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Robert Atchison

Composer



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Biography

Hailed as a “national treasure” by the British press, Robert Atchison’s astounding performances has catapulted him to the top ranks of classical music’s international arena. The concert violinist and conductor, noted for the warmth and richness of his sound, is a much sought-after performer in the world’s most celebrated stages.

Born in London, he studied music from a young age with mentors including Sheila Nelson, Bronsilaw Gimpel at the Royal Northern College of Music, Emmanuel Hurwitz at the Royal Academy of Music and Maurice Hasson. His hard work paid off and in 1982, he became a finalist in the Abbado International Competition in Milan, Italy.

Since then, Atchison has given concerto performances and recitals in the United States, South America, France, Italy, Spain, Germany and Ireland. He made his concerto debut in 1983 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall playing the Beethoven concerto, and in 1984 at the Barbican with the Vivaldi Four Seasons.

He joined the Philharmonia Orchestra in 1984 and remained there until 1990. From 1991 to 1997 he was a member of all three orchestras of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, and was co-principal to Iona Brown. In 1993 he was appointed Director of the Spanish Chamber Orchestra, appearing frequently as soloist.

His chamber and solo career has been equally vibrant. He is a member of the critically acclaimed London Piano Trio and tours regularly with them throughout the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States. Their recently released recording, Complete Piano Trios of Armstrong Gibbs and Donald Tovey, was nominated for a Grammy award. Atchison’s own recordings include the Telemann Twelve Fantasias and the complete Sonatas and Partitas of J. S. Bach for the Altamira label.

As a conductor Atchison has conducted many orchestras including the Oxford Philharmisica and the Philippine Philharmonic. He was Artistic Director of the International Music Series at the Certosa di Capri, Italy from 2006 to 2009. He was recently appointed as the Artistic Director of the new Gibbs Festival at Danbury, Essex. It’s second Festival in 2010 features Mr. Atchison Directing and playing Vivaldi’s seasons.

His own orchestra the Altamira Chamber Orchestra was launched in the summer of 2009.

Repertoire

Violin solo

R. A. Atchison

Phantasie on Pinoy Themes

J. S. Bach

Sonata No. 1 in G minor

Sonata No. 2 in A minor

Partita No. 2 in D minor

Partita No. 3 in E major

G.P. Telemann

12 Fantasias for solo violin

D. Tovey

Sonata for violin solo

E. Ysaye

Sonata No. 2

Sonata No. 3 "Ballade"

Sonatas with piano

L. van Beethoven

Complete sonatas

J. Brahms

Complete sonatas

Scherzo in C minor from Sonata F.A.E.

C. Debussy

Sonata in G minor

E. Elgar

Sonata in E minor

C. Franck

Sonata in A major

C. Armstrong Gibbs

Lyric sonata

Suite

G.F. Handel

Complete sonatas

W. A. Mozart

Complete sonatas

S. Prokofiev

Sonata No. 2 in D Major, op. 94

R. Strauss

Sonata op.18 in E flat major

G. Tartini

Sonata "The Devil's trill"

Works with ballet**Edward. Elgar/ Osias Barroso**

Sonata (violin, piano, and small ballet company)

Works with piano or orchestra and concertos**J. S. Bach**

Violin concerto in A minor, BWV 1041

Violin concerto in E major, BWV 1042

Concerto for two violins in D major, BWV 1043

Concerto for violin and oboe, in C minor, BWV 1060

S. Barber

Violin concerto, op, 14

L. van Beethoven

Romance in F major, op. 50

Violin concerto in D major, op. 61

Triple Concerto C major op. 56

G. Bottesini

Grand Duo Concertant for Violin and Double-bass

J. Brahms

Violin concerto in D major, op. 77

Double Concerto A minor op. 102

E. Chausson

Poème

Concerto for violin, piano and string quartet op. 21

E. Elgar

Violin concerto in B minor, op, 61

G. Gershwin

"Porgy and Bess", transcription by J. Heifetz

E. Lalo

Symphonie Espagnole

F. Mendelssohn

Violin concerto in E minor, op. 64

Violin concerto D minor

Concerto for violin, piano and strings

W.A. Mozart

Violin concerto in G major, KV 216

Violin concerto in D major, KV 218

Violin concerto in A major, KV 219

Sinfonie concertante in Es major, KV 364

Adagio in E major, KV 261

Rondo in C major, KV 373

W. A. Mozart - F. Kreisler

Rondo in G major

A. Piazzolla

"The Four Seasons in Buenos Aires"

