



Aliéksey Vianna



“such vibrant and incisive playing...”

Anthony Tommasini- New York Times

Only rarely do we find an artist with the range of musicianship of Aliéksey Vianna. Aliéksey is equally at home performing classical guitar solos, concerti, chamber works, jazz and Brazilian music with unique artistry and a technical expertise that are compelling to critics and the general public.

Born in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, and a graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Aliéksey has performed in prestigious music venues in over twenty countries throughout Europe, the Americas, Africa and the Middle East, including New York’s Carnegie Hall, Washington DC’s BID, San Francisco Bay Area’s Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and Yoshi’s Jazz Club, Cairo’s Opera House, Mexico City’s Nezahualcoyotl and Sao Paulo’s Sala Ester Mesquita.

Aliéksey has performed as a soloist with orchestras and chamber groups in Brazil, USA, Portugal, Finland, Sweden and Poland. He has played with many world-renowned musicians, such as Peter Erskine, Paul McCandless, Toninho Horta, Tracy Silverman, Petri Sakari and Pierre Boulez. He was chosen to perform Boulez’s landmark work “Le Marteau sans Maître”, conducted by the composer at Carnegie Hall. He has premiered pieces by Egberto Gismonti, Edino Krieger, David Burge and Sérgio Assad. Maestro Assad recognized Aliéksey’s talent and offered to produce a CD of his own solo guitar works, which has been released by the GSP label in February of 2005.

Aliéksey first took up the guitar spontaneously at the age of eight. At age twelve, he began formal musical studies, which included classical guitar, composition, arranging and orchestration. His main teachers were Rogerio Bianchi, Maria Rachel Marcondes, Jose Lucena Vaz, Fernando Araujo, Thomas Patterson and David Tanenbaum. He has also performed in master classes of Sergio and Odair Assad, Manuel Barrueco, Roland Dyens, Abel Carlevaro, Oscar Ghiglia, Nigel North, Paul O’dette, Hopkinson Smith and Ralph Towner, among others.

Aliéksey is an exceptional guitarist who is highly accomplished in both the classical and jazz genres and is constantly crossing stylistic borders. He was awarded first prizes in more than fifteen worldwide music competitions. These awards have led to invitations to perform and teach in several music festivals, and to record with such important labels as Radio MEC in Brazil, URTEX in Mexico and GSP in the USA.

CRITICS

“I think that he is an exceptionally talented artist; his technique, musical understanding and sensitivity easily place him among the best guitarists of his generation. Apart from his accomplishment as a classical musician, he is also an extraordinary improviser.”

Dusan Bogdanovic- Renowned composer and guitarist

“Alieksey Vianna is a very talented musician fully dedicated to his work and greatly committed to his art. He has put a lot of energy into this project and we can all feel the reward. I'm pleased to have my whole guitar solo production thus far represented here by him and hope to write more solo pieces in the future.”

Sérgio Assad- World renowned guitarist and composer

“...virtuosity of the most florid sort- indeed, his guitar seemed at perilous risk from the uninhibited vehemence with which he attacked percussive effects.”

John Henken- Los Angeles Times

“His Aguado was elegant and spirited... and the Aquarelle sparkled.”

Richard Long- Soundboard Magazine

“Aliéksey is one of the greatest natural talents on the guitar... His hands work beautifully on the instrument, and he plays in a way that makes everything sing. He also has an impeccable sense of rhythm... Aliéksey is a rare example of a guitar player who is highly accomplished in both classical and jazz”

David Tanenbaum- Renowned guitarist and teacher

“A marvelous concert... the clarity of ideas and musical nuances were present from beginning to end... Aliéksey brought life to each note, color and soul to each phrase, always with his characteristic clear tone.”

Tiaraju Aronovich- Violão Intercâmbio (Brazil)

“Vianna brings loads of personality to his playing... making every lick come alive with polish and fire.”

Ken Keuffel Jr.- The Arizona Daily Star

AWARDS

Aliéksey has been awarded the first prize in the following competitions:

I San Francisco International Guitar Competition, USA

I National Guitar Workshop Solo Competition, USA

XII Savona International Guitar Competition, Italy

John Duarte International Guitar Competition, Austria

IV Sernancelhe International Guitar Competition, Portugal

XI Kutna Hora International Guitar Competition, Czech Republic

VI Concurso Internacional de Guitarra Manuel M. Ponce, México

III Saint Joseph International Guitar Competition, USA

I Concurso Nacional de Violão- Homenagem a Fred Schneider, Brazil

XIII Concorso Internazionale di Chitarra- Cita di Mottola, Italy

2000 Fresno Guitar Competition, USA

I Concurso de Violão Jose Lucena Vaz, Brazil

1998 Portland Guitar Festival Solo Competition, USA

“Herb Ellis Award”- best Guitarist of the 1997 Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, USA

1995 “Tucson Jazz Society Award”, USA

Other prizes include:

XVI Guitar Foundation of America International Competition, Montreal- 2nd prize

III Stotsenberg International Guitar Competition, Malibu, CA- 2nd prize

I Toru Takemitsu International Competition, Turku, Finland- 4th prize

III Crete International Guitar competition, Arhanes, Greece- 3rd prize

I Certamen Internacional de Guitarra Classica Julian Arcas, Spain- 3rd prize

III Ville d'Antony International Guitar Competition, France- 2nd prize

X Premio Eldorado de Musica, Sao Paulo, Brazil- 3rd prize

II Concurso Internacional de Guitarra, Trofa, Portugal- 2nd prize

VI Printemps de la Guitare International Competition, Belgium- 4th prize

Weikrsheim International Guitar Competition, Germany- 4th prize