

CLIBURN NEWS

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THE CLIBURN



A COMPETITION OF HISTORIC PROPORTIONS

Against an unprecedented international backdrop, the transcendence of music triumphed at the sixteenth edition of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, with a slew of uplifting firsts that made for a global event never to be replicated.

IN THIS ISSUE:



THE WORLD LISTENED

The 2022 Competition was one of the most followed classical music events of all time.



PIANOTOWN

Our hometown transformed once again to welcome international visitors with that signature Fort Worth warmth and enthusiasm.



WINNERS LAUNCH

Concert tours for our new medalists have begun, and their accolades are already piling up.



WHAT'S NEXT

The next 12 months hold both the Amateur and Junior Competitions, as well as an astoundingly good concert season.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Done! And what a journey it was...!

It began five years ago, after the 2017 Competition. We started with a few questions: how can we be better? How can we make sure that we recruit the best pianists? How can we help the winners more when it comes to embarking on a career? How can we help the jury members have more information about each candidate? In essence, we have to start with: what are we looking for... that is THE question...

We are looking for a pianist who will bring something new to the field, who will evolve in time, who will embrace all the opportunities open to him/her, who people will enjoy listening to, again and again. The Cliburn offers a unique opportunity for their careers, and the job of the jury is to evaluate who is capable of bringing a new voice to the field and who can stay relevant for the decades to come. Easy stuff (ha)!

First, we brought nine new well-established jury members to the Competition. These concert pianists (because they all were!) brought not only their expertise in music and successful career-making, but their presence here alone attracted high-level pianists to apply. And the effect the jury members can have after the Competition is massive, as they share their experience with the Cliburn—and their impressions of the competitors—with the entire world. The leader of this esteemed jury, Marin Alsop, was the “coup d’éclat” of this Competition. The first woman to lead a major orchestra in the United States. and the first female Cliburn jury chair and conductor, she was a strong figure and, as a conductor, attentive, engaged, and all in for these young musicians. What a treat!

The jury members are looking for information. By adding another concerto to the Final Round, the young pianists had to play another major work of the repertoire. This was substantial. The Cliburn was already asking for more than 3.5 hours of music played at the highest level. Having the opportunity to play another concerto (another 30-45 minutes) and show the jury (and the audience) another facet of their playing was priceless, and fun.

After a pandemic and a postponement, after the Russian invasion and our strong position of inviting young Russians pianists, after Omicron and all its versions, after security meetings, COVID meetings, staff meetings, board meetings, TCU meetings, Bass Hall meetings, volunteer meetings, host family orientation, interviews on radio/TV/papers, it all came to one thing: 30 exceptional pianists who gave everything they had in order to win the Cliburn.

The ride is long and difficult. Once again, the test will be the artist’s capacity to deal with the results, good or bad, and how they seize the opportunity. A competition is a moment in time, a learning experience, a step forward. It is a short scene at a unique moment of their lives. And, by the end, the story we had from the winners was quite impressive. It will be our privilege to work with Yunchan, Anna, and Dmytro for the next few years. We offer help in many ways: concerts engagements, logistics, press relations, websites, recordings, and so on. Being one of the winners is only the first step. We invite you to follow them for years to come. They’re already making such great strides!

Thank you to all the volunteers, from board members to gift shop volunteers, all donors and sponsors, all contractors (the webcast, incidentally, was fantastic!), the musicians of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, our conductors, jury members, screening jurors; you made this possible.

Thank you to the wonderful Cliburn staff. So many meetings, so many plan Bs, so many discussions over the last few years. We were the witnesses of this magnificent Competition, inspired by the greatness of exceptional pianists, exceptional artists, and exceptional human beings. The hug between Anna and Dmytro during the Awards Ceremony was my highlight of this Competition. Music brought people together across all boundaries, above all. We cannot be more thankful today of our inspiration and namesake, Van Cliburn. We are lucky. Done! See you in 2025!

Jacques Marquis
President and CEO





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2022 VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION RESULTS



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THE MEDALISTS' NEXT STEPS

We're working with the winners to help them meet their artistic, career, and personal ambitions.

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Bravo!

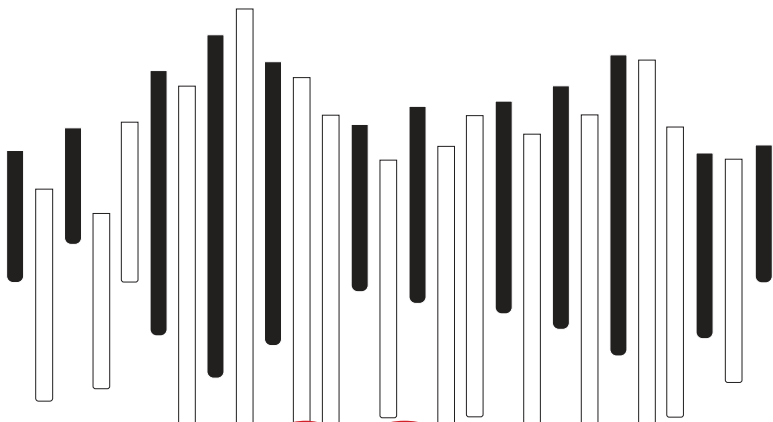
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What's next in Fort Worth and Dallas?

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The lead up to the 2022 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition was anything but predictable. The global pandemic caused the first-ever postponement of the signature cultural event that would bring competitors, jurors, attendees, and press to Fort Worth from around the world. Russia tyrannically invaded the sovereign nation of Ukraine just before the Screening Auditions in March, and the Cliburn, a non-political, artist-loving and -supporting organization above all else, made the decision to allow Russian pianists—who are not officials of their government—to compete.

A COMPETITION OF HISTORIC PROPORTIONS

By Maggie Estes

Photos by Ralph Lauer & Richard Rodriguez



Marin Alsop was the first woman to conduct the Cliburn Finals. She was also the first woman to serve as jury chair.



The first two rounds took place at the new Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU.

