**Aimi Kobayashi, Pianist**

Perfect technique, a light touch, fast and virtuoso.

Fourth Prize winner of the 18th Chopin Piano Competition, Aimi Koybayashi garnered international acclaim for her exceptional talent.

She is considered as one of the most sought-after pianists in Japan of her generation.

Aimi was born in 1995 in Ube, Japan. She started playing piano at age three, made her concerto debut at age eight, and started her international career at age nine.

She is currently continuing her studies with Meng-Chieh Liu at the Curtis Institute of Music.

In 2009, she won the junior section prize of the Asia-Pacific International Chopin Piano Competition in Korea, and then in 2011, she was the gold medalist at the Asia International Chopin Competition for her performance in the concerto section and won the Yasuko Fukuda prize. In 2012, she won third prize at the Gina Bachauer International Young Artists Piano Competition.

She gave her first recital at Carnegie Hall for the Japan NYC Festival – of which Seiji Ozawa is the musical director – before giving a recital at the Tokyo Opera City the following month.

She has already performed with several major orchestras, both in Japan and overseas, including the Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century under Frans Bruggen and the Moscow Virtuosi under Vladimir Spivakov.

In Japan she regularly performs with the Yomiuri Orchestra, the Japan Philharmonic and the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra. She has recorded pieces by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin and Liszt for Warner Classics. In 2015, she became one of ten finalists at the 17th Chopin Piano Competition of 452 entrants from 45 countries. In July 2019, she played Mozart Piano concerto No.20 in D minor K.466 with Orchestre Philharmonique Royal de Liège under Christian Arming. In March 2020, she played with Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich under Kristiina Poska.

Her latest recordings is “Chopin Preludes – Piano works”(2021) from Warner Classics.