agitato
Adagio
Allegretto moderato
Allegro molto

'A grand duo for piano and violin' was the vision Saint-Saëns had when writing the violin sonata No 1 in D minor, composed in Autumn 1885. Dazzling, playful, heroic; it's been described by Grove's Dictionary as one of the composer's best and most characteristic works. The demands of it are such that Saint-Saëns remarked, "I wonder with terror what this sonata will become under the bow of my no less ordinary than extraordinary violinists; it will be called the 'hippogriff sonata'."

Program notes by Maria Mo



“The Michael Hill has a palpable ‘buzz’ and sense of pride in the lead-up and during the arc of the event from the various rounds through to the big podium win. We are one of the handfuls of highly-sought after violin competitions because the Michael Hill experience is unparalleled and we can say, hand on heart, that every violinist who has been a part of it, comes away a stronger, more insightful artist.”

Jenny Jin at her 2023 winning performance with the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra
PHOTO: James Robertson

The Violin Channel 16 March 2023



Described as ‘dazzling’ by The Age, ‘a musical force to be reckoned with’ by Classics Melbourne, and as possessing ‘lyricism and explosive virtuosity in equal measure’ by Sydney Arts Guide

PHOTO: Jaimi Joy

THE SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION AND THE MICHAEL HILL INTERNATIONAL VIOLIN COMPETITION

are two of the most prestigious and celebrated international competitions in our region. Both competitions crown winners of outstanding promise and star power with 2023 an exceptional year, producing two virtuosic winners.

After a hiatus brought about from the Covid pandemic, audiences across Aotearoa, New Zealand welcomed the return of the Michael Hill International Violin Competition in June 2023.

16 outstanding young violinists, selected by audition from an initial 160 applicants, were flown to Queenstown and Auckland and were wholeheartedly embraced by local audiences who journeyed with them through the highs and lows that come with a competition of this calibre.

The ‘Michael Hill’ remains a favourite on the competition circuit, not just for its prestigious prize package, esteemed judging panel and career-launching opportunities, but also for the warmth and heart that greets every competitor from the moment they touch down in Aotearoa. For the rest of their careers, these artists will be connected to this place and can count on the support of the people they have met over the course of their stay.



Over nearly five decades, the prestigious Sydney International Piano Competition (*‘The Sydney’*) has been a leader and change maker on the international stage.

Renowned for showcasing outstanding young pianists and launching international careers, the competition continues to inspire

both pianists and audiences globally, stimulating public interest in the piano and in classical music.

With over \$200,000 in cash prizes and an esteemed judging panel, *The Sydney* is one of the most coveted events on the planet for the piano.

Pivoting online with their 2021 edition following the Covid pandemic, *The Sydney* bounced back to the live stage in 2023, selecting 32 competitors from over 250 applications world-wide, to compete for a life-changing opportunity to take home the First Prize of \$50,000.

After three exhilarating weeks, the competition culminates in four spectacular performances at the Sydney Opera House. Six finalists perform two concertos each with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra on the Concert Hall Stage before the judges make their final decisions.

Shared world-wide by livestream and available to watch on-demand, the experience for artists and audiences alike is uplifting and transformative.



WORLD FEDERATION
OF INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC COMPETITIONS

Both the Michael Hill International Violin Competition and The Sydney International Piano Competition are proud members of the World Federation of International Music Competitions.

HILL FAMILY FOUNDATION for ARTS AND MUSIC

NZ Registered Charity C22746



Sir Michael and Christine Hill, the violin Competition founders and supporters of arts in New Zealand
PHOTO: Mark Clinton



Soprano Claire Hood
2022 Whakatipu Music Festival
PHOTO: James Robertson



Natsumi Tsuboi, 2017 Michael Hill International Violin Competition
PHOTO: Sheena Haywood



Jenny Jin and Somi Kim
2023 Michael Hill International Violin Competition
PHOTO: James Robertson



The Hill Family Foundation for Arts and Music exists to encourage the appreciation of fine music and to proudly showcase the talents and works of New Zealand's artists. The Foundation recognises and rewards excellence and it advances the education of young New Zealanders.

The Hill Family Foundation for Arts and Music is committed to the future of the arts in New Zealand and is the umbrella organisation of five initiatives that are presented over three-year cycles in pursuit of enabling, encouraging, supporting, presenting and celebrating New Zealand art.

Michael Hill International Violin Competition

The Michael Hill International Violin Competition stands for excellence, opportunity, integrity and transformation; it is the launch-pad for violin virtuosos - the foundation stone of brilliant musical careers.

