



photo: Shin Sugino

JAMES PARKER

In the realm of Canadian pianists, James Parker is among the best known. James' musical roots can be traced to the Vancouver Academy of Music and the University of British Columbia where he studied with Lee Kum Sing. He then went on and received his Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts at the Juilliard School with Adele Marcus. Dr. Parker continues the teaching tradition as the Rupert E. Edwards Chair in Piano Performance on the music faculty at the University of Toronto.

Beginning in 1984 with a first prize at the Eckhardt-Gramatte Competition, James served notice that he was a rising star. The CBC competition concurred, selecting him winner of the 25th National Competition for Young Performers.

Concerts given by Dr. Parker consistently garner artistic acclaim. James' style has earned him praise as "One of the most searching musical intellects and 10 of the nimblest fingers in the business" according to *The Globe and Mail*. James has enthralled audiences in North America and Europe, counting diplomats and dignitaries among his receptive audiences. He has made frequent appearances on CBC, the CanWest Global Network, MuchMusic and a myriad of stations across the globe.

A consummate professional, James is recognized as a soloist, a chamber musician and as the pianist for Canada's foremost ensemble, the Gryphon Trio. Add to this his critically acclaimed performances with major Canadian symphonies like Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, Quebec City, Edmonton, National Arts Centre, Symphony Nova Scotia and many in between, one is reminded of the scope of his contributions to the national classical music scene. With two JUNO recording awards and many other nominations from his vast discography, James Parker continues to graciously strive to do it all.