



Photo by Laura Desberg

**CONOR HANICK, piano**  
**Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 7pm**  
**Piano Sonatas by Ludwig van Beethoven and**  
**Galina Ustvol'skaya**

*Beethoven, Sonata no. 30 in E major opus 109*

*Ustvol'skaya, Sonata no. 2*

*Ustvol'skaya, Sonata no. 3*

*Ustvol'skaya, Sonata no. 4*

*Ustvol'skaya, Sonata no. 5*

*Beethoven, Sonata no. 31 in Ab major opus 110*

*[The Six Piano Sonatas] span Ustvol'skaya's entire creative life and highlight stylistic transformations both radical and subtle. It's tempting to see a parallel with Beethoven: both composers wrote for the piano throughout their life and used the piano sonata as a laboratory for exploring musical ideas. True as this may be, the goals of their research could not be more divergent. Beethoven is concerned with elevating material,*

*transmogrifying an idea until sublime; Ustvolskaya, on the other hand, is concerned with excavating material, drilling into an idea until a subatomic structure is gleaned.*

*~Conor Hanick*

Here is a link to Mr. Hanick's full note on Ustvolskaya's Third Sonata:

<http://www.cvillechambermusic.org/ustvolskaya.html>

Pianist **Conor Hanick** is regarded as one of his generation's most inquisitive interpreters of music new and old whose "technical refinement, color, crispness and wondrous variety of articulation benefit works by any master." (*New York Times*) Hanick has recently been presented by The Gilmore Festival, the New York Philharmonic, Caramoor, Cal Performances, Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and the Park Avenue Armory, and performed with Seattle Symphony, Alabama Symphony, Orchestra Iowa, and the Boston Modern Orchestra Project. A fierce advocate for the music of today, Hanick has premiered over 200 pieces and collaborated with composers ranging from Pierre Boulez, Kaija Saariaho, and Steve Reich, to the leading composers of his generations, including Nico Muhly, Caroline Shaw, Tyshawn Sorey, Matthew Aucoin, and Christopher Cerrone. IN the 22-23 season, Hanick premieres a new piano concerto by Samuel Carl Adams with the San Francisco Symphony and conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen; appears with soprano Julia Bullock at the Aix en Provence Festival in Olivier Messiaen's *Harawi*; and performs recitals at the Library of Congress, Hancher auditorium, Ensemble Music Society of Indianapolis, the 92nd Street Y, and elsewhere. With the American Modern Opera Company (AMOC), Hanick will serve as an artistic director of the Ojai Festival in 2022. He is the director of Solo Piano at the Music Academy of the West and serves on the faculty of the Peabody Institute and The Juilliard School.

To learn more, please visit <https://conorhanick.com>