

Winner of the Concours Géza Anda 2015

Andrew Tyson, piano USA

Hailed by BBC Radio 3 as “a real poet of the piano”, the American pianist **Andrew Tyson**, born in 1985, is emerging as a distinctive new musical voice. On the eve of the 2015-2016 season, he captured First Prize and the Mozart Prize at the Concours Géza Anda in Zurich, where his performance of Chopin’s First Piano Concerto, accompanied by the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra, also brought him the Audience Prize.



Andrew Tyson

Tyson has performed with U.S. and European orchestras such as the Las Vegas Philharmonic, the North Carolina Symphony, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre de Chambre de Wallonie, the National Orchestra of Belgium under Marin Alsop and the Hallé Orchestra under Sir Mark Elder. In autumn 2015 his schedule includes a Russian tour where he will perform Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue* with the Kostroma Governor’s Symphonic Orchestra and Mozart’s Piano Concerto K. 503 with the Moscow Virtuosi under Vladimir Spivakov.

Tyson has for several years been giving piano recitals and festival performances in North and Central America and in European countries (such as at the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, at the Paul Klee Centre in Bern, at the Sintra Festival and at Art November in Moscow).

After early studies with Dr Thomas Otten of the University of North Carolina, Tyson



attended the Curtis Institute of Music, as a student of Claude Frank. He later earned his Master’s degree and Artist Diploma at the Juilliard School under Robert McDonald.

Tyson has also won prizes at the Gina Bachauer Piano Competition, the Arthur Rubinstein Competition, the Leeds Piano Competition and the Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels. He gave much-praised debuts in New York and at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. in 2013, both having been made possible by his success at the Young Artists International Auditions in 2011.

Innumerable concerts are planned for Tyson as a result of his First Prize in the Concours Géza Anda, including with the Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana, the Musikkollegium Winterthur, the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra, the Argovia Philharmonic, the Orchestra of German Radio SWR and the St Petersburg Symphony Orchestra. He will also be giving his debuts at the Lucerne Piano Festival, the Bad Kissingen Summer, the Musikdorf Ernen and the Joensuu Music Festival in Finland. Thanks to a cooperation with Steinway & Sons Hamburg, Bavarian Radio in Munich will in March 2016 make a studio production with Tyson of Mozart’s Piano Concerto K. 467, accompanied by the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra.

In 2014, Tyson released his first CD on the Zig-Zag Territories label, featuring Chopin’s *Preludes*.

www.andrewtysonpiano.com

From the notes of a Jury member

A top-class pianist whose creativity is at times quite brilliant. He possesses extraordinary resources that allow him to offer a kaleidoscope of ideas, and often surprises too. He approaches the composer with a strong personality of his own, and every movement attains its own significance or characterisation. This intense engagement with the music sometimes culminates in absolutely magical moments such as was the case with Mozart’s Piano Concerto in C minor, K. 491.

(Andrea Bonatta)

The **13th Concours Géza Anda** took place in Zurich from 6 to 6 June 2015.

The competitors’ four rounds comprised an audition, a recital, a Mozart piano concerto accompanied by the Musikkollegium Winterthur under the baton of Theodor Guschlbauer and then a final concert with the Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra under Karl-Heinz Steffens.

Swiss Radio SRF2 broadcast the final round of 16 June 2015 live; the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) broadcast it throughout Europe on Euroradio.

A live video stream has been produced. The recitals, the Mozart round and the final concert can be watched at www.geza-anda.ch and on Facebook.

