

Jiacheng XIONG

Jiacheng Xiong is from Fujian, China. His playing has been described as “having technical mastery that eschews overt ostentation” that shows “grace and ease” (review after Des Moines Symphony Orchestra debut). Xiong began playing the piano at the age of three, and at twelve came to the United States to pursue his musical studies.

In April 2024, Xiong’s performance of Julius Eastman’s piece was captured for Curtis Studio’s centenary album. Xiong was awarded competitive fellowships for eight years to attend the Aspen Music Festival and School (AMFS), including most recently the New Horizons Fellowship for 2024. Xiong was also the 2024 AMFS Piano Concerto Competition winner and performed Sergei Rachmaninov’s Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini with the Aspen Conducting Academy Orchestra and performed Rachmaninoff prelude Op.32 as part of the AMFS Rachmaninoff series. During the 75th Anniversary of the AMFS season, Xiong was also invited to perform in Michael Klein Hall and sharing stages with renowned pianists, such as Yoheved Kaplinsky, Arie Vardi, Anton Nel, Hung-Kuan Chen, and Greg Anderson. In August 2022, Xiong performed Prokofiev’s Piano Sonata No. 8 as part of the Aspen Music Festival’s Prokofiev Series. Xiong traveled in 2018 with “Curtis on Tour” across the United States alongside Curtis Institute of Music alumni like clarinetist David Shifrin, violinist Ida Kavafian, cellist Peter Wiley, and others to celebrate Leonard Bernstein’s centenary. Xiong’s performances have included concerts at venues such as Carnegie Hall in New York, The Temple for Performing Arts in Des Moines, Hangzhou Grand Theater in China, and Cortot Hall in Paris, France. In 2013 his performance was broadcast on National Public Radio’s, “From the Top,” in Aspen, Colorado. He performed Chopin’s Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Des Moines Symphony for the 2014-2015 season.

Xiong has competed in top competitions, including the Van Cliburn International Competition, the 17th Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition (Israeli commission piece prize winner), and the Bösendorfer International Piano Competitions (Finalist). Winner of 2024 AMFS Piano Concerto Competition. He won Second prize in the Kulangsu International Piano Competition in 2018. Second Prize in both the Cleveland International Piano Competition For Young Artists and the First Viseu International Piano Competition. He has also won the First Prize in The Korea International Piano Competition for Young Pianists in 2013; the First Prize in the National Youth Piano Competition, Xiamen; and the Grand Prize at the American International Piano Competition in Asia Pacific Macau. He was also the third-prize winner at the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation’s New York International Piano Competition in 2016.

Xiong received a diploma from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China in 2011 with Professor Aiping Jin, and received the Paul G. Mehlin scholarship as an outstanding graduating piano student from the Curtis Institute of Music with Professor Robert McDonald in 2020. He received his Master of Music in Piano at the Juilliard School with Professor Yoheved Kaplinsky in May 2022.