

## **HANZHI WANG, accordion**

Acclaimed for her “staggering virtuosity”, **Hanzhi Wang** is the only accordionist to ever win a place on the roster of Young Concert Artists in its 60-year history. An ambassador for her instrument, Hanzhi has been praised for her captivating stage presence and performances that display passion and finesse.

A groundbreaking artist, Hanzhi’s other firsts include being named Musical America’s “New Artist of the Month,” an interview and performance on the 2,145th episode of New York WQXR’s Young Artists Showcase as the first solo accordionist on the program, and the Naxos label’s first-ever solo accordion CD, "On the Path to H.C. Andersen," which was nominated for the prestigious DR (Danish Radio) P2 Prize in 2019.

A First Prize Winner of the 2017 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Hanzhi debuted in New York in The Peter Marino Concert at Carnegie Hall’s Zankel Hall. Her Washington, DC debut opened the 40th Anniversary Young Concert Artists Series at the Kennedy Center, co-presented with Washington Performing Arts. She holds the Ruth Laredo Prize and Mortimer Levitt Career Development Award for Women Artists of YCA.

This season, Hanzhi performs in recitals at Vancouver Recital Society, Mesa Arts Center, Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, the Weis Center for Performing Arts, Clemson University, and Southern Adventist University. She will also perform as soloist with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra.

Hanzhi won First Prize in the 40th Castelfidardo International Accordion Competition in Italy. She inspires the next generation of accordionists with lectures, performances, and master classes at the Manhattan School of Music, Royal Danish Academy of Music, Tianjin Music Conservatory, Ghent Music Conservatory (Belgium), and in Norway and Portugal. Composers Martin Lohse, James Black, and Sophia Gubaidulina have written and dedicated works to her.

Hanzhi earned her Bachelor’s degree at the China Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. She completed her Master’s degree at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen with the renowned accordion professor Geir Draugsvoll, and also served as an assistant teacher at the Academy.

NOTE: When editing, please do not delete references to Young Concert Artists, nor special prizes.  
Please do not use previously dated biographies.

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