



Komitas
& Bach

RUBEN KOZIN

PIANO

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Komitas & Bach

RUBEN KOZIN P I A N O

1. **Komitas: Garun** (Arr. by Robert Andriasyan)
2. **Komitas: Kakavik** (Arr. by Robert Andriasyan)
3. **Komitas: Hoi Nazan im** (Arr. by Robert Andriasyan)
4. **Komitas: Habrban** (Arr. by Robert Andriasyan)
5. **Komitas: Tsirani Tsar** (Arr. by Robert Andriasyan)
6. **Johann Sebastian Bach: Sheep May Safely Graze, BWV 208** (Arr. by Egon Petri)

The turning point in the life of the Armenian child prodigy pianist and arranger Robert Andriasyan (1913–1971) came at age twelve, when he was inspired by meeting the Dutch-American pianist Egon Petri, who had performed in Tbilisi while on tour. Petri was one of the twentieth century's most distinguished pianists and a pupil of the legendary Busoni. For the rest of his life, Andriasyan cherished the memory of that encounter and kept a photograph inscribed: "To the highly gifted little Robert Andriasyan, with best wishes for the future. Tiflis, May 19, 1925. Egon Petri."

The inspiring power of art, human encouragement, and cross-national connections is celebrated in this program, which brings together six songs by the legendary Armenian composer, scholar, and spiritual figure Komitas, arranged for piano by Robert Andriasyan, and Bach's "Sheep May Safely Graze" (from Cantata BWV 208), arranged for piano by Egon Petri. This very piece by Bach appeared on Petri's program at his Tbilisi concert in May 1925.

— *Ruben Kozin, piano*

RUBEN KOZIN

Ruben Kozin began piano lessons at age five at a youth music school. At twelve, he was accepted into the Central Music School at the P. I. Tchaikovsky Moscow State Conservatory, where he studied under Natalia Trull. He graduated from the Conservatory in 2020.

Ruben regularly performs throughout Armenia as well as in France, Georgia, Italy, Croatia, Poland, Lithuania, Malta, Kazakhstan, Denmark, Germany, Belgium, Belarus, and Russia. He has



appeared at the Visages d'Arménie Festival (France), the Gradus International Piano Festival (Denmark), the PianoFVG International Piano Competition (Italy), the Moscow Meets Friends Festival (Russia), and the Belarusian Piano Assemblies in Minsk.

Kozin's repertoire includes fifteen piano concertos, from the Baroque era to the twentieth century. He has collaborated with the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra (conductor Sergey Smbatyan), the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia (conductor Vahan Mardirossian),

the Rostov Academic Symphony Orchestra, and the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra.

In chamber music, Kozin has performed with violinists Thomas Lefort (France), Karen Shahgaldyan and Polina Sharafyan (Armenia), cellist David Ezhov (Russia), and the Komitas Quartet (Armenia). He also frequently works with living composers, inspiring new works and giving world premieres. In May 2024, he premiered the Piano Sonata No. 2 by Eduard Hayrapetyan (b. 1949), which is dedicated to Kozin.

Kozin is a laureate of more than fifteen international competitions and festivals, including the André Dumortier International Piano Competition (Belgium), the EPTA International Piano Competition (Croatia), the First International Eurasian Music Games in Astana and the VIII International Piano Competition in Almaty (Kazakhstan), the PianoFVG International Piano Competition (Italy), the Yamaha Music Festival (Russia), and the Malta International Piano Competition.

In parallel with his studies at the Conservatory, Kozin participated in masterclasses with Akiko Ebi, Ronan O'Hora, Grigory Gruzman, Youngho Kim, Jenny Zaharieva, Eugen Indjic, Andrea Bonatta, Kevin Kenner, Pascal Nemirovski, Dmitry Masleev, and Vanessa Lata arche.

Kozin was the recipient of a Yamaha scholarship and performed in Japan as part of joint projects between Kawai and the Moscow Conservatory. He is a fellow of the Primavera Charitable Foundation (Armenia).

CREDITS

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