

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tutunov Piano Series Welcomes Yoshio Hamano to Ashland

(Ashland, OR)

The Tutunov Piano Series will host a special guest artist, Yoshio Hamano from Japan at Southern Oregon University's Music Recital Hall. Presented by the Oregon Center for the Arts, the concert will be held March 13th at 7:30 PM, tickets for in-person and live-stream options are available at sou.universitytickets.com for purchase. The concert is the 4th of this 2025/2026 season, with 2 more coming this year.

Alexander Tutunov says, "this program is very pleasant and very interesting. Mr. Hamano chose the works that are not heard very often but surely deserve and need to be heard. Yoshio's skill on the piano is unbelievable and I enjoy our decade long friendship a great deal. No one will be disappointed with this offering, I promise."

The program will begin with Hamano playing Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 27 in E minor, Scriabin's Two Poems Op. 32 & Sonata No. 2 in G-Sharp minor, Op. 19 "Sonata-Fantasy", Agnew's Sonata Poeme and finishing with two Chopin pieces, Nocturne in B Major, Op. 62 no. 1 and Polonaise-Fantaisie, Op. 61.

About the Artist: Yoshio Hamano

Born in Tokyo, Japanese-Russian pianist Yoshio Hamano has performed across the globe in prestigious venues and worked with notable orchestras and conductors, including the Japan Philharmonic and the Tokyo Symphony. Best known for performances marked by a deep emotional connection to the music, Hamano's artistry has earned admiration from audiences and critics alike. A winner of several international piano competitions, including the Nordic Piano Competition and the Almaty International Piano Competition, he won 1st prize at the Music Competition of Japan, establishing him as a leading recital artist. The 1st prize at the 2011 Music Competition of Japan has aided Yoshio in achieving recognition as a prominent recital artist.

Having a dual Japanese-Russian background, Yoshio has felt obliged to devote his passion for music-making to facilitating dialogue between cultures through the arts.

Recitals and collaborative projects have brought Yoshio to numerous venues across Japan and the United States, United Kingdom (Royal Festival Hall, Purcell Room, St Martin-in-the-Fields), Germany, Scandinavia, Russia, Central Asia, and the Middle East. Yoshio has performed extensively as soloist with orchestras and chamber ensembles, including the Japan Philharmonic at Suntory Hall (Tokyo), Tokyo Symphony, Central Aichi Symphony, Geidai Philharmonia, Lund City Orchestra, working with distinguished conductors Alexander Lazarev, David Geringas, Kazuki Yamada, Naoto Otomo and Masahiko Enkoji among others.

Yoshio Hamano currently holds teaching positions at Tokyo College of Music and Tokyo University of the Arts.

The Tutunov Piano Series continues its mission of enriching the cultural life of the Rogue Valley by presenting world-class pianists, curated by Dr. Alexander Turunov, while providing inspiring musical experiences for students, music lovers, and the broader community.

The concert will run approximately 90 minutes including one 15 min intermission.

Tickets are \$45/35 for general admission at <https://sou.universitytickets.com>. Students (of any school) get free admission. Tickets can also be purchased in-person at the OCA Box Office one hour prior to the performances, and over the phone by calling 541-552-6348.