Prior to the onslaught of these uncontrollable outside factors, the key facets of the Competition were already put into place to make for a truly momentous event. Marin Alsop—the glass-ceiling shattering conductor, music director, and education enthusiast—would be the first-ever woman to serve as jury chairman or to conduct at the Cliburn. The contest would also return to TCU, its original home, to host the first two rounds at the University’s new Van Cliburn Concert Hall. Then there was the addition of another concerto with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra in the Final Round at Bass Performance Hall, creating the (now realized) possibility of hearing Beethoven, Grieg, Chopin, and Gershwin alongside the most traditional Competition warhorses by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, and Prokofiev. And the webcast—a vital component of the Cliburn since 2001, when it was the first classical music contest broadcast online—was planned to be bigger and better than ever: free for all to view on more platforms than any prior competition in its field; a new premium option that offered 4K picture and surround sound (again, a first); and a newscast-style format hosted by the incomparable Buddy Bray, designed to engage viewers at a higher level. All this—and, because of the historic one-year delay—the Cliburn would be celebrating its 60th Anniversary during the Competition.

These were the elements that set the stage prior to the competitors’ arrival. But what ultimately resulted was far greater than the sum of its parts. An unrivaled celebration of the gorgeous and deeply inspiring transcendence of music. And the emergence of the world’s newest classical music stars.



Yunchan Lim took gold in a stunning fashion, astonishing all—jury, audience, critics—with six intensely insightful performances, especially the full set of Liszt’s *Transcendental Etudes* and the Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 3. The latter had Marin Alsop wiping tears from her eyes on stage; the concert’s video immediately went viral online, blowing away past viewership records. (See details on pages 18–19.) And he’s just 18—the youngest Cliburn winner of all time and the second Korean gold medalist (consecutively after 2017’s Yekwon Sunwoo). He would not have been eligible to apply if the Competition had not been postponed. He is kind, mature, and humble; he’s devoted his life entirely to music and now, because of his dedication and the platform he now has, countless people around the world will be touched by his infectious spirit. His rise can already be characterized as meteoric.



American Clayton Stephenson was the first Black Cliburn finalist.

Anna Geniushene won the silver medal with fresh and powerful interpretations throughout her Competition appearance. At 31, she will likely forever be the oldest Cliburn medalist (the age range is restricted from 18 to 30, but eligibility was raised a year due to the postponement). She competed while six months pregnant (another Cliburn first) and got to Fort Worth against all odds: the Moscow native moved from her home city to Lithuania with her husband Lukas Geniušas (a well-known touring pianist and Tchaikovsky silver medalist...silver runs in the family!) and their young son just after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Her laugh is infectious, and her resolve is strong. We can’t wait to be there with her to see what comes next, in career and family (the baby is due in September)! More on Anna on pages 20–21.

Dmytro Choni was the only Ukrainian to be selected for the Screening Auditions, and wow, if he didn’t go the distance! The new bronze medalist, he’s only the second from his homeland to medal. The first was, of course, 2013 Gold Medalist Vadym Kholodenko, who returned to Fort Worth from his current home in Luxembourg to perform the Ukrainian National Anthem at the beginning of the 2022 Awards Ceremony—a fitting tribute that let music speak for the hearts of the Cliburn Family around the globe. Dmytro won adoration across the board with his compelling performances and indelible charm. He found immersive focus in the music and used it to communicate his deep-seated emotion, all with a backdrop of great concern and insatiable media attention swirling around him. He is a special talent and human being, who is already popping up on “one to watch” lists. Dmytro is featured on pages 22–23.



South Korean Yunchan Lim is the youngest gold medalist in Cliburn history.

These three come from much different experiences—where they’re from, where and with whom they’ve studied, what they’ve seen. There is also a 13-year age range between them. But they are the same. What unites them, the other three finalists (who should be noted: Uladzislau Khandohi, Belarus; Ilya Schumker, Russia; and Clayton Stephenson, USA, who is the first Black Cliburn finalist), and the other 24 competitors is anything but simple. Naturally, the undying commitment to pursuing and sharing the most complex of human emotion through music. Without that, they would have never made it to the Cliburn. But just as strongly: the sense of purpose, the determination, the love of life and others, the humanity, the humor, the graciousness. This strength of character is overtly present in each of them in person and shines through on the stage.

And it was a beacon to the world, online. We invite you to peruse the following pages of this newsletter to see the impact, the numbers. The 2022 Cliburn Competition—because of these star artists—was one of the most watched and covered classical music events of all time. Our organization is thankful and honored to serve as a launching pad for them all. And for our winners, the plans are taking shape! Check out the details of what’s next for Yunchan, Anna, and Dmytro on pages 18–25.

THE WORLDWIDE PRESS

More than **70 journalists** from around the world covered the Competition in person, with hundreds more following online through the webcast. **2000+ articles** were written across **50 countries**, reaching **countless people** with news of the outstanding talent showcased on the Cliburn stage and winning new fans for classical music. **Another 3000+ pieces** were written in Korea alone, about Gold Medalist Yunchan Lim.



NATIONAL
A South Korean musician wins the prestigious Van Cliburn piano competition
 June 21, 2022 - 5:12 AM ET
 Heard on Morning Edition
 BILL ZEEBLE FROM KERA

2-Minute Listen

Six finalists competed in the competition in Fort Worth, Texas, including two from Russia and one from Ukraine. An 18-year-old South Korean was the youngest to win in the contest's 60-year history.

The New York Times

Russian and Ukrainian Pianists Meet in Texas at Cliburn Competition

The war in Ukraine looms over the prestigious contest named for the pianist Van Cliburn, who was a symbol for art transcending global politics.



Der Van Cliburn Klavierwettbewerb
Ein Ultramarathon des Virtuosen

Cowboys und die Prärie – das sind die ersten Assoziationen an den US-Bundesstaat Texas. Die Welt von Mozart oder Rachmaninoff scheint weit weg zu sein. Doch im texanischen Fort Worth findet einer der wichtigsten Klavierwettbewerbe weltweit statt.

