



### LOUIS LORTIE – Piano

**Louis Lortie** has earned an international reputation as a versatile musician, critically acclaimed for the fresh perspective and individuality he brings to the grand masters of the piano repertoire. In demand on five continents for more than thirty years, Louis Lortie performs with the most prestigious orchestras and in major concert halls around the world. A prolific artist, his long-standing and exclusive collaboration with Chandos Records resulted in a discography of over 45 albums featuring the pillars of piano literature. He is followed by over a quarter of a million listeners monthly on streaming platforms.

In the UK, his long-standing relationship with the BBC, the BBC Symphony and BBC Philharmonic orchestras have resulted in numerous recordings and concerts, as well as more than ten invitations to the BBC Proms. In his native Canada, he appears regularly with all the major orchestras: Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, Ottawa and Calgary. In Germany, he appears with the WDR orchestra in Cologne, the Deutsche Sinfonieorchester Berlin, the Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra, the Leipzig MDR Orchestra, while in the United States, with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Dallas Symphony, San Diego Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, and New Jersey Symphony. Further afield, his collaborations include the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, China and the Ghanzhou Philharmonic, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan, as well as the Adelaide and Sydney Symphony Orchestras and the Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo in Brazil. Discovered by Charles Dutoit, together, they played and toured extensively in the early years, Louis Lortie also regularly shared the stage with Kurt Masur during his tenure with Orchestre National de France and Gewandhaus Leipzig. Recent conductor collaborations include Edward Gardner and Sir Andrew Davis, with whom he has recorded extensively, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Jaap Van Zweden, Simone Young, Antoni Wit and Thierry Fischer.

In recital and in chamber music, Louis Lortie regularly performs at Wigmore Hall in London, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Carnegie Hall, and the Chicago Symphony Hall. He is particularly sought after for his integration of the *Years of Pilgrimage* of Liszt in one evening, the *Etudes of Chopins* (complete) in one evening, or his cycles of *Beethoven sonatas*; the

latest one was filmed at the Salle Bourgie in Montreal and broadcast on Medici TV. For more than twenty years, with H  l  ne Mercier, the Lortie-Mercier duo has brought new perspectives on the repertoire for four hands and two pianos in concert as well as their numerous recordings.

A decades-long relationship with Chandos Records has to date produced a catalogue of more than forty-five recordings, spanning repertoire from Mozart to Stravinsky. It includes a complete cycle of Beethoven's sonatas as well as Liszt's complete *Ann  es de p  lerinage*. Recent projects include the complete works for piano by Chopin, the last volume of which features the cello sonata with Truls M  rk to be released in October 2025, and a series focused on piano works by Faur  , to which he has brought new light. As a champion of twentieth-century music, he has built a discography that includes a highly praised recording of Lutos  wski's Piano Concerto with Edward Gardner and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Exploring the Piano Concerto by Vaughan Williams, he has recorded not only the original version, with Peter Oundjian and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, but also the version for two pianos, reworked by the composer, with his duo partner, H  l  ne Mercier, and the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra under Sir Andrew Davis. Louis Lortie and H  l  ne Mercier have also recorded *Le Carnaval des animaux*, with Neeme J  rvi and the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, and Rachmaninoff's complete works for two pianos, as well as two volumes of works for two pianos and four hands by Debussy.

Louis Lortie is co-founder and Artistic Director of the LacMus Festival, which has been held yearly since 2017 on Lake Como. He was master in residence at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Brussels from 2017 to 2022 and continues to mentor pianists of exceptional talent by introducing the new generation through concert cycles.

Louis Lortie made his debut with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra at the age of thirteen, and in 1984 won the first prize of the Busoni competition and the fourth prize of the Leeds Competition. He studied with Yvonne Hubert (herself a student of the legendary Alfred Cortot) and with Dieter Weber in Vienna, and then with Leon Fleisher. He was honoured with the title of "Officer of the Order of Canada" in 1992, and "Chevalier Ordre national du Qu  bec" in 1997, and received an honorary doctorate from the University of Laval the same year.

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