



ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
RESTORATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF  
LITHUANIA

Piano Recital

# Gabrielius Alekna

13 March 2015 at 7 pm  
Tempeliiaukio Church



Born in Vilnius, Lithuania, **Gabrielius Alekna** began his music studies at the age of five. After graduation from the National M. K. Čiurlionis School for the Arts in Vilnius, he continued his studies at the Lithuanian Music Academy. In 1996, Gabrielius Alekna was invited to attend the Juilliard School in New York and became the first Lithuanian to earn a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the Juilliard School.

The winner of the second prize at the 2005 International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna, Austria, pianist Gabrielius Alekna has appeared as a soloist in Vienna's *Musikverein* with the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra (RSO Wien) under the baton of Bertrand de Billy. Mr Alekna has been a featured soloist with the Juilliard Orchestra and the New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra in New York, and with the Belarus State Symphony Orchestra in Minsk, while in his native country the pianist appears regularly with major orchestras including the National Symphony, the State Symphony, the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra, and the Christopher Chamber Orchestra. Described by Daniel Barenboim as “a highly gifted pianist and musician,” Mr Alekna has garnered more than a dozen top prizes in competitions on both sides of the Atlantic, such as Hilton Head (United States), Maria Canals (Spain), and Čiurlionis (Lithuania) International Piano Competitions. His recording of complete *Mots* by the Lithuanian composer Vytautas Bacevičius was released in 2012 on the British label 'Toccata Classics,' and involved collaborations with the two-time Grammy winning producer Judith Sherman and the four-time Grammy-nominated pianist Ursula Oppens.

## Programme

**Gabriel Fauré** (1845-1924) – Nocturne No. 6  
in D-flat major, Op. 63

**Vytautas Bacevičius** (1905-1970) –  
*Poème* No. 4, Op. 10  
Sonata No. 4, Op. 53  
1. Larghetto - Poco più mosso - Allegro vivace  
2. Lento  
3. Presto  
*Trois pensées musicales*, Op 75

**Franz Liszt** (1811-1886) – Grand Fantasy *Réminiscences  
de Norma de Bellini*, S. 394