

ANNE-MARIE MCDERMOTT PIANO

“ELECTRIC IN ITS EAGERNESS BUT ALWAYS POISED”

THE NEW YORK TIMES

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“McDermott embodies all the technical skills we have come to expect from her: a firm yet elegant touch that is alternately purposeful and spontaneous. She produces clean, crisp lines where every note speaks for itself, and balances mood and tempo with a fluidity that sometimes added a wholly contemporary sound that could have been written 25 years ago instead of 225 years ago. But it was what we saw in her expressions, the emotional connection she made to the music, that drew us to her. She winced and squeezed her eyes shut when the music slowed, then smiled as her fingers danced along the keys when the tempo raced. In the second movement, one of the longest piano solos of the 30-minute work, McDermott got lost in sweeping, lush passages.” *Arizona Daily Star*

“Her playing has rigor: Transitional passages that some pianist throw away are her source of momentum. More reflective passages have elasticity in the phrasing, which is where the jazz element is strongly felt. Her pounding rhythms in the final movement of the concerto were so compellingly urban that the Parisian traffic scenes depicted in *An American in Paris*, which the orchestra played later, seemed a bit languid.” *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

“[Nashville Symphony performed] Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 15 in B-flat major, a work that is both playful and fiery in equal measure. Pianist Anne-Marie McDermott,...mostly emphasized the concerto’s brilliant side during her performance...Yet there was also warmth and immediacy in her playing, especially in the lyrical slow movement. Indeed, she played this movement with unflinching concentration, which kept the audience riveted even when one patron inadvertently smashed a drinking glass or plate on the floor.” *Nashville Scene*

“An exquisite player, McDermott established the tone and mood of the opening Allegro: firm touch, clear lines—tailored to the shadowy, up-down dynamic flow of the string orchestra. McDermott was the spine of the performance, with her crisp and crashing lines.” *San Jose Mercury News*

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ARTISTS

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