



JIANING KONG, piano

Biography

Born in 1986 in Guangdong province, China, he has performed to great critical acclaim throughout the UK and continental Europe.

He is a prizewinner of many international piano competitions such as the 2008 Tunbridge Wells International Young Concert Artist, 2009 Leeds Piano Competition, 2013 Valsesia Competition and 2014 Scottish Piano Competition. He most recently was awarded the Third Prize at the XVIII Paloma O'Shea Santander International Piano Competition (2015).

After receiving the Concerto Prize at the Purcell School, he gave his London debut in 2003, performing Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto with the Purcell Symphony Orchestra at the Duke's Hall (Royal Academy of Music). Since then, he has performed at festivals and major venues across the UK and Europe including Cadogan Hall, St. John's Smith Square, St. James' Piccadilly, Draper's Hall, Steinway Hall (London), Brighton Festival, Chipping-Campden Festival, Leeds Town Hall, Gasteig (Munich), Salle Cortot (Paris), Bechstein Centrum (Frankfurt) and the Bolshoi Hall (Moscow Conservatoire). He also frequently returns to China where he has appeared in all major concert halls.

As a concerto soloist, he has appeared with the Hallé Orchestra under Sir Mark Elder at the Leeds Town Hall, the Ealing Symphony Orchestra and the St. John's Chamber Orchestra. He was invited to perform Beethoven's Triple Concerto under Paul Daniel at the Royal Festival Hall in 2012, as part of the Purcell School's Fifty Years Anniversary Gala concert. Also in 2012, he performed with the Orchestre Royal de Chambre de Wallonie under Michael Hofstetter in the semi-finals of the Queen Elisabeth Piano Competition. Most recently, he has performed in the final of the 2015 Santander Piano Competition with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Radiotelevisión Española under Pablo González.

In 2012, he was selected by the Keyboard Charitable Trust as one of their artists and was thus invited to give a series of recitals at venues across Europe and America, including Steinway Hall in New York and Castleton Festival Theatre in Virginia. In the same year, he was also chosen by the Kirckman Concert Society as one of their artists and thus gave his Wigmore Hall debut recital to great critical acclaim.

He studied at the Canton Conservatory of Music in Guangzhou and was offered a full scholarship to study at the Purcell School in 2002, where he studied with the late Ronald Smith. He went on to study at the Royal College of Music (RCM), graduating in 2010 with both bachelor and master degrees. In 2011, he was also awarded the RCM Mills Williams Junior Fellowship and the RCM Artist Diploma. His teachers at the RCM included Ruth Nye, Gordon Fergus-Thompson and Dmitri Alexeev.

September 2015

PALOMA O'SHEA **SANTANDER**
INTERNATIONAL **PIANO** COMPETITION

Calle Hernán Cortés No.3, 39003 Santander, Spain.
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As seen in the press

“[...] The Chinese Jianing Kong, age 28, Third Prize, chose an earlier Beethoven Concert, No. 4: his tap is solid, his style elegant, and his phrasing praiseworthy. [...]”

José Luis Pérez de Arteaga, LA RAZÓN, 5 August 2015

“[...] The third prize was awarded to the Chinese Jianing Kong, who played Beethoven’s “Concerto No. 4” with the same wide range of nuances that he showed in the enigmatic initial phrase. The orchestra played the introduction and engaged with the pianist’s organized play quite well. [...] Kong demonstrated details of fine artist, [...]. The *Finale* was executed reliably and with details which revealed notable sensitivity. [...]”

Arturo Reverter, El Cultural – EL MUNDO, 7 August 2015

“[...] Very focused and determined, Kong succeeded at speaking for himself [...] The *Allegro moderato* sounded elegant and accurate on the keys, with a surrounding sound achieved by means of a quarter pedal that allowed to listen to every note enveloped in an intriguing halo of sonority. The *Andante con moto* was evocative. [...] The third movement *Rondó. Vivace* was fluent and very well articulated on the key, with a perfect differentiation of melodic lines thanks to the combination of a soft tap of one hand and a stronger one of the other. [...]”

Roberto San Juan, Mundoclasico.com, 10 August 2015

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Links to videos

Did you miss Jianing's performances during the 18th Paloma O'Shea Santander International Piano Competition? Check them out by clicking in the text in blue. You will be directed to www.classicalplanet.com

First stage

Recital

Ludwig van Beethoven	Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op 111
Frédéric Chopin	Waltz in A flat major, Op 42
Alexander Scriabin	8 Studies, Op 42 / 1
Frédéric Chopin	Impromptu No. 3 in G flat major, Op 51 Scherzo No. 3 in C sharp minor, Op 39

Semifinal

Recital

Isaac Albéniz	From "Iberia", notebook II, Triana
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	Sonata No. 13 in B flat major, K 333
Frédéric Chopin	Studies, Op 25

Chamber music

Robert Schumann	Quintet for piano and strings in E flat major, Op 44
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Final with orchestra

<u>Ludwig van Beethoven</u>	<u>Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major, Op 58</u>
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