Hiller, Christoph | 20. Juni 2022, 20:12 Uhr

Hören 10:46 Audio herunterladen

Man sieht die Klaviatur eines Klaviers

AP The Washington Post

Pianist, 18, from South Korea wins Van Cliburn competition



CLASSIC fm

Youngest ever Van Cliburn winner moved Marin Alsop to tears with this rapturous Rachmaninov



GRAMOPHONE THE WORLD'S BEST CLASSICAL MUSIC REVIEWS

2022 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition

- Jed Dittler's Cliburn Blog No 14: "It ain't over until it's over!"
The winners are announced - our correspondent reflects on the final result
Sunday, June 19, 2022
- Jed Dittler Cliburn Blog No. 17: A Tale of Two Rach's
The competition reaches its final weekend
Saturday, June 18, 2022
- Jed Dittler's Cliburn Blog No 16: My Dinner with Van
During a break in performances, our competition correspondent recalls meeting Van Cliburn
Friday, June 17, 2022
- Jed Dittler's Cliburn Blog No 15: Stretching and Pushing
The Finals continue with three more concerto performances
Thursday, June 16, 2022

DO A DEEP DIVE INTO COMPETITION COVERAGE HERE



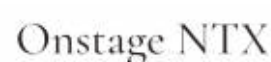
THE COMPETITION WAS COVERED BY MEDIA OUTLETS IN:

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Argentina | Denmark | Jordan | Netherlands | South Africa |
| Armenia | France | Korea | New Zealand | Spain |
| Australia | Georgia | Lebanon | Oman | Sweden |
| Bahrain | Germany | Lithuania | Pakistan | Switzerland |
| Belgium | Grenada | Luxembourg | Philippines | Taiwan |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Hong Kong | Macao | Poland | Turkey |
| Brazil | India | Malaysia | Portugal | United Arab Emirates |
| Canada | Ireland | Malta | Romania | United Kingdom |
| China | Italy | Mexico | Russia | United States |
| Czech Republic | Japan | Montenegro | Singapore | Vietnam |



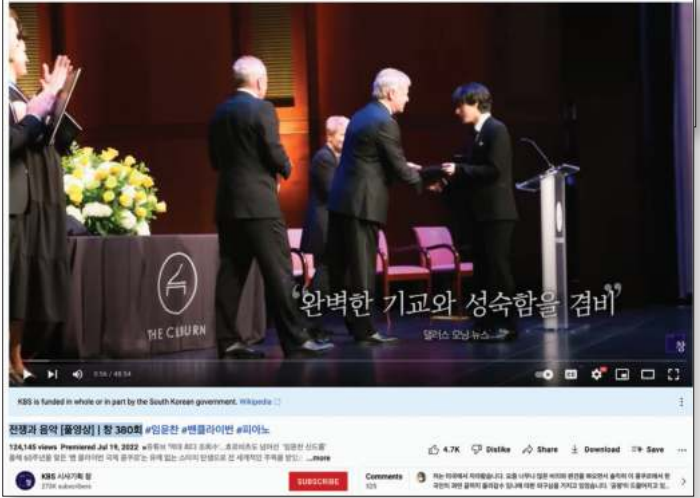
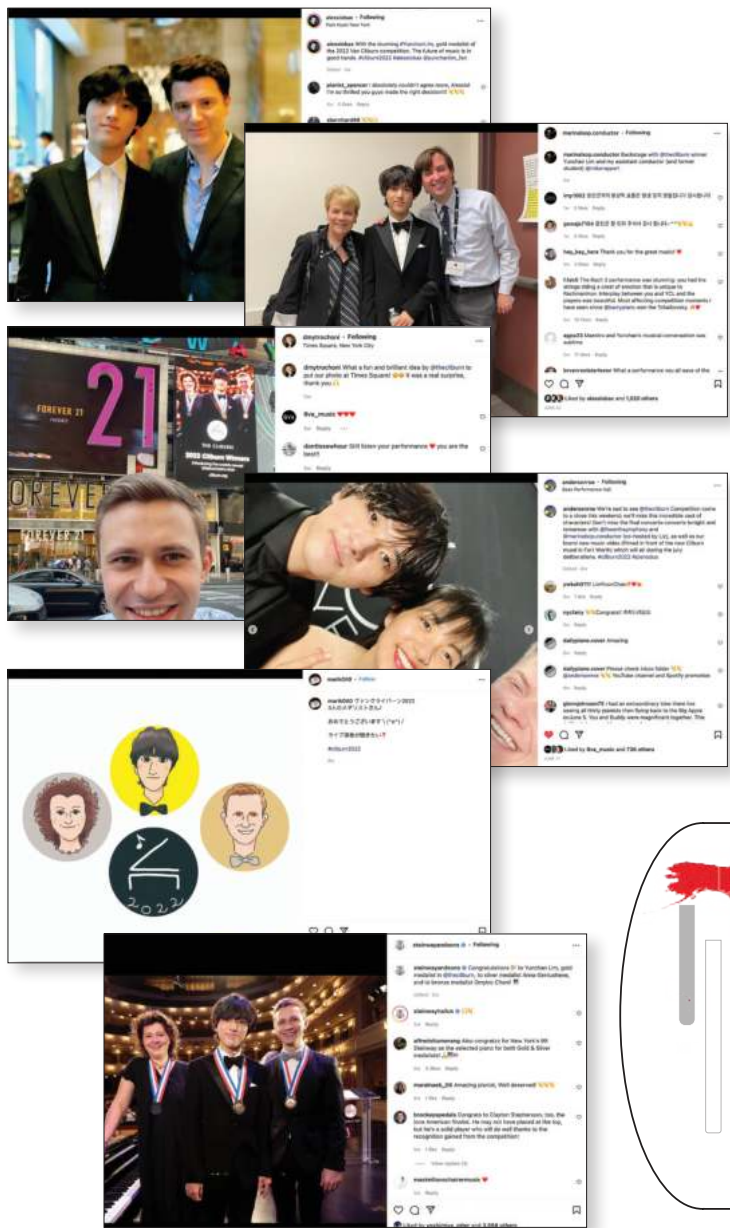
OUR THANKS TO THE FORT WORTH/DALLAS PRESS

Our locally based media covered the Competition—some from the first note to the last—with passion and dedication, committing a great deal of resources to being sure the world could follow the music and the stories happening here in Fort Worth. The Cliburn extends its heartfelt thanks to the journalists who are a constant presence in the vibrant arts scene of our hometown.

