

MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE PRESENTS

Alice Sara Ott & Francesco Tristano



Individually, Alica Sara Ott and Francesco Tristano are two of their generation's brightest young stars. Together, they're the pianistic dream team.



Francesco Tristano & Alica Sara Ott

ABOUT ALICE SARA OTT

“Indeed, what was so impressive was how she was able to channel her obvious talents with such self-assuredness, maturity and élan, drawing an impressively nuanced tonal range from the piano and achieving a pleasing musicality throughout the afternoon.” -*Chicago Classical Review*

In less than five years, the twenty-four year old German-Japanese pianist Alice Sara Ott has gained critical acclaim for her performances at major concert halls worldwide and has established herself as one of the most exciting musical talents of today. Recent concerts have seen Alice perform with Münchner Philharmoniker in Munich and the NHK Symphony Orchestra in Tokyo (both under Lorin Maazel) as well as a very successful European tour with Czech Philharmonic Orchestra (under Krzysztof Urbanski). She has had great success with recitals at the Southbank Centre's International Piano Series in London as well as the Chicago Symphony Center, New York's Le Poisson Rouge, Hamburg's Laeiszhalle and Berlin Kammermusiksaal.

Alice has recorded exclusively for Deutsche Grammophon since 2008, with her highly successful debut recording of Liszt's *12 Études d'exécution transcendante* and sophomore album of Chopin's complete waltzes, entering both the German and US Classical iTunes charts at No.1.

Alice's debut concerto album, recorded with the Münchner Philharmoniker and Thomas Hengelbrock and featuring works by Tchaikovsky and Liszt, was named 'Editor's Choice' in both *International Piano* and *ClassicFM* Magazines. In 2010, Alice was awarded the prize for 'Young Artist of the Year' at the Echo Klassik Awards for her Chopin recording.

Alice Sara Ott's upcoming recording projects include a two piano program inspired by Russian ballet with Francesco Tristano.

ABOUT FRANCESCO TRISTANO

“Tristano's sound is a supremely confident one, made by an artist who's not afraid to experiment.” -*Time out London*

Francesco Tristano discovered the piano at the age of five. At the age of 13, he played his first concert, presenting his own compositions. Years later, toured both as a virtuosic soloist and with renowned orchestras including the Russian National Orchestra, the French National Orchestra of Lille and the Philharmonie Luxembourg.

In 1996 Tristano co-founded UK-based chamber ensemble, The New Bach Players with Nicolette Moonen, where he has also appeared as conductor. This ensemble consciously pushes classical musical boundaries and experiments with traditional conventions through their unique combination of a Steinway grand piano and old, vibratoless bows on contemporary string instruments.

In 2004, Francesco won first prize at the International Piano Competition for Contemporary Music in Orléans, France. Tristano has released 12 albums, including recordings of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* and complete keyboard concertos, the complete piano works of Luciano Berio, toccatas by Girolamo Frescobaldi plus a recording of his own compositions titled *bachCage* which was produced by Moritz von Oswald and released on *Deutsche Grammophon* in 2011.

The Duo's first CD titled 'Scandale' will be released on the Deutsche Grammophon label on 6 June. [Click here](#) to watch 'The Making Of Scandale' on YouTube.



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Alice Sara Ott &
Francesco Tristano
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[Click here](#) to watch
Alice Sara Ott perform.



[Click here](#) to watch
Francesco Tristano perform.

Please turn over for concert program notes, booking information and media contacts.



CONCERT PROGRAM NOTES

“This was music-making of the highest order”
-London Evening Standard

Bringing two of the most exciting young pianists to the one stage with a bold and epic program of piano duos seems risky, except that Alice Sara Ott and Francesco Tristano come together as a spectacular tour-de-force, combining wit, technique and harmony to their interpretations of Stravinsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Ravel and Tristano.

The music they have chosen is bold and big: orchestral epics rendered on two pianos. Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* was transcribed for piano duo by the composer himself. Heard on keyboards, its primal harmonies and rhythms are all the more sinewy and visceral, melodies rendered in high definition - an athletic showpiece for both pianists.

Rimsky-Korsakov and Ravel also transcribed some of their signature orchestral works for this intimate medium, allowing audiences a fascinating insight into the inner workings of the music, and giving brave players repertoire that is as challenging as it is fun.

The combination of Alice Sara Ott and Francesco Tristano promises a meeting of strong minds and spectacular music-making that is already generating worldwide buzz.

BOOKING INFORMATION

Alice Sara Ott & Francesco Tristano (piano duo)

Wednesday 2 July 7.30pm

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, Melbourne Recital Centre

Part of Melbourne Recital Centre's *Great Performers* series.

Tickets:

Premium \$105

A reserve \$92 (\$50 Concession)

B reserve \$78 (\$50 Concession)

C reserve \$50

For more information and tickets, visit melbournerecital.com.au/greatperformers or call Melbourne Recital Centre's Box Office during business hours on 03 9699 3333.

For media enquiries and interview requests please contact Pia Johnson: pia.johnson@gmail.com / 0413 450 951

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