



Photo by Christine de Grancy

“I consider Anika Vavic to be an extraordinarily gifted pianist.”

Mariss Jansons

“Great talent, brilliant technique and smart and passionate playing.”

Zubin Mehta

“The great gift of symphonic piano playing: as if several instruments were resounding at the same time“

Daniel Barenboim

“Beautiful playing, understanding of the classical style and great technique.”

Seiji Ozawa

“No denying that she is an important newcomer”

Gramophon

A childhood winner of numerous international competitions and awards, the young pianist Anika Vavic began studying in Vienna at the age of sixteen, under Noel Flores at the University of Music and Performing Arts. Her musical development also received significant artistic inspiration from Elisabeth Leonskaja, Lazar Berman, Oleg Maisenberg, Alexander Satz and Mstislaw Rostropowitsch.

Since her first public performance in her hometown Belgrade at the age of eight, she has consistently excelled in solo recitals, piano concerts, radio and TV programmes as well as in various chamber music formations, such as the „Horn-Trio-Wien“. She recorded her first CD with the renowned Quarteto Amazonia from Brazil. In October 2001 she won the Second Steinway-Competition in Vienna, receiving a further special prize for the best interpretation of Haydn. In November 2001 she was awarded a scholarship by the prestigious Herbert von Karajan Centrum in Vienna and the Gottfried von Einem Foundation. In 2002 she was granted the Austrian National Award for Women in the Arts.

For the 2003/04 season Anika Vavic, following the recommendation of the Vienna Musikverein and the Vienna Konzerthaus, was chosen for the highly esteemed „Rising Stars“ concert-cycle, which has taken her as a soloist to the most famous concert houses in the world – amongst others to Carnegie Hall, New York; Wigmore Hall, London; Concertgebouw, Amsterdam; Vienna Musikverein; Cologne Philharmonie; Megaron, Athens; Palais des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles and Cité de la Musique, Paris. The cycle was accompanied by the release of her recital programme on CD produced by ORF and Vienna Musikverein.

In May 2003 she gave her debut at Vienna Konzerthaus, where she played Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto in B Flat minor. Immediately following were her debuts with Munich Philharmonic and Paavo Järvi, at Schubertiade Schwarzenberg and the Ruhr Piano Festival. Anika Vavic performed recitals at London, New York where she premiered a piece written for her by the composer Shih, Dortmund’s prestigious „Next Generation“ series, the „Grandes Pianistas“ series at Santiago de Chile’s Teatro Municipal as well as at festivals such as Heidelberg Spring, Graz Styriarte and, again, at the Ruhr Piano Festival, where she premiered a work by Johannes Staud. Orchestral engagements took her to the Norwegian Radio Orchestra in Oslo and the Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra.

In the 2005/2006 season the young pianist went on a recital tour in Japan with performances at Tokyo and Yaitsu. Anika Vavic gave recitals at Vienna Musikverein, in Berlin, London, Belgrade, Moscow and Vienna's Konzerthaus.

She also made her debut with the Bilkent Orchestra in Istanbul and the Dusan Skrovan Chamber Orchestra under Christopher Warren-Green in Belgrade, followed by a highly acclaimed appearance with the Mariinsky Orchestra under Paavo Järvi at the „White Nights“ festival in St. Petersburg and with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra and Paavo Järvi at the David Oistrakh Festival in Pärnu, performing Shostakovich's 2nd Piano Concerto. She also performed Shostakovich's 1st Piano Concerto at the „Allegro Vivo“ Festival in Austria.

Anika Vavic made her debut with the Gran Canaria Symphony Orchestra performing Rachmaninoff's Paganini Variations in the fall of 2006, when she also gave recitals at the Kennedy Center in Washington and Vienna's Konzerthaus.

Anika Vavic appeared in a chamber music concert at the Vienna Musikverein together with Daniel Hope, Gautier Capuçon and Ernst Ottensammer, with the Zagreb Philharmonie Orchestra performing Rachmaninoff's Paganini Variations with Vjekoslav Sutej, and during the 2007/2008 season, she performed in recital in Ireland, Germany, at the new Philharmonie Luxembourg, Vienna Musikverein, Mozarteum Salzburg, Laeishalle Hamburg, and at the Sommets Musicaux de Gstaad.

She performed Ravel's G Major Concerto with the State Orchestra Istanbul and Rengim Gökmen, toured with Haydn's D Major Concerto together with the New Zurich Chamber Orchestra in Austria, Hungary and Switzerland, played Ravel with the Vojvodina Symphony Orchestra and Francesco La Vecchia.

In the summer of 2008, she was reinvited to the „White Nights Festival“ in St. Petersburg where she performed Ravel's Piano Concerto together with Valery Gergiev and the Mariinsky Orchestra to great acclaim.

In the 2008/09 season, Anika Vavic's concert schedule features festivals such as „Svjatoslav Richter Festival“ in Russia, the „Ceresio Estate Festival“ in Italy, the Bergamo Festival, the „Penderecki Piano Festival“ in Poland, as well as performances in Palermo, Bogota, Belgrade, Nicosia, Vienna. Further invitations will bring her to Seoul, Tokyo and Rotterdam.

She will be performing Ravel's G Major Concerto again with the Tyrolean Symphony Orchestra under Georg Fritzscher, in addition to Kalevi Aho's 2nd Piano Concerto together with Eri Klas.

Further collaboration with Valery Gergiev will lead her again to the „White Nights Festival“ in St. Petersburg, and she will be giving a series of concerts performing contemporary piano concertos by Kalevi Aho and Rodion Shchedrin.

Anika Vavic's passion for literature made her write her first novel in summer 2008. „Chromatics“ is a fictional story about a famous young Russian pianist, which throws a light on the life of the artist behind the scenes. The reader is given an opportunity to observe the world of the music professional from a new angle. The novel is to be translated into several languages and will be published soon.