

## MICHELE D'ASCENZO

### *Pianist*

«Besides the perfect mastery of the keyboard and the precise control of the sound, the young D'Ascenzo showed off a remarkable interpretative clarity» (Paolo Viola, *Arcipelago Milano*)

Mr D'Ascenzo obtained his Graduate Diploma with top marks and full honours at the State Music Conservatory "Alfredo Casella" in L'Aquila, Italy, where he studied under the guidance of Elena Matteucci. He continued his education studying with the Russian pianist Vsevolod Dvorkin (a former student of Lazar Berman) at the Talent Academy in Desio, Italy, where he attended also the periodic lessons of Natalia Trull. He followed the masterclasses of renowned pedagogues, such as Grigory Gruzman, Vincenzo Balzani, Roberto Cappello, Pierre Réach, Lya de Barberiis, etc.

He enriched his musical taste and aesthetic values studying composition with Alessandro Cusatelli.

Winner of many international piano competitions (in Gallarate, Monza, Viterbo, Barlassina, etc.), Michele D'Ascenzo has performed in more than a hundred of concerts as a soloist and in chamber music ensembles. He has appeared as a soloist with Orchestra Sinfonica Abruzzese, the West Bohemian Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra Classica di Alessandria, working with wellknown conductors, such as Sergei Kalyanov, Martin Peschík, Andrea Oddone, Stefano Nigro.

Recitals have taken him to perform throughout Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Switzerland and San Marino Republic.

He was invited by many Institutions and international Festivals, such as Istituzione Sinfonica Abruzzese, The Concert Society in L'Aquila, Liszt Piano Festival in Rome, Monferrato Classic Festival, Piano Talents Festival in Milan, Villa del Balbianello on Lake Como, The Mid-Summer Festival in Tagliacozzo, Prague Summer Music Festival, Vienna International Young Pianists, The Roads of Europe Music Festival in Vilnius, etc.

The latest seasons included also some recitals for important diplomatic Institutions: in 2016 for the UN Agencies in Rome, in 2017 for the Russian Embassy in Italy and for the Senate of the Czech Republic in the Main Hall of Waldstein Palace, Prague.

Mr D'Ascenzo's performances are always praised by public and critics alike:

«He faced up the program with determination and brilliancy, and with thoughtful musical ideas, which confirmed the deep interpretative intentions of the young D'Ascenzo» (Anna Maria Bruno, // *Monferrato*)

«The concert program was performed with high virtuosity. Lots of acclamations came from the audience» (Lidija Veličkaitė, *Lietuvos Aidai*)