

A woman with short brown hair, wearing a white long-sleeved blouse, dark blue jeans, and red high-heeled shoes, stands smiling between three historical grand pianos. The pianos are arranged in a row, with the woman positioned in the center. The background is a light blue wall with vertical blue lines. The floor is a light gray concrete.

Beethoven on his
3 favorite pianos



THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO HEAR FAMOUS MASTERPIECES AS THEY SOUNDED

- Beethoven's piano works are deeply connected to the instruments on which they were written. He lived in a period in which piano making developed rapidly in a rapidly changing society and Beethoven's own style evolved accordingly. His works are perfectly expressive of the sounds and effects of his different pianos, using their possibilities to the fullest.

Beethoven's Pianos



STEIN PIANO

copy by Paul McNulty

- Johann Andreas Stein (1728–1792) was one of the most important fortepiano makers of Beethoven's time.
- Beethoven's early works reflect the characteristics of Johann Andreas Stein instruments, the pianos of choice in Germany, which were also highly praised by Beethoven's teacher Gottlieb Neefe.
- Stein's pianos are brilliant and responsive, with quick, nearly weightless hammers.

WALTER PIANO

copy by Paul McNulty

- Anton Walter was considered the most famous fortepiano maker of his time. He built about 700 instruments, which were praised for their quality.
- When Beethoven came to Vienna, he used several different instruments, finally giving his preference to Walter.
- There was a Walter in Beethoven's studio in 1800 and this piano gave rise to the keyboard works of this period.



Beethoven's Pianos



Beethoven's Pianos



GRAF PIANO

copy by Paul McNulty

- Conrad Graf's instruments were considered "the greatest and most renowned in Vienna and throughout the empire" by 1820.
- The connection between Beethoven and Graf dates from a letter of 1816, in which Beethoven indicated his wish to own a Graf piano.
- Graf provided a pianoforte for Ludwig van Beethoven in 1825.

VIVIANA SOFRONITSKY

FORTEPIANO

Die Klangwelt von Beethoven neu entdeckt or
Beethoven and his favorite fortepianos

(fortepianos after J. A. Stein, A. Walter and C. Graf by P. McNulty)

Ludwig van Beethoven (1870-1827)

Sonata op. 31 N3 Es dur “Die Jagd”

Allegro-Scherzo: Allegretto vivace –

Menuetto: Moderato e grazioso – Presto con fuoco

Sonata op. 49 N1 g moll

Andante, Rondo Allegro

Sonata quasi una Fantasia, op. 27 Nr. 2 c sharp minor (Moonlight)

Adagio sostenuto, Allegretto, Presto agitato

INTERMISSION

Sonata op. 49 N2 G dur

Allegro ma non troppo, Tempo di menuetto

Sonata op. 110 A flat Major

Moderato cantabile, Molto espressivo, Allegro molto,

Adagio ma non troppo, Fuga: allegro ma non troppo





McNULTY FORTEPIANOS

● are concert instruments of the highest quality, famous for their beautiful sound. During his 25 years of work, Paul McNulty created more than 250 replicas of legendary instruments that have found their place in concert halls, conservatories and private collections such as the

Chopin Festival and Competition in Warsaw, the Glyndebourne Opera Festival, the Vienna, Oslo and Prague Opera Houses, the Liszt Foundation ‘Weimar Classics’ in Weimar, Melbourne Concert Center and Conservatory of Sydney, Canberra, Singapore, Hong

Kong and Seoul, the Conservatory and the Music Academy of Paris, Vienna, The Hague, Prague, Zurich, Basel, Bern, and Amsterdam, the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music in London, Harvard and Stanford Universities (USA) and many others.



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moving, tuning and technical service are provided

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