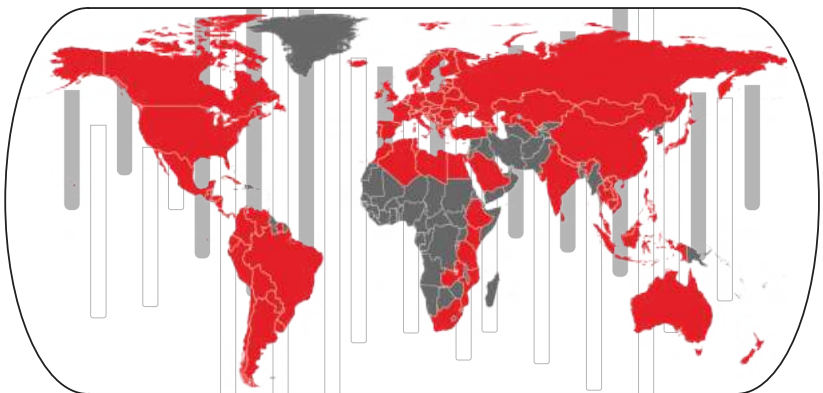


THE WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY

The Cliburn's active presence on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter, and WeChat created a community around music this June; an unprecedented number of music fans from every part of the world connected, watched, and discussed what was happening on stage in Fort Worth.



A GLOBAL AUDIENCE



VIEWERS FROM 177 COUNTRIES



THE WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE

The 2022 Cliburn webcast raised the bar, across the board. A team of 40 professionals, expertly led by our longtime partners at **Framework Productions** and **HYFI**, created a beautiful, informative, and entertaining show that spotlighted competitors and gave viewers engaging commentary and behind-the-scenes views. The webcast, like so much of the Competition, saw a lot of firsts—read all about those below!



Elizabeth Joy Roe & Greg Anderson interview Anna Geniushene post performance.

Photos by Ralph Lauer & Richard Rodriguez



Host Buddy Bray and Preliminary Round Co-Host Peter Dugan in the broadcast booth with juror Alessio Bax.

THE SHOW

Buddy Bray, Cliburn artistic consultant and host of Cliburn Kids & Cliburn Masterpiece, was the face and voice of the webcast; his presence, encyclopedic knowledge of music and the Cliburn, and sense of humor enthralled audiences around the world. He was joined in the broadcast by rotating co-hosts, lovely touring pianists who provided valuable insights into performances and the music: **Peter Dugan**, **Angela Cheng**, **Jon Nakamatsu**, and **Elizabeth Joy Roe**. Roving correspondents did endearing post-concert interviews with each competitor and showed viewers around the Competition scene; **Greg Anderson** and **Elizabeth Joy Roe** took on this new

role for the first two weeks, with **Daniel Hsu** and **Bridget Kibbey** pinch hitting during Finals week.

The 2022 Cliburn webcast was the first to be produced at this level, with a newscast style that appealed to classical music aficionados and new fans alike.



SUBSCRIBE TO THE CLIBURN ON YOUTUBE





Webcast team working on the broadcast from the control booth.

THE NUMBERS

The 2022 webcast has become one of the most-watched classical music events of all time, with more than:

25 million views

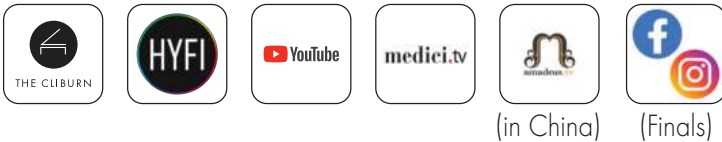
In 170 countries

3 million hours watched
(that's 180 million minutes)

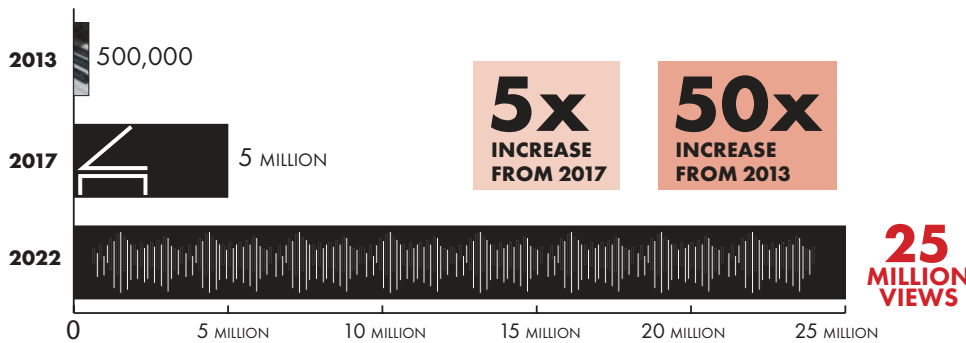
MORE FIRSTS

This webcast was the first classical music contest to be broadcast:

- Live in 4k picture and surround sound, on HYFI
- On this many distribution platforms at one time



TOTAL COMPETITION WEBCAST VIEWS



Ilya Shmukler is interviewed after his Semifinal Round performance.

PREMIUM WEBCAST EXPERIENCE ON HYFI

The Cliburn brought the best possible concert experience to its global audience. Through partnership with HYFI, this year's Competition was webcast in 4K HDR and 5.1 surround sound. **Watch the Cliburn with unprecedented quality** from anywhere when you download the HYFI app on iOS, Android, Roku, AppleTV, Chromecast, and Amazon FireTV.