M. Ravel

Tzigane

C. Saint-Saëns

Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso

R. Stevenson

Violin concerto

P. Tchaikovsky

Violin concerto in D major, op. 35

Valse-Scherzo, op. 34

A. Vivaldi

Four Seasons

H. Wieniawski

Violin concerto in D minor, op. 22

Concerts

February 2010
Solo Violin Recitals - Far East

February 2010
Solo violin
Recording

March 2010
London Piano Trio
Recording

April 2010
London Piano Trio
Recording

May 2010
London Piano Trio
Corporate Event. Venue TBA

June 2010
Solo violin/Conducting
Recording

July 2010
London Piano Trio
St Johns, Smith Square, London
Gibbs: Country Magic, op.47
Tovey: Trio, op. 27
Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No.1 in D-minor, op.49

July 2010
Solo violin/Conducting
Recording

September 2010
Solo violin/Conducting
Gibbs Music Festival
TBA

October 2010
London Piano Trio
Far East Tour
TBA

07/ 05/ 2011
London Piano Trio
TBA
TBA

14/ 05/ 2011
London Piano Trio
TBA
TBA

September 2012
Solo violin/Conducting
Gibbs Music Festival
TBA

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Previous Concerts
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27/01/ 2010 - 12.20pm
London Piano Trio
Reform Club, Pall Mall , London
Brahms, Johannes: Piano Trio B Major, op.8 (1st Movement)
Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No.1 in D-minor, op.49

21/01/ 2010
Solo Violin Recital
Auditorium di Castel Sant'elmo, Naples, Italy
Mozart: Sonata for violin and piano in E minor, K.304
C. Armstrong Gibbs: Three pieces for violin and piano
George Gershwin: Porgy and Bess Suite arranged by Jascha Heifetz
Cesar Franck: Sonata for violin and piano in A Major
Ravel: Tzigane

Solo Violin Recital
Pushkin House, UK
Mozart: Sonata for violin and piano in E minor, K.304
George Gershwin: Porgy and Bess Suite arranged by Jascha Heifetz
Cesar Franck: Sonata for violin and piano in A Major

17/01/ 2010
Solo Violin Recital
Harlow, UK
Mozart: Sonata for violin and piano in E minor, K.304
C. Armstrong Gibbs: Three pieces for violin and piano
George Gershwin: Porgy and Bess Suite arranged by Jascha Heifetz
Cesar Franck: Sonata for violin and piano in A Major
Ravel: Tzigane

16/01/ 2010
Solo Violin Recital
Chichester, UK
Mozart: Sonata for violin and piano in E minor, K.304
C. Armstrong Gibbs: Three pieces for violin and piano
George Gershwin: Porgy and Bess Suite arranged by Jascha Heifetz
Cesar Franck: Sonata for violin and piano in A Major
Ravel: Tzigane

November 2009
London Piano Trio
Recording

30/10/ 2009 - 19.30pm
London Piano Trio
Cranleigh Music Society
Haydn: Piano Trio in G, Hob.XV/25 "Gipsy"
Brahms, Johannes: Piano Trio B Major, op.8
Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No.1 in D-minor, op.49

26/10/ 2009 - 19.30pm
London Piano Trio
Pushkin House, London
Haydn: Piano Trio in G, Hob.XV/25 "Gipsy"
Brahms, Johannes: Piano Trio B Major, op.8
Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No.1 in D-minor, op.49

25/10/ 2009 - 20.00pm
London Piano Trio
Harlow Music Society
Haydn: Piano Trio in G, Hob.XV/25 "Gipsy"
Brahms, Johannes: Piano Trio B Major, op.8
Mendelssohn: Piano Trio No.1 in D-minor, op.49

23/10/ 2009 - 19.00pm
London Piano Trio
Amadeus Centre, London
Haydn, Brahms, Gershwin

2nd, 3rd, and 4th of October 2009
Solo Violin Recitals - Manila

Sept 2009 20.00pm
Solo Violin Recitals - Finland

23/09/ 2009 - 20.00pm
London Piano Trio
Leighton House, London