GUEST ARTIST CONCERT: CONOR HANICK, PIANO

Monday, January 13, 2020 - 7:30pm
Brechemin Auditorium
FREE

Brooklyn-based concert pianist Conor Hanick performs works of Galina Ustvolskaya and Morton Feldman.

PROGRAM
Galina Ustvolskaya: Piano Sonatas No. 4, 5, and 6
Morton Feldman: Palais de Mari

ARTIST BIO
Pianist Conor Hanick is regarded as one of his generation's most inquisitive interpreters of music old and new. With a unique adeptness for contemporary music reinforced by a commitment to music of all ages, Hanick's interpretations demonstrate a “technical refinement, color, crispness and wondrous variety of articulation that benefit works by any master.” (Anthony Tommasini, New York Times)

Although his playing “defies human description” for some (Concerto Net), Hanick's performances have received wide acclaim, described as “brilliant,” “effortlessly elegant,” (New York Times) “expert,” (Philadelphia Inquirer), “sparkling,” (Strad) and reminding the New York Times Anthony Tommasini of a “young Peter Serkin.” He has performed with conductors Alan Gilbert, James Levine, David Robertson, Pierre Boulez, James Conlon, Anne Manson, Carlos Izcaray, Jeffrey Milarsky, and others, in repertoire ranging from Beethoven's Emperor Concerto and the keyboard concertos of Johann Sebastian Bach to Olivier Messiaen's Des Canyons aux Etoiles... and John Adams' Century Rolls. As a recitalist and chamber musician, Hanick has performed at the Kennedy Center, Mondavi Performing Arts Center, the Krannert Center, the Kultur und Kongresszentrum Luzern, Kyoto Concert Hall, the Dewan Pilharmonik Peronas in Malaysia, and virtually every prominent arts venue in New York City, ranging from (le) Poisson Rouge and The Kitchen to Alice Tully Hall and all three halls of Carnegie Hall.

As a fierce advocate for the music of today, Hanick has premiered over 200 works and collaborated with composers both emerging and iconic. Among the them, Hanick has worked with Pierre Boulez, Matthias Pintscher, Milton Babbitt, Heinz Holliger, John Luther Adams, and Charles
Wuorinen, in addition to championing music by leading composers of his own generation, including David Fulmer, Caroline Shaw, Matthew Aucoin, Samuel Adams, Vivian Fung, and Christopher Cerrone. The “soloist of choice for such thorny works” (New York Times), Hanick recently performed Milton Babbitt’s Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Juilliard Orchestra at Alice Tully Hall; György Ligeti’s Piano Concerto with Alan Gilbert at the New York Philharmonic Biennale; Pierre Boulez’s sur Incises with James Levine at Carnegie Hall; and the world premiere of Matthew Aucoin’s Piano Concerto with the Alabama Symphony. He is currently working with composer Matthew Aucoin on a new solo piano work; Nina Young, David Hertzberg, and Marcos Balter on three works for cello and piano; Chris Cerrone on a piano concerto for prepared piano and percussion; and Samuel Carl Adams on an evening-length work for piano and electronics.

During the 2018-19 season, Hanick appeared as a soloist, chamber musician, and ensemble member throughout North America. He presented Frederic Rzewski’s The People United Will Never Be Defeated in Santa Barbara, Seattle, Santa Fe, New York, and Boston; partnered with instrumentalists Jay Campbell, Joshua Roman, Augustin Hadelich, Rachel Lee Priday, and others, in music ranging from Eric Wubbels’ Gretchen am Spinnrade to gamba sonatas of Carl Phillipp Emanuel Bach; joined the Seattle Symphony in Pierre Boulez’s sur Incises, the String Orchestra of Brooklyn in Galina Ustvolskaya’s Piano Concerto; and is artist-in-residence at the University of Iowa Center for New Music, the Clark Museum, and SITE Santa Fe.

Complementing his solo and chamber music work, Hanick also works closely as an ensemble member with many new music groups and chamber orchestras. He has performed with The Knights at Tanglewood, the Kennedy Center, and on tour with Bela Fleck; the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE) at the Park Avenue Armory in Heiner Goebbels’ De Materie; the Talea Ensemble in the US premiere of Mauricio Kagel’s Sur Scene; and in collaboration with the Metropolitan Opera Chamber Players, Chatter Ensemble, ensembleNewSRQ, Alarm Will Sound, Ensemble Echappé, Talea Ensemble, Argento, and the Lucerne Festival Alumni Ensemble.

Hanick completed his undergraduate studies at Northwestern and received his Masters and Doctorate from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Yoheved Kaplinsky and Matti Raekallio. He is a Yamaha Artist and lives in the Bushwick neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York.