PIANOTOWN

Our hometown transformed once again, welcoming our competitors and visitors from around the world, both with the signature Fort Worth hospitality and an unprecedented visual impact. From our first-ever mural in the Near Southside to piano crosswalks at Bass Performance Hall to the Closing Party in Sundance Square—complete with a giant Competition logo and larger-than-life photos—Cowtown truly became PianoTown.

Photos by Leo Wesson & Ralph Lauer



Piano key crosswalks, complete with a tribute to the Cliburn's 60th Anniversary, created a musical red carpet to the entrance of Bass Performance Hall.



The first-ever Cliburn mural was unveiled the week prior to the Competition start. It will be a lasting gift to Fort Worth; see it at the intersection of Vickery and South Main Streets in the SOMA District of the Near Southside.



Cliburn mural artist DAAS poses at the unveiling.



FORT WORTH IS EVERYTHING



Outdoor ads went up across the city.



Banners graced the streets of downtown and more.



A giant Cliburn logo in Sundance Square Plaza was the perfect photo backdrop, with the Tarrant County Courthouse in the background.



Adonis Rose and the Fort Worth Jazz Orchestra played the big community Closing Party, following two days of Final Round simulcasts, all in Sundance Square Plaza.



The Sundance Square Pavilion was wrapped with gorgeous Cliburn photos; here, 2017 Gold Medalist Yekwon Sunwoo.



THE PLACE TO BE

Not only is the Cliburn Competition three weeks of glorious music from the best young pianists on the planet; it is also a lively celebration of the international music family and the incredible Fort Worth community. From a host of parties and special events—where competitors had the chance to network with industry professionals—to the free Festival events, including concerts, symposia, and children’s education programs, the Cliburn was the place to be.



Fort Worth Public Library branches across the city participated in Adopt-a-Competitor.



During Piano Lunches, competitors performed free concerts for the community.



Marin Alsop answered questions during the Jury Symposium.



The entire jury participated in a symposium hosted by WQXR’s Elliott Forrest.



At the Opening Dinner & Draw Party, 2017 Gold Medalist Yekwon Sunwoo drew competitor names.



The Volunteer Appreciation Party at the Fort Worth Zoo was again a raging success; this year, attendees got to feed the giraffes!



Competitors received their Justin Boots at the Fort Worth Zoo Party.



The Competitor Party featured straw cowboy hats branded with the Cliburn logo.



BECAUSE OF THEM

Our volunteer troop of more than 600 is the backbone of the Cliburn. Under a detailed structure, these exceptional community members serve the Competition and are heavily involved in six key areas: Competitor Housing, Entertainment/Hospitality, Facilities/Rentals, Gift Shop, Production/Logistics, and Public Relations. Our sincere gratitude goes out to all!



Photos by Leo Wesson, Ralph Lauer & Richard Rodriguez

At the Competitor Reveal Party at Neiman Marcus in May, our beloved host families and social hosts found out who their competitors would be. Here, Imelda Castro and Carolyn Phillips learn that they have been assigned Anna Geniushene.



Student volunteers help welcome visitors to the Fort Worth Zoo Party.



Volunteer Andrea Palmer helps Family Festival-goers use the selfie station.



Host family Emma and Christopher Beavers pose with their competitor, Uladzislau Khandohi after his performance.



Barbara Lott gives out information to people attending the simulcast in the Sundance Square Plaza.



Sara Fender checks patrons out at the Cliburn Shop in the lobby of Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU.



2022 VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

RESULTS



2022 competitors pose with Cliburn President and CEO Jacques Marquis and Chairman of the Board Jeff King on stage at Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU.



Yunchan Lim is announced as the 2022 Cliburn gold medalist.



Bronze Medalist Dmytro Choni hugs Anna Geniushene after she is awarded the silver medal.



NANCY LEE AND PERRY R. BASS

GOLD MEDALIST

Yunchan Lim, South Korea, 18

SILVER MEDALIST

Anna Geniushene, Russia, 31

BRONZE MEDALIST

Dmytro Choni, Ukraine, 28

FINALISTS

Uladzislau Khandohi, Belarus, 20

Ilya Shmukler, Russia, 27

Clayton Stephenson, United States, 23

SEMIFINALISTS

Masaya Kamei, Japan, 20

Honggi Kim, South Korea, 30

Jinhyung Park, South Korea, 26

Changyong Shin, South Korea, 28

Yutong Sun, China, 26

Marcel Tadokoro, France/Japan, 28

QUARTERFINALISTS

Albert Cano Smit, Spain/Netherlands, 25

Federico Gad Crema, Italy, 23

Andrew Li, United States, 22

Denis Linnik, Belarus, 26

Kate Liu, United States, 28

Yuki Yoshimi, Japan, 22

PRELIMINARY COMPETITORS

Tianxu An, China, age 23

Yangrui Cai, China, 21

Francesco Granata, Italy, 23

Arseniy Gusev, Russia, 23

Elizaveta Kliuchereva, Russia, 23

Shuan Hern Lee, Australia, 19

Ziyu Liu, China, 24

Jonathan Mak, Canada, 25

Georgijs Osokins, Latvia, 27

Vitaly Starikov, Russia, 27

Sergey Tanin, Russia, 26

Xiaolu Zang, China, 22



Ilya Shmukler is awarded the prize for Best Performance of a Mozart Concerto.



The 2022 medalists were introduced as new honorary Fort Worthians in Sundance Square Plaza.