Jury

Jesús López-Cobos, chairman
Andrea Bonatta
Filippo Gamba
Aleksander Madzar
Bryce Morrison
Elisso Virsaladzé
Alexei Volodin
Gérard Wyss

Contact address

Géza Anda Concours
Bleicherweg 18
CH-8002 Zurich/Switzerland

Tel. +41 44 205 14 23
Fax +41 44 205 14 29

info@geza-anda.ch
www.geza-anda.ch

www.facebook.com/ConcoursGézaAnda
www.youtube.com/ConcoursGézaAnda
[Twitter.com/gezaanda](https://twitter.com/gezaanda)

Live video streaming at www.geza-anda.ch

Press clippings

... Tyson played Chopin's E-minor Concerto, and it was a skilful choice. Here he was able to demonstrate a superior ability to shape the music, offering lines that were never entangled, the softest of *pianissimi* and highly nuanced agogics. This refinement was not always placed at the service of musical expression – sometimes it remained mere refinement. But the Chopin Concerto proved to be a tremendously inventive and carefully packaged gift ...

Susanne Kübler – Der Bund/Tages-Anzeiger – 18 June 2015

... Tyson revealed a subtle piano touch. Especially in the virtuosic runs and chordal leaps, he achieved a magical *piano*. Furthermore, his trills were robust yet calm, while his creative originality and his overview of the music were impressive.

Sybille Ehrismann – ZSZ – 18 June 2015

... As soon as this American plays, another world opens up before us. Suddenly, the piano begins to sing, to sound, to float. Tyson interpreted Chopin's First Piano Concerto in highly virtuosic fashion, with a lightness that others before him have demonstrated, and yet he also managed to shape the work incredibly poetically, highlighting the complex architecture of this music that can otherwise seem so light – and time and again he gets away with surprising outbursts too. Here is someone who has something to say. Sometimes he does it in a youthfully awkward, impulsive manner, but he also does so very often with exceptional beauty and great originality.

Jenny Berg – TagesWoche – 21 June 2015

... The real sensation came from the USA: Andrew Tyson, a former student of the renowned Juilliard School, who captivated the audience with Chopin's First Piano Concerto. His highly sensitive playing is full of life, and he is able to engage in a free dialogue with the orchestra. This winner of the Concours Géza Anda is a true personality, and one is left with a burning desire to encounter this pianist again.

Emmanuèle Rüegger – Scène Magazine – June 2015

Repertoire

Recital programme 2015/16

Mozart

Variations on "Ah vous dirai-je, Maman", K. 265

Chopin

Polonaise-Fantasie, Op. 61

Scriabin

Etude in C-sharp minor, Op. 2, No. 1

Etude in E major, Op. 8, No. 5

Etude in B major, Op. 8, No. 4

Etude in F-sharp major, Op. 42, No. 3

Etude in C-sharp minor, Op. 42, No. 5

Etude in B-flat minor, Op. 8, No. 11

Etude in E-flat major, Op. 42, No. 8

Etude, Op. 65, No. 3

Interval

Ravel

Valses nobles et sentimentales

Gershwin

Rhapsody in Blue

Recital programme 2016/17

Scarlatti

Sonatas

Mompou

Paisajes

Ravel

Menuet sur le nom d'Haydn

Jeux d'eau

Medtner

Sonata in G minor, Op. 22

Interval

Michel Petrossian

La lutte ardente du vert et de l'or

Schumann

Fantasie in C major, Op. 17

Piano Concertos

Beethoven

Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, Op. 19

Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37

Concerto No. 4 in G major, Op. 58

Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Op. 73

Triple Concerto in C major, Op. 56

Chopin

Concerto No. 1 in E minor, Op. 11

Concerto No. 2 in F minor, Op. 21

Gershwin

Rhapsody in Blue

Grieg

Concerto in A minor, Op. 11

Mendelssohn

Concerto No. 2 in D minor, Op. 40

Mozart

Concerto No. 10 in E-flat major for Two Pianos, K. 365/316a

Concerto No. 12 in A major, K. 414

Concerto No. 13 in C major, K. 415

Concerto No. 15 in B-flat major, K. 450

Concerto No. 20 in D minor, K. 466

Concerto No. 21 in C major, K. 467

Concerto No. 24 in C minor, K. 491

Concerto No. 25 in C major, K. 503

Rachmaninov

Concerto No. 1 in F-sharp minor, Op. 1

Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18

Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Op. 43

Schumann

Concerto in A minor, Op. 54

Tchaikovsky

Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Op. 23