



Bard College Conservatory of Music

20 Years of Music, Vision, and Excellence

Masterclass

Balázs Fülei, *piano*

Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 1:30 pm
László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building, Performance Space

Variations on a Polish Theme, op. 10

Karol Szymanowski
(1882-1837)

Junhao Fu, *piano*

Ballade No. 2 in B Minor, S. 171

Franz Liszt
(1811-1886)

Andrew Altrock, *piano*

Thème original et variations in F Major, op. 19, no. 6

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(1840-1893)

Ivy Chen, *piano*

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Renowned Hungarian pianist Balázs Fülei boasts a diverse and expansive career, with over thirty piano concertos in his repertoire, including all the concertos by Beethoven, Brahms, and Bartók. His discography includes five solo albums: in 2013, he released works by Bartók and Grieg; in 2015, an album featuring Brahms, Beethoven, Debussy, and compositions by András Gábor Virág connected to the Moon theme; in 2019, he recorded Beethoven and Schubert's penultimate sonatas and released a Liszt album focusing on late compositions. He has also recorded with the Auer Trio, clarinetist Zsolt Szatmári, and tenor Zoltán Megyesi, including a notable performance of Schubert's *Winterreise*.

Fülei entered the international music scene early, winning the Arcangelo Speranza International Piano Competition in Taranto in 2005, followed by additional awards in Milan, Cagliari, and Moscow. He was selected twice by the International Holland Music Sessions to perform as a soloist on the New Masters On Tour.

His international performances have graced some of the world's most prestigious venues, including the Grand Hall of the Liszt Academy, Palace of Arts in Budapest, Konzerthaus Vienna, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Kioi Hall Tokyo, Tchaikovsky Conservatory Moscow, NCPA Mumbai, and Carnegie Hall in New York, where he made his debut solo recital in 2008. Fülei has also performed with leading symphony orchestras both in Hungary and internationally.

A passionate chamber musician, Fülei regularly performs at renowned festivals such as the Festival de Bellerive, Miami Piano Festival, and Budapest Spring Festival. He is also a key member of the Auer Trio, which released its debut album in 2019, and has performed frequently with the Kodály Quartet, one of Hungary's most celebrated chamber ensembles.

Since 2012, Fülei has been a faculty member at the Liszt Academy, where he serves as Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Chamber Music. He has taught and given masterclasses around the world and is the founder of the Echo Summer Academy, an international program held annually at Károlyi Castle in Fehérvárcsurgó, Hungary.

Fülei's artistry has been recognized with numerous prestigious awards, including the Junior Prima Prize (2010), the Artisjus Prize (2011), the Solti Foundation Prize (2012), and the Diamond Career Grant from Charlotte White's Salon de Virtuosi (2015). In 2017, he was honored with the Liszt Prize, and in 2020, he was named a Steinway Artist by Steinway & Sons.