

SANJA STEFANOVIC

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What motivates you to play Piano/teach piano?

A Great moment is every morning when I wake up and experience the excitement about the fact that I will stand up and play piano. ...I think it's a basic instinct, it is something I can't live without.

Favourite work/composer /why?

All of them, they are like my own children, I can't put any one first.

Image - Sanja Stefanovic. Promenade after the concerts on December 21st and 22nd, 2003 in Doha, Qatar. Picture published on <http://www.sanja-stefanovic.net/>



Earliest memory involving piano playing?

I was 3 years old when I had my first date with the piano. I couldn't take my eyes off it and was crying on the way back home - so my parents bought me one and that is how I started.

Proudest Moment (Career highlight)/ up to now?

I was 16 years old and played in Katowice (Poland) Chopin recital. The audience liked my playing very much so I went out to play an encore. I announced my piece: Mihovil Logar "Zlatna ribica" music composed by

Croatian composer. And I started to play. After 16 bars, I realized that I had a black out and I started to improvise and after exactly 2 minutes I finished. The audience gave me a standing ovation, not because of my improvisation skills but because I was brave enough to go on till the end. I must say, I am very proud of that moment.

In your opinion, what are the most important qualities in a great pianist?

To be more than just a pianist. Not easy to explain but I love "singing" piano and that quality can only be achieved if you go beyond the pianistic approach.

Who has been your inspiration?

My hudsband.

"Nevertheless the pupil of Peter Feuchtwanger presented an enthralling panorama of late classical and romantic piano music and involved her own creative personality into it. With the impressing remark, 'I will try it.', she introduced her second encore - Schumann's second romance- Humble words of an exceptional artist."

Piano festival in Feuchtwangen: The pianist Sanja Stefanovic was a discovery.

<http://www.sanja-stefanovic.net/>