

Pascal Nemirovski

BIOGRAPHY

Pascal Nemirovski is among the most sought-after piano pedagogues of his generation. A French pianist, he holds the International Chair in Piano at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and is the founder and Artistic Director of IPM – International Piano Masters. From January 2027 he is also Guest Professor at the Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln.

His students are drawn from some twenty countries across Europe, Asia, the Americas and southern Africa, and many have gone on to distinguished international careers. Lise de la Salle won first prize at the Ettlingen International Piano Competition in 2000, at the age of twelve. Louis Schwizgebel took second prize at the Leeds International Piano Competition in 2012. Daniel Lebhardt won first prize at the Young Concert Artists auditions in Paris and New York in 2014, was selected by the Young Classical Artists Trust in 2015, and received the prize for the Most Promising Pianist at the Sydney International Piano Competition in 2016. Mario Mora won the Kawai Grand Prix at the Premio Iturbi Valencia International Piano Competition in 2015. Roman Kosyakov won first prize at the Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition in 2018 and third prize at the Dublin International Piano Competition in 2022. In 2019 Emanuil Ivanov won first prize at the Busoni International Piano Competition and second prize and the audience prize at the Casagrande International Piano Competition, while Yi Zhong won the GOCAA International Piano Competition. George Harliono was awarded second prize at the International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow in 2023, and Edward Leung won first prize at the Albert Roussel International Piano Competition in Paris in 2026. Others have been selected by Young Concert Artists in New York, the Young Classical Artists Trust in London and the BBC New Generation Artists scheme, and several record and perform under the management of IMG Artists and HarrisonParrott.

Born in 1962, Nemirovski studied in Paris with Elena Varvarova and France Clidat before being admitted to the Juilliard School in 1981 on a Steinway scholarship covering three years of tuition, with further awards from the Juilliard School and the Freundlich Fund. In New York he studied with Nadia Reisenberg, a pupil of Josef Hofmann, and with Adele Marcus, a pupil of Josef Lhévinne and Artur Schnabel — a lineage reaching back to Anton Rubinstein, to the Moscow school and to Theodor Leschetizky. He returned to France in 1984, and from 1987 worked with Alexis Weissenberg.

From 1989 to 1994 he was Assistant Adviser for the masterclasses to Vladimir Spivakov at the Colmar International Festival, and the youngest of its twenty-five invited artists — among them Dmitri Bashkirov, Pascal Devoyon, Gary Graffman, Jean-François Heisser, Alexander Kniazev, Vladimir Krainev, Yehudi Menuhin, Rena Shereshevskaya and Tatiana Zelikman. The masterclasses brought together students of the Paris Conservatoire, the Curtis Institute of Music, the Royal Academy of Music, the Moscow Conservatory and the Juilliard School.

Until 1995 he appeared in concert throughout Europe, Asia and the United States, and broadcast for France Musique, France Culture and Radio France Internationale, for which he recorded works by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Scriabin, Prokofiev, Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky. In November 1995, following a recital in the Midis du Louvre series in Paris, relayed by France Musique, he decided to devote himself fully to teaching, which he regards as ‘an infinite source of enrichment and knowledge,

as well as an authentic artistic and human exchange'. In 1996 France 3 devoted a fifty-two-minute portrait to him, presented by Alain Duault, and subsequently commissioned his recording of Chopin's Barcarolle, alongside those of Martha Argerich, Ivo Pogorelich and Krystian Zimerman, to mark the 150th anniversary of the composer's death. In 2004 he released a studio recording, *Entre Ciel et Terre*, devoted to Chopin, Prokofiev and Scriabin. Reviewing it in *Le Figaro*, Jacques Doucelin praised 'a Prokofiev Seventh Sonata of perfect rhythmic poise and remarkable balance between virtuosity and musicality'.

Nemirovski taught at the Royal Academy of Music in London from 2006 to 2016, where from 2008 he was responsible for the Piano Pedagogy specialism of the Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music (LRAM); he was made an Honorary Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (Hon ARAM) in 2009. From 2011 to 2017 he also taught at the Purcell School for Young Musicians. He was appointed Visiting Professor at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in 2015 and has held its International Chair in Piano since 2016.

With Béatrice Quoniam he founded the Concours de Piano de Lagny-sur-Marne in 2006 and served as its Artistic Director; the competition became international in 2009 and was held until 2015. Together they went on to create the Concours International de Piano Antoine de Saint-Exupéry in Saint-Priest, held from 2017 to 2019. He was Artistic Director of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire International Piano Festival in 2019, and in 2022 was appointed Artistic Director and Chair of the Madrid International Piano Competition, which he directed in 2023.

He gives masterclasses, lectures and workshops at institutions including the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Shenzhen Arts School and the Zhejiang Conservatory of Music; the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki; the Royal Irish Academy of Music; the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music and the Jerusalem Music Centre; the Moscow Conservatory and its Central Music School; the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre; the Real Conservatorio Superior de Música de Madrid; the National Taiwan Normal University; and the University of Oxford. His summer teaching has taken him to the Edwin Fischer Sommerakademie in Potsdam, Music Alp in Courchevel and Tignes, the Cadenza Summer School and Chetham's International Summer School in the United Kingdom, Music Fest Perugia and the Bergamo International Music Festival in Italy, PianoTexas in the United States, the Wiener Meisterkurse in Vienna, the OpusOne International Music Festival in Los Angeles, PianoFest Arad in Israel and the London Overseas Musicians' League International Piano Festival.

He has served on the juries of piano competitions in Europe and Asia, among them the Maria Canals International Music Competition in Barcelona, the MozArte International Piano Competition in Aachen, the Split International Piano Competition, the Xinghai Cup in Beijing, the Indonesia International Piano Competition and the Steinway Piano Competition in Singapore. With Béatrice Quoniam he is the co-author of the two-volume piano method *Les Leçons de piano* (Éditions Henry Lemoine, Paris, 2007 and 2010).

In 2023 he founded IPM – International Piano Masters, which brings together an international academy in Vienna, masterclasses, competitions and lectures for young musicians at the outset of their international careers. IPM continues the work of the two competitions he created with Béatrice Quoniam, whose laureates include Alexander Gadjiev, Filippo Gorini, Jeneba Kanneh-Mason, Arseni Mun, Marie-Ange Nguci, Aristo Sham and Alexander Ullman, among many others.

Pascal Nemirovski is a Steinway Artist.