

Kumi Matsuo Pianist

Kumi Matsuo was born in Tokyo, Japan. Winner of the 5th Louisiana International Piano Competition, she has also won Second Prize at the 75th Music Competition of Japan, Third Prize at the 22nd Ferrol International Piano Competition and First Prize at the 6th Isidor Bajic International Piano Competition.

Kumi graduated from the Toho Gakuen High School of Music and the Toho Gakuen University of Music in Tokyo. In 2007 she moved to London for her further study at the Royal College of Music (RCM) where she gained an Artist Diploma and a Master of Music in Performance. Her studies were generously supported by the Charles Napper Award, the Russell Gander Award and the Rohm Music Foundation. She has also recently completed the Anthony Saltmarsh Junior Fellow in Accompaniment at the RCM.

During her studies at the RCM, she won RCM concerto competition twice and performed Ravel's Piano Concerto for Left Hand with the RCM Sinfonietta conducted by Peter Stark at Cadogan Hall and Prokofiev's 3rd Piano Concerto with the RCM Symphony Orchestra under Martin André at the Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall in RCM. In 2009 she played Schnittke's Concerto Grosso No.1 with the RCM Chamber Orchestra under Vladimir Jurowski at the Queen Elisabeth Hall.

As a soloist Kumi has performed with orchestras such as Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Galicia Symphony Orchestra, Banatul Symphony Orchestra, Rapides Symphony Orchestra, Constanza Symphony Orchestra and Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. She gave her New York debut at Carnegie Hall Weill Recital Hall in 2014 and had recital tours in Warsaw and Louisiana. In 2016 Kumi has released her debut CD on the Con Brio level.

As a chamber musician, Kumi has performed on BBC Radio 3 and BBC TV 4 and has been performing in UK, France and Japan.