

Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn have won critical acclaim around the world for their compelling interpretations of diverse and adventurous repertoire. Describing the duo's performances music critics have praised them as *flawless, dazzling, electrifying, authoritative*, etc.

Hailing from Armenian and Ukrainian families, Andrey Kasparov and Oksana Lutsyshyn were educated at the Moscow State Conservatory and came to the United States in the 1990s to pursue advanced studies at Indiana University in Bloomington. They presently teach at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. Additionally, they are Artistic Co-Directors of the Norfolk Chamber Consort and co-founders of the Invencia Piano Duo.

The musicians are active as soloists and collaborators as well, having performed with such renowned artists as violinist Joshua Bell, tenor James King, tubist Harvey Phillips, and choreographer Jelon Vieira, among many others. In 1994, Kasparov premiered the newly discovered edition of Béla Bartók's Piano Concerto No. 3, revised by the composer himself.

Both members of the duo are the recipients of prestigious awards. Lutsyshyn won the Second Prize at the Vienna Modern Masters Third International Performers' Recording Awards Competition. She was also a prizewinner at the William Kapell International Piano Competition in College Park, Maryland. As a result of the latter award she debuted in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Kasparov won the Albert Roussel Prize at the Orléans (France) International Piano Competition for 20th-Century Music.

In addition to his career as a pianist, Kasparov is an active composer. His compositions have been performed at various festivals and other venues in Moscow, New York, Paris, Buenos Aires, Darmstadt, Yerevan, Ottawa, Chicago, Cleveland, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and many other cities in the former Soviet Union, Europe, and the Americas. He was awarded the Second Prize at the Sergei Prokofiev International Composition Competition in Moscow, Russia, for his Piano Sonata No. 2. His compositions and articles have been published by the *Kompozitor* Publishing House in Moscow and Hungarian Music Quarterly in Budapest.

Kasparov and Lutsyshyn are prolific recording artists. Their chamber and solo performances, as well as Kasparov's compositions, are featured on labels such as Albany Records, CRS, and VMM. Reviewing their CD, *Hommages musicaux*, in the American Record Guide, James Harrington wrote, "Hats off to the Kasparov-Lutsyshyn piano duo team for bringing these fascinating pieces to us in their original forms." Their most recent CD with piano music by Adolphus Hailstork was released by Albany Records in May 2009, also to high critical acclaim. They are currently recording the entire works by Florent Schmitt for piano duo. Lutsyshyn has also made a recording with Joshua Bell for the BBC.

The Invencia Piano Duo is currently listed in the Virginia Commission for the Arts Tour Directory.