

Michel Béroff, piano

Michel Béroff was born in France in 1950. After graduating from the Paris conservatoire in 1966, he won the following year the first prize at the first international Olivier Messiaen piano competition. He has been since considered one of the most outstanding interpreters of Messiaen's music. He then went on to play with the most prestigious orchestras around the world under the direction of such conductors as Abbado, Barenboim, Bernstein, Boulez, Dohnanyi, Dorati, Dutoit, Eschenbach, Gielen, Inbal, Jochum, Leinsdorf, Masur, Ozawa, Previn, Rostropovitch, Sinopoli, Solti, Tennsted, Tilson-Thomas, Zinman. As a chamber music partner, he has been very active playing with Martha Argerich, Barbara Hendricks, Jean-Philippe Collard, Augustin Dumay, Pierre Amoyal, Lynn Harrell.

As a conductor, Michel Béroff has been conducting the chamber orchestra de la Scala de Milano, the Russian state Orchestra, the Orchestre National de Lyon, the Orchestre National de Lille, the Cannes chamber orchestra, the Berkeley symphony, the Montréal youth orchestra.

Professor Emeritus at the Paris Conservatoire, where he taught for 25 years, Michel Béroff is giving regular master classes in many countries, including Japan, China, USA, Italy, Germany and France.

Exclusive EMI artist for over 25 years, Michel Béroff has published more than 50 recordings; among them the complete works for piano and orchestra from Liszt, Prokofiev and Stravinsky, conducted by Seiji Ozawa and Kurt Masur. For Deutsche Grammophon, he has recorded Ravel's left hand concerto with the LSO and Claudio Abbado. His latest recordings include the complete piano music from Debussy. Michel Béroff has been awarded five times the "Grand Prix du Disque".

As a publisher, he participated for Wiener Urtext, to a new edition of Debussy's piano music. For the Japanese network NHK, he realized, in 2006, a series of fifteen master-classes on French music.

As a jury member, he has been serving in many important piano competitions, including Tchaikovsky, Van Cliburn, Leeds, Clara Haskil, Rubinstein, and Marguerite Long competitions, among others. Many of his students have won top prizes at international competitions; the latest one is SeongJin CHO, who won the Chopin competition in Warsaw.

