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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY'S
ITALIAN ACADEMY FOR ADVANCED STUDIES
PRESENTS

LISZT IN ITALY
A RECITAL BY
KARINÉ POGHOSYAN

Sunday, December 11, 2011
6 PM

FREE ADMISSION

WITH A READING OF ITALIAN POETRY BY
PAOLO VALESIO

IN THE TEATRO OF THE ITALIAN ACADEMY
1161 AMSTERDAM AVENUE, NYC

New York, NY— November 17, 2011 — The Fall 2011 concert series at Columbia University's Italian Academy for Advanced Studies continues on Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 6 PM with a recital of Franz Liszt's *Années de pèlerinage, Book Two: "Italy"* in honor of Liszt's bicentenary by pianist Kariné Poghosyan. The recital will include a reading of poems in Italian by Paolo Valesio, a poet and the Giuseppe Ungaretti Professor of Italian Literature at Columbia University.

Admission to the concert is free, and seating is first-come, first-seated, with no reservations. The Italian Academy is located at 1161 Amsterdam Avenue between 116th and 118th Streets. For more information call 212 854 1623 or email rw2115@columbia.edu.

www.italianacademy.columbia.edu



Kariné Poghosyan has been described as “extraordinary” and “larger than life” pianist, whose playing goes “to the heart of the music.” NY Concert Review called her a pianist who “has that spark.” She made her orchestral debut at 14 playing Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No.1, and her solo Carnegie Hall debut at 23.

She is the winner of the *New West Symphony Discovery Artists Competition*, the *Thousand Islands International Piano Competition*, *CSUN Symphony Concerto Competition*, the *Artists International Auditions* and was a top prize winner in the *Los Angeles International Liszt Piano Competition*, *Five Towns Music and Arts Competition*, and the *Arno Babajanian Piano Competition*. Ms. Poghosyan is also the recipient of scholarships from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, the Glendale Symphony Orchestra, the Armenian Students Association of America, AGBU, and the Jacob and Bronislaw Gimpel Foundation.

Kariné Poghosyan has performed in recitals at Carnegie’s Well Recital Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Steinway Hall, the Trinity Church *Concerts at One* series, the Beverly Hills *Sundays at Two* series, the Valley Committee for the LA Philharmonic, the *Bach’s Lunch Recital Series* in California, the Young Artists International Peninsula Festival in California, and the International Keyboard Institute and Festival in New York. In the fall of 2007, she organized and performed a three-recital concert series at the Yamaha Piano Salon titled *Twentieth Century Piano Sonata*. Recently, she helped organize the “Requiem and Resurrection” concert in commemoration of the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide at the Saint Vartan Armenian Cathedral in New York, where her performance of the Piano Sonata by Khachaturian received a standing ovation and was described as “jaw-dropping. The Armenian Mirror Spectator wrote, “The three-movement Khachaturian Sonata—a rarely performed composition—is a real tour-de-force for the virtuoso pianist. Technically pristine, Ms. Poghosyan brought out the driven qualities of the outer movements, and the heart-rending beauty of the middle section.”

Ms. Poghosyan has appeared as a soloist with numerous orchestras including the New West Symphony, Newburgh Symphony Orchestra, Park Avenue Chamber Symphony Orchestra, Musica Bella Symphony Orchestra, the CSUN Symphony, and the Kokolo Ensemble. She has participated in the master classes of distinguished artists such as Alicia de Larrocha, Claude Franck, Jon O’Connor, and Jerome Rose. Ms. Poghosyan is also an active chamber musician, and was the winner of the *Lilian Fuchs Chamber Music Competition*.

Ms Poghosyan's music studies began in her native Yerevan Armenia in School of the Arts, No. 1, and later in Romanos Melikian College as well as Komitas State Conservatory. Her teachers in Armenia included Irina Gazarian, Vatche Umr-Shat, and Svetlana Dadyan. After moving to the United States in 1998, she received her BM, *summa cum laude*, from California State University in Northridge, under Professor Françoise Regnat, and her MM and D.M.A. degrees at the Manhattan School of Music, under Dr. Arkady Aronov, completing her D.M.A. in record-breaking two years with thesis on *Aram Khachaturian for Piano*. Ms. Poghosyan is currently based in New York, where she works at her alma mater Manhattan School of Music as an associate faculty in the college and a faculty in the precollege. She is also the Director of MSM Sunday, a special new program for adults as well as young beginners.

Some of Ms. Poghosyan's upcoming performances include a concert at Weill Hall at Carnegie Hall, a return appearance with the Newburgh Symphony with Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No.2, as well as a performance of Liszt's *Annees de Pelerinage*, Book 2: *Italie*, in collaboration with the Italian Academy at the Columbia University and the poet Paolo Valesio. She has also recently released her first commercial DVD "Folk Inspirations" with music by De Falla, Komitas, and Stravinsky.

Before joining the Department of Italian at Columbia University, where he became the Giuseppe Ungaretti Professor in Italian Literature in 2005, Paolo Valesio retired as an emeritus professor from Yale University, where he taught for more than a quarter century, and where for most of this period he was Chair of the Italian Department. Prior to that he taught at New York University, after having studied general linguistics and literature at Bologna University and Harvard University. He has been a Fellow of the Center for the Humanities at Wesleyan University, a Fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation, and a Fellow of the Whitney Humanities Center at Yale University. He has also been honorary president of the American Association of Italian Studies.

The author of numerous critical essays and articles, Valesio has published five books of criticism, fourteen collections of poetry, two novels, one collection of short stories, a novella, and a drama in verse which has been staged in Italy.

Paolo Valesio has founded and coordinated from 1993 to 2004 the "Yale Poetry Group." He collaborates with several Italian and American critical journals, as well as Italian magazines and newspapers. He founded and directed the journal *Yale Italian Poetry (YIP)* which will now be published at Columbia University and the [Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America at Columbia University](#) with a new title, *Italian Poetry Review*.

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