With a prize package valued at over NZ\$100,000, the 'Michael Hill' shapes the artistry of 16 of the world's finest young violinists. The 2023 Competition attracted 160 applicants and over 1.3m online audiences.
29 May - 6 June 2026
Queenstown and Auckland

The Winners Tour

The Winners Tour, presented the following year, is where the 1st prize winner builds their artistic muscle and delighting and inspiring audiences across the country.
24 Oct - 19 Nov 2024
NZ and Australia nationwide

National String Competition

In the service of New Zealand's talented high-performance young musicians, the National String Competition is delivered alongside the Lewis Eady National Piano Competition to showcase the country's next generation of classical music talent.
14-16 December 2024
Auckland

Whakatipu Music Festival

The Whakatipu Music Festival showcases extraordinary music from international guests, Aotearoa's leading musicians, emerging artists, and local talent workshopping and performing outstanding classical, jazz, singer-songwriting, Broadway hits and more. Brought to life by a local workforce, the festival supports and stimulates the arts, cultural and events scene in the Queenstown region and is a treasure for the community and the whole of Aotearoa.
14-21 April 2025
Queenstown

The Instrument Bank

The Instrument Bank is an initiative that matches string instruments with young Kiwi musicians who are in need of instruments that will springboard them to the next level of their music education, yet often lack access and the resource to make the necessary financial investment.
Year-round and nationwide



<https://michaelhillviolincompetition.co.nz/hill-family-foundation/>

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About Piano+

Piano+, home to the almost 50 year old **Sydney International Piano Competition**, is dedicated to nurturing the very best young pianists from Australia and around the globe. Piano+ celebrates the joy of piano – playing, learning, listening – and is your essential resource for the piano in Australia. Season 2024 has been a dazzling array of concert touring, featuring some of the best Australian and international artists, bespoke festivals, enriching music education programs, exciting collaborations and an eclectic line-up of piano events.

A highlight was the Autumn Piano School, held in partnership with the New England Conservatorium of Music in Armidale, NSW. The School allowed numerous piano lovers — from beginners to advanced players — to enhance and hone their skills through structured coursework, professional masterclasses and performance opportunities at the five day event. The commitment to providing musical development opportunities for pianists of all ages is unwavering from Piano+.

In July, with support from the City of Sydney, Piano+ introduced Piano+Place, a series of unique concerts by contemporary artists in remarkable venues such as the Anzac Memorial, the State Library of New South Wales, Paddington Town Hall and Elizabeth Bay House. Jim Mognie (Midnight Oil), David Bridie (Not Drowning Waving), Chris Abrahams and Sophie Hutchings explored innovative storytelling through their performances that responded to the built environment and history of each venue.

Now in its third consecutive year, Out West Piano Fest—a three-day celebration of piano music, gastronomy and art—featured Konstantin Shamray, winner of the 2008 **Sydney International Piano Competition** and much loved audience favourite, as its Musical Director. Konstantin crafted a remarkable musical journey of known and hidden gems, performed in partnership with leading Australian pianists Vatche Jambazian, Lee Dionne and Grace Kim, held at historic Blackdown Farm in Bathurst, NSW.

The International Recital Series and Emerging Artist Series showcased the talents of both established and emerging artists to audiences in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra. The Australian tour of 2023's Competition First Prize winner is currently underway, and we look forward to wrapping up the year with stellar performances by Jeonghwan Kim and violinist Yeyeong Jenny Jin with The Young Virtuosi.

Nurturing and supporting future piano talent is at the heart of Piano+. We would not be able to achieve this without the support of our valuable donors and audiences. As the **Sydney International Piano Competition** in 2027 rapidly approaches, the need for your support becomes ever more important. Piano+ is a not-for-profit charity and relies on the generosity of individuals and corporations to continue to offer this career enhancing opportunity for young artists from around the globe. There are many ways you can show your support for Piano+ and I invite you to reach out for a private discussion if you would like more information.

We thank you for your support of The Young Virtuosi. Without you purchasing tickets Piano+ would not be able to continue providing these exceptional events. We hope you have a truly wonderful concert experience.

Mark Coughlan
Executive Director



To learn more about Piano+ visit our website or subscribe to the monthly newsletter for event updates and exclusive deals.

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Te Pūngao Oro

The Energy *of* Sound

Chamber Music New Zealand is dedicated to enriching communities through the transformative power of live music and each year presents a wide range of performances that celebrate the creativity of chamber music and reflect the rich cultural diversity of Aotearoa.



Chamber Music
New Zealand
Puoro Taiwhanga Aotearoa

Presales open now until Feb 1st 2025, with
exclusive benefits for multi concert bookings.

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