SPECIAL AWARDS

CARLA AND KELLY THOMPSON

AUDIENCE AWARD

Yunchan Lim, South Korea, 18

**BEVERLEY TAYLOR SMITH AWARD FOR
BEST PERFORMANCE OF A NEW WORK**

Yunchan Lim, South Korea, 18

**BEST PERFORMANCE OF THE
MOZART CONCERTO**

Ilya Shmukler, Russia, 27

JOHN GIORDANO JURY CHAIRMAN

DISCRETIONARY AWARD

Marcel Tadokoro, France/Japan, 28

**THE RAYMOND E. BUCK JURY
DISCRETIONARY AWARD**

Changyong Shin, South Korea, 28

**PATRICIA AND NEAL STEFFEN FAMILY
JURY DISCRETIONARY AWARD**

Andrew Li, United States, 22



A portrait of a young man with dark, wavy hair, wearing a white dress shirt and a black tie. He is leaning forward, resting his arms on a dark wooden piano keyboard. The background is dark and out of focus, with a window on the left side showing some light. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

YUNCHAN LIM

2022 CLIBURN GOLD MEDALIST
18 YEARS OLD | SOUTH KOREA

In June 2022, **Yunchan Lim** became the youngest person ever to win gold at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition; his performances throughout showcased a “magical ability” and a “natural, instinctive quality” (*La Scena*) that astounded listeners around the world. The depth of his artistry and connection to listeners also secured him the Audience Award and Best Performance of a New Work (for Sir Stephen Hough’s *Fanfare Toccata*).

Just 18 years old, Yunchan’s ascent to international stardom has been meteoric. His final Cliburn Competition appearance with Rachmaninov’s Piano Concerto No. 3 delivered the defining moment of the three-week event; as one critic noted: “The applause that followed was endless: a star had emerged before our eyes” (*Seen and Heard International*). The video of that performance trended globally on YouTube in the days after, reaching #24, and has now become the most-watched version of that piece on the platform, amassing more than 6.5 million views in just one month.

Yunchan has performed across his native South Korea—including with the Korean Orchestra Festival, Korea Symphony, Suwon Philharmonic, and Busan Philharmonic Orchestras, among others—as well as in Madrid, at the invitation of the Korea Cultural Center in Spain. His 2022–2023 inaugural tour as Cliburn winner takes him across four continents, with highlights including the New York Philharmonic, Aspen Music Festival, La Jolla Music Society, and Performing Arts Houston in the United States; Seoul Arts Center, National Concert Hall in Taipei, and the KBS and Korean National Symphony Orchestras in Asia; Wigmore Hall and Fondation Louis Vuitton in Europe; and a recital tour in South America.

2022–2023 CONCERT TOUR

JULY

- 28** Aspen Music Festival and School; Aspen, CO
- 30** Salida Aspen Concerts; Salida, CO

AUGUST

- 1** International Keyboard Odyssey and Festival; Fort Collins, CO
- 10** Bach Collegium Musikum; Seoul, Korea
- 13** Duszynki International Chopin Piano Festival; Duszynki-Zdrój, Poland
- 20** KBS Symphony Orchestra; Seoul, Korea
- 26** KBS Symphony Orchestra; Gwangju, Korea
- 27** Gyeongju Village Classic Festival; Pyeongchang, Korea

SEPTEMBER

- 18** Steinway Society - The Bay Area; San Jose, CA
- 23–24** El Paso Symphony Orchestra; El Paso, TX
- 26** CU Presents; Boulder, CO
- 28–29** Cliburn Concerts; Fort Worth, TX

OCTOBER

- 5** One Korea Symphony; Seoul, Korea
- 6** Gwangju Philharmonic Orchestra; Gwangju, Korea
- 8** Gwangju Philharmonic Orchestra; Tongyeong, Korea
- 10** National Taichung Theatre; Taichung, Taiwan
- 14** Philip Lorenz International Keyboard Concerts; Fresno, CA
- 16** Lied Center of Kansas; Lawrence, KS
- 18** Performing Arts Houston; Houston, TX
- 20** Skyline Piano Artist Series, Northwestern University Bienen School of Music; Evanston, IL

NOVEMBER

- 3** National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts; Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- 4** National Concert Hall; Taipei, Taiwan
- 6** Victoria Hall; Singapore
- 11** Hong Kong University MUSE; Hong Kong

DECEMBER

- 10** Seoul Art Center; Seoul, South Korea

JANUARY

- 18** Wigmore Hall; London, England
- 24** Lingotto Musica Giovani; Turin, Italy
- 26, 28** Orchestra i Pomeriggi Musicali; Milan, Italy
- 31** Istituzione Universitaria dei Concerti; Rome, Italy

FEBRUARY

- 2** Fondation Louis Vuitton; Paris, France

APRIL

- 14** Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts; Scottsdale, AZ
- 16** Lied Center for the Performing Arts; Lincoln, NE
- 19** Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art with Anna Geniushene and Dmytro Choni; Bentonville, AR
- 21** Huntsville Chamber Music Guild; Huntsville, AL
- 23** La Jolla Music Society; La Jolla, CA

MAY

- 10–12** New York Philharmonic; New York, NY



A portrait of a woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a black top with a white geometric pattern. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is dark and out of focus.

ANNA GENIUSHENE

2022 CLIBURN SILVER MEDALIST

31 YEARS OLD | RUSSIA

Anna Geniushene's fresh, layered, and powerful interpretations defined her participation at the 2022 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition—and won her the coveted silver medal and the adoration of fans around the globe. And the critics couldn't get enough: "powerhouse sound, forceful musical personality, and sheer virtuosity...had this critic on the edge of his seat" (*Musical America*); "a performance of rare devotion and insight" (*Onstage NTX*); "a fresh version...that had this listener hanging on every bar" (*La Scena*).

And when Anna closed the Cliburn Competition with a momentous performance of the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1, *Gramophone* likened it to the contest's revered namesake, "I couldn't help but equate Anna Geniushene's seasoned pianism to Cliburn at his best."

Born in Moscow on New Year's Day in 1991, Anna made her recital debut just seven years later in the small hall of the Berlin Philharmonic. She has since developed a diverse and versatile career as an artist: performances in major world venues such as the Town Hall in Leeds, National Concert Hall in Dublin, Museum of Arts in Tel Aviv, Teatro Carlo Felice in Genova, Great Hall of Moscow Conservatory, and Sala Greppi in Bergamo; a dedication to chamber music, including duo piano repertoire with her husband, Lukas Geniušas, and close collaboration with Quartetto di Cremona; and the creation of her own festival of collaborative music-making (NikoFest). She currently resides in Lithuania with her husband and their young son, Tomas.

