

CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR PIANIST

"...his performance was a highlight of the season
and already represents an astonishing achievement." *The New York Times*



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"frighteningly talented"
The New York Times

"...he has emerged as the leading
American pianist of his generation."
Boston Globe

"one of the most impressive young pianists
on the horizon today"
The Washington Post

"Most apparent were the almost
superhuman control, coordination
and concentration of the performer."
Chicago Tribune

"Taylor, a versatile, ready-for-anything soloist,
delivered a brilliant, intense performance..."
The Denver Post

"the performance was extraordinary. Taylor,
who graduated summa cum laude from Harvard
with a mathematics degree in 1992 — two
years after he received first prize in the William
Kapell International Piano Competition — is a
genius. I doubt few present will forget how he
lifted us to a realm beyond time and space."
San Francisco Classical Voice

"Bolcom's splendid "Twelve New Etudes"
[was] delivered with a daring spontaneity that
masked some phenomenal technique"
Washington Post

"The young pianist Christopher Taylor is so
talented it's almost frightening...Taylor revealed
limpid, legato lines of plaintive beauty.
His ear was alert to the fantasy and drama
in this work."
The Boston Globe

"A stunning new recording of William Bolcom's
Pulitzer Prize-winning "Twelve New Etudes"...
[The etudes] require a pianist of equally nimble
intelligence and imagination - not to mention
physical endurance - and Taylor is more than
up to the challenge."
The New Yorker

Among pianists, Christopher Taylor stands out as an innovative musician with a diverse array of talents and interests (mathematics, computing, philosophy and linguistics among them). He has performed with major symphony orchestras (the New York Philharmonic, St. Louis Symphony, and Detroit Symphony, among others), given recitals in major venues across the U.S. and abroad, created a DVD of his epic performance of Messiaen's 'Vingt Regards' and toured on an innovative dual-manual Steinway in performance of Bach's Goldberg Variations.

Christopher Taylor is known for a passionate advocacy of music written in the past 100 years — particularly Messiaen, Ligeti, and Bolcom — but his repertoire spans four centuries and includes the complete Beethoven sonatas, the Liszt Transcendental Etudes, the Goldbergs, among many masterworks. Whatever the genre or era of the composition, Mr. Taylor brings to it an active imagination and intellect coupled with heartfelt intensity and grace.

While Taylor has a well-earned reputation for his exquisite performances of Bach and his exciting performances of romantic piano concertos, he has captured the attention of the music world with his recent tour de force programming of Olivier Messiaen's **Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus**. "an astonishing performance...more than two hours of some of the most complex and difficult music ever written for the piano. And he played the 176-page score from memory."
The New York Times

Taylor has concertized around the globe and appeared with the Symphonies of Colorado, Atlanta, Indianapolis, Houston, Los Angeles, and the Boston Pops. As a soloist he has performed in New York's Carnegie and Alice Tully Halls, Washington's Kennedy Center, the Ravinia and Aspen festivals, and dozens of other venues. He has collaborated with many eminent ensembles (the Borromeo, Shanghai and Ying Quartets), and maintains a long-standing collaboration with violinist Robert McDuffie.

Named an American Pianists' Association Fellow for 2000, Christopher Taylor received an Avery Fisher Career Grant in 1996 and the Bronze Medal in the 1993 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. He was awarded first prize in the William Kapell International Piano Competition in 1990. Taylor serves as Associate Professor of Piano Performance at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

photo credit: Katrin Talbot