

1117/00 No 1.

# George Vatchnadze

## Piano

Wednesday, August 11, 1999 8:00 p.m.

Prelude and Fugue in G sharp minor, from Book II, <i>The Well-Tempered Clavier</i>	J.S. Bach
Sonatina No. 4 (1917), on "In diem nativitatis Christi," BWV 274 by J.S. Bach	F. Busoni
Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24	J. Brahms

### Intermission

Sonata No. 31 in A flat Major, Op. 110	L. V. Beethoven
Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52	F. Chopin
Transcendental Etude No. 12, "Chasse-neige"	F. Liszt
Scarbo, from <i>Gaspard de la nuit</i>	M. Ravel

"Deep authority and a stunning and reliable technique."  
Daniel Cariaga, Los Angeles Times

"One of the freshest and most exciting young pianists to come along in a long, long time."  
Patrick Meanor, "Listener"

A native of the Republic of Georgia, George Vatchnadze has been a frequent guest of St. Petersburg's Stars of the White Nights, and Mikkei festivals, directed by Valery Gergiev. Mr. Vatchnadze has appeared with orchestras and in recitals throughout the U. S., Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Finland, Italy, Russia, Japan, Taiwan, South America, Argentina and Chile. He has performed at the Hollywood Bowl Festival, the Ravinia Festival, and with the Kirov Orchestra under Maestro Gergiev at the Rotterdam Philips Gergiev Festival. In 1996 Mr. Vatchnadze made a sensational recital debut at The Edinburgh International Music Festival and received the "Harold Angel Award" presented by the *Herald* newspaper. He has appeared on live broadcasts of the Dutch National Radio, BBC and National Public Radio's *Performance Today*.

Recently he made his New York debut recital at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall. Critic Faubion Bowers wrote, "Vatchnadze is a consummate artist, now at the height of his musical and intellectual powers. He can do absolutely anything he wants at the piano. He commands delicate pianissimi, massive diapasons and everything in between."

Since winning his first competition at age fourteen, Mr. Varchnadze has won numerous national and international contests including the First Prize at the 1996 Alabama International Piano Competition and the Fourth Prize at the 1994 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition. More recently, Mr. Vatchnadze won the First Prize at the 1998 Palm Beach Invitational Piano Competition and the Grand Prize at the 1997 World Piano Competition in Cincinnati.

George Vatchnadze has recorded two CDs with the Tbilisi Symphony Orchestra under Jansug Kakhidze featuring Rachmaninoff's *Concerto No. 2* and Ravel's *Concerto for the Left Hand* for Sony Classical and Excelsior Labels.

A former student of the Tbilisi State Conservatory, he studied with Ms. Wanda Shiukashvili, one of the founders of the Georgian Piano School. In 1990, Mr. Vatchnadze moved to the United States and studied with Arkady Aronov at New York's Mannes College of Music. In 1992 he joined the thriving Alexander Toradze Piano Studio at Indiana University South Bend, where he is currently on the faculty.

Division of the Arts, Indiana University South Bend

Tom Miller, Acting Dean