2022–2023 CONCERT TOUR

JULY

29 Festival de La Roque-d'Anthéron; La Roque-d'Anthéron, France

AUGUST

4 Cliburn Pop-Up Concert; Fort Worth, TX

7 Grand Teton Music Festival; Jackson Hole, WY

OCTOBER

7 El Camino College; Torrance, CA

9 Chamber Orchestra of the South Bay; Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

12 Sanford-Hill Piano Series at Western Washington University; Bellingham, WA

14 Center for Musical Arts; Lafayette, CO

23 Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra; College Station, TX

NOVEMBER

10 Château Mouton Rothschild; Pauillac, France

18 & 20 Taipei Symphony Orchestra; Taipei, Taiwan

JANUARY

1 Organum Concert Hall; Vilnius, Lithuania

27 University of Vermont Lane Series; Burlington, VT

29 Oracle Piano Society; Oracle, AZ

FEBRUARY

17 Emerald City Music with Wu Han and Dmytro Choni; Seattle, WA

18 Emerald City Music with Wu Han and Dmytro Choni; Olympia, WA

19 Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts with Wu Han and Dmytro Choni; Vienna, VA

20 La Musica Festival with Wu Han and Dmytro Choni; Sarasota, FL

MARCH

7 Sanibel Music Festival; Sanibel, FL

16 Lithuanian State Symphony Orchestra; Vilnius, Lithuania

APRIL

19 Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art with Yunchan Lim and Dmytro Choni; Bentonville, AR

22 Huntsville Chamber Music Guild; Huntsville, AL

MAY

12 Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra; Vilnius, Lithuania



DMYTRO CHONI

2022 CLIBURN BRONZE MEDALIST

28 YEARS OLD | UKRAINE

Photo by Lisa-Marie Mazzucco



Dmytro Choni took home bronze at the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in June 2022, only the second Ukrainian pianist to medal at the prestigious contest. He won hearts and accolades with a compelling and colorful musicality that is fortified by a genuine, immediately engaging stage presence. As one critic noted: “Each time he strode onstage, it was with winning confidence and a big smile. He’s clearly an accomplished, assured – and communicative – pro” (*Dallas Morning News*).

Dmytro’s Cliburn prize builds on an already impressive resume. He has collaborated with renowned orchestras, such as the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Phoenix Symphony, RTVE Symphony, Seongnam Philharmonic, Ukraine National Symphony, Liechtenstein Symphony, and Dominican Republic National Symphony Orchestras, working with conductors Andrew Manze, Marin Alsop, Nicholas McGegan, Oksana Lyniv, and others. His performances in major halls and festivals in Europe, Asia, South America, and the United States have made a lasting impression on his musical development.

Highlights from Dmytro’s 2022–2023 inaugural tour as Cliburn medalist include Beethovenfest Bonn, the Duszynki International Chopin Piano Festival (Poland), Salle Cortot (Paris), and Palau de la Música (Barcelona); concertos with the Hamburger Camerata and Silesian Philharmonic; and a recital tour across the United States.

2022–2023 CONCERT TOUR

AUGUST

- 4** Palau de la Música; Barcelona, Spain
- 8** Duszynki International Chopin Piano Festival; Duszynki-Zdrój, Poland
- 15–16** Sunriver Music Festival; Sunriver, OR
- 29** Beethovenfest Bonn; Bonn, Germany

SEPTEMBER

- 18** Fredericksburg Music Club; Fredericksburg, TX
- 23–24** New Ross Piano Festival; New Ross, Ireland

OCTOBER

- 1** Tbilisi International Piano Competition Opening Ceremony; Tbilisi, Georgia
- 7** University of Vermont Lane Series; Burlington, VT
- 23** Hawai’i Concert Society; Hilo, HI
- 26** Kahilu Theatre; Waimea, HI
- 27** Maui Arts and Cultural Center; Kahului, HI
- 29** University of Hawai’i at Mānoa; Honolulu, HI
- 30** Kauai Concert Association; Lihue, HI

NOVEMBER

- 6** Hamburger Camerata; Hamburg, Germany
- 12** Silesian Philharmonic Orchestra; Katowice, Poland
- 21** Queens University of Charlotte; Charlotte, NC

DECEMBER

- 11** Salle Cortot; Paris, France

JANUARY

- 24** Haus der Ingenieure; Vienna, Austria
- 25** Kasematten Wiener Neustadt; Wiener Neustadt, Austria

FEBRUARY

- 17** Emerald City Music with Wu Han and Anna Geniushene; Seattle, WA
- 18** Emerald City Music with Wu Han and Anna Geniushene; Olympia, WA
- 19** Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts with Wu Han and Anna Geniushene; Vienna, VA
- 20** La Musica Festival with Wu Han and Anna Geniushene; Sarasota, FL
- 26** Oracle Piano Society; Oracle, AZ

APRIL

- 5** Sanford-Hill Piano Series at Western Washington University; Bellingham, WA
- 7** Center for Musical Arts; Lafayette, CO
- 14** FPC Concerts; Myrtle Beach, SC
- 16** Miller Center for the Arts; Reading, PA
- 19** Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art with Yunchan Lim and Anna Geniushene; Bentonville, AR
- 22** Huntsville Chamber Music Guild; Huntsville, AL

MAY

- 22** Polish Baltic Philharmonic; Gdańsk, Poland





CLIBURN WINNERS TAKE NEW YORK



The Tuesday following the Competition, all three medalists flew to New York for a slew of press interviews and special events – plus a photo shoot and one big surprise: a Times Square billboard announcing their wins!

Photos by Peter Pabon



THE MEDALISTS' NEXT STEPS

By Sandra Doan

Yunchan, Anna, and Dmytro have already begun their debut concert tours, which were set weeks before the Competition, thanks to partners who have long believed in supporting young artists and offering a platform for them to perform. But what's next for the three? The goal of the Cliburn's career management program is to help them meet their artistic, career, and personal ambitions. Below is just a glimpse of their priorities in the next few years.



Yunchan Lim launched his concert tour in July at the Aspen Music Festival; he's pictured there here with the Cliburn's Sandra Doan and Jacques Marquis.

