



For Immediate Release:

PSU Steinway Piano Series Highlights Benjamin Hochman in World Premiere

“Classical music doesn't get better than this.”
-The New York Times on Benjamin Hochman

PORTLAND, OR (3 March 2022): The PSU Steinway Piano Series is thrilled to present its spring 2022 residency with star pianist and Steinway Artist Benjamin Hochman, celebrated for his “stylistic insight, elegance and sparkle” (*The New York Times*). An Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, Hochman is a musician of exceptional versatility who regularly appears in multiple guises as orchestral soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, and conductor. Hochman serves as piano faculty at Bard College Conservatory of Music and as a Research Associate at Bard College Berlin. Through PSU’s Steinway Piano Series, Hochman will offer a recital and master class on April 22nd and 23rd, the highlight of which will be the **world premiere** of *In My Heart I Am* by New York City-based composer Tamar Muskal. This is Muskal’s fourth collaboration with Hochman, whose connection reaches back to their common high school in Jerusalem. The piece represents some of Hochman’s signature personality traits, bringing together depth, mystique, emotion, and playfulness. Muskal will be in attendance for the premiere, and will enhance the residency with a private class for PSU composition and theory students.



(Photo by Jennifer Taylor)

Hochman's recital also presents side by side the late works of Schubert and Brahms: some of the most beautiful, intimate, and beloved music ever written for the piano, and pieces that are united in their wistfulness, interiority, and emotional depth. Demonstrating what could have been had he not died shortly thereafter, Schubert’s final *Sonata*, D. 960 stands in contrast to Brahms’ *Fantasies*, Op. 116 and *Four Piano Pieces*, Op. 119, the works of a seasoned master who lived into his seventh decade. Muskal’s new *In My Heart I Am*, a set of three colorful, imaginative pieces, is inspired by the late piano music of Brahms and beautifully completes the program.

PSU Steinway Piano Series 2022

CONCERT: Starring Benjamin Hochman
7pm PT on Friday, April 22 - *PSU Lincoln Recital Hall*
\$25 General Admission; \$10 Students, Seniors, PSU Faculty/Staff, OMTA teachers

GUEST ARTIST With guest pianist Benjamin Hochman and featuring PSU students
MASTER CLASS: 7pm PT on Saturday, April 23 - *PSU Lincoln Hall 326*
FREE and open to the public

FACULTY With PSU piano faculty Susan Chan and featuring students from the community
MASTER CLASS: 2pm PT on Sunday, April 24 - *PSU Lincoln Recital Hall*
FREE and open to the public

TICKETS: Available at pdx.edu/music-theater/steinway-piano-series

Benjamin Hochman: Hochman's wide range of partners and projects is matched by his curiosity, focus, and ability to communicate deeply with audiences. Since his Carnegie Hall debut as soloist with the Israel Philharmonic, Hochman has appeared as soloist with the New York, Los Angeles, and Prague Philharmonic Orchestras, and the Chicago, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and Jerusalem Symphony Orchestras. In 2021-2022, Hochman returned to Santa Fe Pro Musica to open their 2021-22 season, conducting Beethoven Symphony No. 5 and playing Mozart *Concerto for Two Pianos* with Anne-Marie McDermott. He rejoined the Orlando Philharmonic and Eric Jacobsen to perform Brahms *Piano Concerto No. 1*. Chamber music collaborations include the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, The Schubert Club, Strings Music Festival, Music Mountain, The Stissing Center, and numerous appearances in Berlin. Hochman's first two recordings for Avie Records were *Homage to Schubert* and *Variations*, selected by *The New York Times* as one of the best recordings of 2015. Born in Jerusalem, Hochman is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, Mannes College of Music, and The Juilliard School's conducting program, where he received the Bruno Walter Scholarship and the Charles Schiff Award while training under Alan Gilbert. Full bio at benjaminhochman.com.

Tamar Muskal: Highly awarded composer Tamar Muskal has received accolades from the Guggenheim Foundation, American Academy of Arts and Letters, and Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard University, among others. She studied composition with Mark Kopytman, Jacob Druckman, Martin Bresnick, Tania Leon and David Del Tredici at the Jerusalem Academy for Music and Dance (Israel) and at Yale University and CUNY. Recent commissions include a Concerto for solo percussion, interactive kinetic art and ensemble, and an opera, a collaboration with director-librettist Daniel Kramer, the former artistic director of English National Opera. In educational spaces, Muskal has also served as the Westchester Philharmonic's education composer-in-residence. More at tamarmuskal.com.



The PSU Steinway Piano Series brings internationally recognized performers and educators to Portland for a weekend of public recitals and masterclasses each year. Acting as a bridge between world-class stages and the college classroom, the series elevates awareness for PSU's outstanding music program while providing students and concertgoers with access to a broad spectrum of the highest-level professional pianists performing today. Founded in 2015 and directed by piano professor Dr. Susan Chan, the PSU Steinway Piano Series is sponsored by the Arima Schumann Fund of Schwab Charitable, Layzell Family Foundation, Steinway & Sons Portland, and other donors with additional support from PSU College of the Arts and PSU School of Music & Theater. More at pdx.edu/music-theater/steinway-piano-series.



For additional information, media materials and interview inquiries, please contact:

Amelia Lukas, [Aligned Artistry](https://alignedartistry.com); 415-516-4851; amelia@alignedartistry.com

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