GUEST ARTIST SERIES

STEVEN SPOONER
PIANO

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2012
8:00PM

GERALD R. DANIEL RECITAL HALL

THE BOB COLE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC
AT CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH AND THE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS PROUDLY PRESENT:

This concert is funded in part by the INSTRUCTIONALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES FUNDS (IRA) provided by California State University, Long Beach.

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Steven has been unusually successful in the limited number of international piano competitions in which he participated—he is prizewinner at each of the seven international piano competitions he has entered and top prizewinner at both the Hilton Head International Piano Competition and the Artlibre International Piano Competition. He captured First Prize and was recipient of the Niekamp Career Grant as most outstanding pianist in French music at the Paris Conservatory. Steven is an active chamber collaborator and has performed with a diverse and distinguished list of vocalists and instrumentalists including: Silk Road Ensemble Bassist Daxun Zhang, former Philadelphia Orchestra Trombonist, M. Dee Stewart, Baritone Chris Thompson, and prize-winning violinist Leor Maltinsky. Dr. Spooner’s orchestral engagements include performances with the Danubia Symphony Orchestra, Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Crescent City Symphony, New Orleans Civic Symphony, Ozark Chamber Orchestra, and recent performances with the Chamber Orchestra Kremlin during their tour of North America.

Dr. Spooner has released 14 recordings on the EMR Classics, Everythingmusic, and IU recording labels. He has studied at Paris Conservatory, Moscow, and Tbilisi Conservatories in the former Soviet Union, and earned his doctorate at Indiana University, Bloomington. Steven was the final recipient of the Ivory Classics Foundation prize that enabled him to study with the legendary virtuoso Earl Wild.

He has served as guest artist-in-residence at Paris Conservatory Summer Sessions and has been appointed to the Artist Faculty of the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Italy, the International Institute for Young Musicians, and the Adam Gyorgy Castle Academy in Budapest. Dr. Spooner is increasingly in demand for his engaging and energetic masterclasses at major music institutions all over the world such as the Paris Conservatory, Milan Conservatory, Liszt Academy of Music, and the Shanghai and Beijing Conservatories. Steven currently serves on the piano faculty at the University of Kansas and specializes in workshops and lectures on a variety of performance and pedagogical topics. A dedicated and caring teacher, Steven’s students have been named winners of several prizes at national and international piano competitions. Steven Spooner is a Steinway Artist.
PROGRAM 1
Sviatoslav Richter in Memoriam

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
Sonata in C Major, Hoboken XVI/48 (13')
Andante con espressione
Rondo: Presto

Mohammed Fairouz (b. 1985)
Piano Sonata No. 2 “The Last Resistance” (2011) (26')

PROGRAM 2
Vladimir Horowitz in Memoriam

Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)
Sonatas in F Minor, K. 184 (8' set)
Sonata in D Minor, K. 213

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
Sonata in C Major, K. 330 (18')

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
Prelude in G-Sharp Minor, Op. 32 No. 12 (7.5' set)
Etude-Tableau in D Major, Op. 39 No. 9

PROGRAM 3
Artur Rubinstein in Memoriam

Favorite Works by Chopin (52')
Polonaise in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 26 No. 1 (9')
Mazurka in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 6 No. 2 (11' set)
Mazurka in A Minor, Op. 17 No. 4
Mazurka in F Minor, Op. 7 No. 3
Etude in A-Flat Major, Op. 25 No. 1 (3)
Waltz in A-Flat, Op. 69 No. 1 (4')
Waltz in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 64 No. 2 (4')
Scherzo No. 2, in B-Flat Minor, Op. 31 (10')
Nocturne in E-Flat Major, Op. 9 No. 2 (4')
Polonaise in A-flat Major, Op. 53 “Heroic” (7)

PROGRAM 4
Steve’s Favorites (ca. 40’)

Steven Spooner (b. 1970)
Two Virtuoso Etudes
A la Argerich
Keith Jarrett

Three Hymn Transcriptions
Gaither/Spooner, There’s Something About That Name
Traditional/Spooner, Amazing Grace
Hine/Spooner, How Great Thou Art

Schubert-Liszt
Ständchen

William Bolcom (b. 1938)
Serpent’s Kiss, from Garden of Eden (1969)

ABOUT STEVEN SPOONER

Described as “dazzling” (Washington Post) critics have hailed the powerful performances of pianist Steven Spooner and noted that the “American had everything: polished technique, musical intelligence, innate sensitivity, and a personality that reaches across the keyboard.” Steven has performed around the world and is quickly becoming one of the more noted American pianists of his generation. He has given solo performances with major orchestras and has appeared at some of the world’s most renowned venues.