

# 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)