

HONENS QUESTIONNAIRE

NICOLAS NAMORADZE

2018 HONENS INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

We asked Nicolas to share some information about himself, here is what he came back with...

Have you ever been to Canada? To Calgary?

No

No

Where did you go to University?

Liszt Academy (Budapest), Juilliard, CUNY Graduate Center (New York).

With whom did you study?

Emanuel Ax, John Corigliano (in composition), Veda Kaplinsky, Zoltan Kocsis and Elisso Virsaladze, among others.

When did you start playing the piano?

At the age of 7.

How old were you when you first played in public?

10 years old (official debut).

How old were you when you made your orchestral debut?

12 years old.

What is your first memory of performing on stage?

Playing at an assembly at my primary school only a few months after starting to learn the piano. I vividly remember the thrill of performing for the crowd and feeling at home on stage.

If you hadn't become a pianist, what would you be doing right now?

Writing music. If I weren't in music at all, I might be running for parliament.

Default drink / cocktail of choice?

A tarragon mojito (an invention of my own!)

Name your favourite concert hall anywhere.

The Great Hall of the Music Academy in Budapest -- before it was renovated!

Where was the last place you travelled?

Grado, Italy -- a beautiful island off the coast of Venice.

What is your favourite film?

"In the Mood for Love" by Wong Kar-Wai

What is your favourite TV Show?

"Blackadder" Series 3.

What is the first album that made you love music?

Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte"

The historical personalities, both good and bad, that fascinate you the most?

The Buddha, Plato, Ludwig van Beethoven, Alexander Scriabin, Gustav Mahler, Albert Camus, Stanley Kubrick.

If you could board a plane this afternoon, where would it be taking you?

Auckland, New Zealand

What is your favourite book?

"Alice in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll

What is the one talent that you wished you possessed?

I wish I were a better singer.

What musical instrument do you secretly wish you could play?

French Horn

What are the top three pieces (or songs) that you could listen to over and over again?

Schubert's Winterreise, Mahler 9, "Chela" (Georgian Folk Song)