



Alexander Boldachev

Alexander Boldachev is a virtuoso harpist, composer, teacher, world-renowned musician, official artist of **Salvi Harps**, founder of **Harp Festival Zurich**, guest soloist of the **Bolshoi Theatre**. Laureate of more than a dozen prestigious international competitions; awarded by the “**Britain's Brilliant Prodigies**”, “**Pro Europa**” in Austria, “**Aoyama Music Award**” in Japan, **Prix Walo TV Award** in Switzerland; In the early years he was supported and promoted by the **Spivakov** and **Temirkanov** foundations, the **Rotary** Club, the Moscow & Petersburg **Houses of Music** , the “Banque Populaire” and the “Vontobel Stiftung: Lyra”.

He graduated from Zurich Academy of Arts in the harp class of Catherine Michel and Sarah O'Brien, also studying piano (Carl Rütti), composition (Mathias Steinauer), and conducting (Marc Kissoczy). Alexander has been playing harp & piano and composing music since the age of five. Born in St. Petersburg he began his classes in France at the age of twelve. In Zurich Alexander has been living since the age of fifteen, and yet became a citizen of Switzerland. Today, his main activity is the concerts and workshops around the world.

In June 2018 Alexander performed his composition on the “Delta” Electric Harp at the opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup, sharing the stage with Robbie Williams and Aida Garifullina. Same year for the performance of "Californication" by RHCP on the harp, Alexander got the prize "Best Rock Song Cover" from the Akademia Music Award in Los Angeles.

As a teacher, he is leading the Masterclasses at such universities as the Royal Academy of Music, the Liszt Academy, the Julliard School , the Royal Conservatory in Toronto, and et al.

His extensive compositional activity concentrates on expanding the harp repertoire through transcriptions of classical music (“Scheherazade”, “Petrushka”, “Guillaume Tell”),

interpretation of popular hits (The Beatles, AC/DC, Deep Purple, Nirvana, Scorpions, Adele) and movie music (Pirates of the Caribbean, The Fifth Element, Spirited Away, James Bond). Also, Alexander writes original compositions in the classical and electronic styles, performing them and improvising on the stage.

In 2017, the artist was invited to the Bolshoi Theatre by its musical director Tugan Sokhiev to perform on premieres of Operas and Ballets and the acclaimed show "Nureyev", where he edited and played the unique solo for the Harp on Stage. Moreover, since 2017 Alexander has been working as a music director, composer, and actor in "Poem without a Hero" created by Alla Demidova and Kirill Serebrennikov in Gogol Centre. With Kirill Serebrennikov he worked in many projects, including the debut work as the main role actor and composer in the short film dedicated to Paradzhanov. Alexander is conducting and moderating different types of performances and shows including collaboration with ballet dancers, actors, instrumentalists, and even circus artists. In 2020 he had his debut performance at Carnegie Hall.

Alexander Boldachev is a participant of the festivals Burning Man, Musical Olympus, New Names, Mozart+, Davos and Gstaad in Switzerland, Big Russian Ball in Rome, Bravo Award, SKIF Sergey Kuroyokhin, Burberry and D&G shows, projects of The Moscow and St. Petersburg Houses of Music, "Young Performers of Russia", "Next Generation", "River of Talents". Alexander took part as a Jury member of the "Nota Bene" competition, First national symphonic musicians competition in Moscow, and the Harp Association Prize in Indiana, America.

The highlight of the year 2018 was the World Tour concerts and masterclasses took place in the USA, England, France, Japan, Brazil, Canada, Switzerland, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Germany, Turkey, Argentina, Italy, Serbia, and Russia.

Among his Albums are the "Frédéric " with Chopin's music, "Harp as an Orchestra" with favorite Opera tunes, "From Russia with Harp" with 15 Russian Composers and several joint projects with violin, flute, piano, and harp.



“Sometime after the disc recording, staying at the Georges Sand Hotel in the small village of Gargilesse, I looked around and realized that everything is done right - the Harp perfectly complements the worlds around Chopin and his contemporaries.”

2019 and 2020 became Chopin's jubilee years (1810-1849), and it is symbolic that the disc was recorded in 2019 and will be released in 2020, on the day of Chopin's death - October 17th.

This is the first full-length disc with Chopin's works on the harp. Although there are no arrangements, since Alexander Boldachev preserved almost the entire ur-text, allowing only unavoidable changes. The only piece transcribed for the harp is Fantasia-Impromptu is arranged by Wilhelm Posse, who was born three years after Chopin's death. This is one of the most virtuoso pieces performed on the harp.

The disc is dedicated not only to the new sound of Chopin's works, the development of the harp's repertoire, and the presentation of harp capabilities. But also to the life of the author, his experiences, and the unique touch of the piano, which contemporaries sometimes described: "plucking the strings of the harp." For example, Schumann called Chopin's etude in A-flat major - "Aeolian Harp."

"One of the main characters that motivated me to record Chopin on the harp was Georges Sand. Her house in Nohant-Vic still keeps within its walls the Erard harp, which Georges played. Inspired by their complex love story, I began to check one composition after another, going through all possible archives. The final program of the disc - the quintessence of the most interesting and colorfully sounding pieces on the harp. A small scattering of Chopin's diamonds".

The disc consists of 16 pieces, including Etudes, Mazurkas, Nocturnes, Waltzes, Preludes, and Impromptu Fantasy. Polish dances, salons, suffering, and joy - Alexander tried to cover the entire spectrum of Chopin's and convey them through natural and varied rhythms - the harp.

"I hope that this disc will allow people to hear familiar melodies in a new way or give the motivation to turn their attention to Chopin's work for the first time. That through the harp, I was able to convey that complex, intricate, and sometimes piercing love that connected Chopin with music. "