Yunchan—who just turned 18 in March and finished his first year of university in the spring—is as committed as ever to continuing his musical studies: to delve deeply into growing his repertoire and understanding more and more music; to finish his degrees and find opportunities to learn from others; and to share and perform at his highest levels. We'll be taking a slow approach in the coming years, giving him the time to fulfill his deep artistic dreams.



Anna Geniushene returned to Fort Worth in early August for a Cliburn Pop-Up Concert at The Post at River East. (Photo by Leo Wesson)

Anna—who already had a busy career and life prior to the Competition—will be focused on a mindful approach to becoming a mother a second time, and balancing it with growing a fulfilling, active, international career.

Her natural musical curiosity and penchant for interesting projects has her preparing to record lullabies from around the world, from Couperin to Silvestrov, in January 2023: appropriate timing for this period in her life.

Dmytro is excited about the performance opportunities ahead of him: he wants to travel and get to know the people and communities he plays for, continue to build his repertoire (on the near-term bucket list are all the Prokofiev and all the Beethoven concertos), and find opportunities to collaborate with other musicians in chamber music. He feels ready to start thinking about another recording project, following his acclaimed debut album in 2020.



Dmytro Choni began his summer tour in Barcelona at Palau de la Música Catalana.

The Cliburn will be booking and servicing concerts (getting work visas in hand in under six weeks for all three of the medalists is a huge feat that deserves props to the Cliburn's artist liaison, Michael Bellinson), helping them to navigate U.S. legal and financial systems, connecting them with a network of mentors and advisors, building their public profiles, and finding artistic partners to help achieve some of these goals. We are honored to work with these amazing artists to elevate their voices and help them to the next step of their lifelong journeys in music.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

BRAVO!



The Friday night Final Round concert had just wrapped, and a group of us were walking down the street to the post-concert Patron Party at the City Club. Everybody was strung as tight as, well, as tight as a piano string. The signs were unmistakable: dilated pupils, nervous and excited chattering, an overwhelming sense of euphoria and rapture—we were all high on Rach 3, Yunchan Lim style. Everyone was talking over everyone else. I turned to former Cliburn Chairman Alann Sampson and wondered how a teenager could even understand that level of emotion, noting that he hasn't had his heart broken enough to play like that. She just shook her head and said, "Otherworldly."

That reminded me of meeting Dick Casper, the former executive director of the Cape Cod Conservatory, and his wife Elizabeth, during an early Preliminary Round concert. Dick was good friends with Van from their days at Juilliard, and he and Elizabeth have attended every competition since sometime in the 1980s. Dick used the word "supernatural" to describe the talent he was seeing in the new Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU. Otherworldly and supernatural, two descriptors from a couple of people who have seen quite a bit of talent over their careers.

This sixteenth edition of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition certainly cemented its global position at the top of its class. Veterans of the Cliburn know there is always a distinct split between a few truly stellar competitors and the rest of the field, but this time there were simply more performers in that top category than we've ever seen. And when that level

of talent was paired with the wonderful Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by the great Marin Alsop, and presented in front of an audience starved for high-quality, live music after two years of pandemic, the result was truly magical.

Deepest gratitude goes to our 600-plus volunteers, our patrons and donors, and Jacques Marquis and his incredible team; the mission of the Cliburn is to advance classical piano music throughout the world, and through your hard work and dedication, the health and relevance of this musical genre is ensured. And this year we saw, once again, perhaps even more clearly than ever in our 60-year history, how music can bring a fractured world together through a common human connection and the celebration of the only language we all share.

That Friday night gold medal-winning performance of Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 3 by Yunchan Lim has now been viewed over 7 million times on YouTube, but there can be no doubt that multiple stars were born in Fort Worth in 2022. Let's all make sure to savor this one for a while...because the seventeenth edition in 2025 will be here before you know it. Bravo!!

Jeffrey B. King
Chairman of the Board

THANK YOU!



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Fort Worth-born Higginbotham is recognized as the largest independent insurance, financial, and HR services firm based in Texas and a leader in the nation with offices coast-to-coast. For the 2022 Competition, they made the decision to align their brand closely with the Cliburn's through a bronze-level sponsorship.



As our clients have already expressed to us, Higginbotham's partnership with the Cliburn appeals to their sense of community responsibility and thereby fortifies our ties so we have long-term relationships. It also brings us additional business development opportunities by exposing our firm to other companies that engage with the Cliburn and share our philosophy of giving back.



— Lane Gallagher, director, corporate marketing & communications

Read our full interview with Lane here:



CLIBURN CALENDAR

WHAT'S NEXT IN FORT WORTH & DALLAS

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT CLIBURN.ORG

**SOLD
OUT**

SEPTEMBER 28-29
Yunchan Lim, piano
Kimbell Art Museum

FEBRUARY 23
**Timo Andres, composer
& piano**
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

MARCH 23
Benjamin Grosvenor, piano
Kimbell Art Museum

OCTOBER 12-18
**Eighth Cliburn International
Amateur Piano Competition**
Van Cliburn Recital Hall &
Bass Performance Hall

NOVEMBER 3
**Jesse Montgomery,
composer**
Modern Art Museum
of Fort Worth

APRIL 13
**Alim Beisembayev,
piano**
Kimbell Art Museum

APRIL 26-27
Joshua Roman, cello
Tulips Fort Worth &
Kimbell Art Museum

NOVEMBER 10-11
Vadym Kholodenko, piano
Kimbell Art Museum
& The Post at River East

FEBRUARY 9-10
J'Nai Bridges, mezzo-soprano
Kimbell Art Museum
& The Post at River East

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Van Cliburn (1934–2013), our inspiration and namesake, was an American hero and an international icon for over five decades. He was beloved not only for his momentous gift as a brilliant musician, but also for his transcendent spirit as a great humanitarian. All Cliburn programs aim to continue his unique and powerful vision of sharing classical music with as many people as possible and supporting exceptional young talent. CLIBURN.ORG/VAN-CLIBURN



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