

JACK GIBBONS BIO & CONTACT INFORMATION

JACK GIBBONS has established a remarkable reputation as one of the finest pianists of his generation, and one of the world's greatest interpreters of the piano music of George Gershwin. His concerts are regularly received with standing ovations at New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, and at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, where he has appeared annually for over 16 years. In 2002 he won special praise for having fought his way back from a near-fatal car accident to perform once again to a capacity crowd at both Carnegie Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall, the British press describing his achievement as "*miraculous*" and "*gutsy*", and the BBC again hailing him as "*THE Gershwin pianist of our time*". Described by the Sunday Times as "*a remarkable talent*", Jack Gibbons is now also becoming known as a composer. His music has been performed with great success in New York and London, and recorded by the BBC.

Born in 1962, Jack Gibbons began performing in public at the age of 10 and at 20 won First Prize in the Newport International Pianoforte Competition, his performance of Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto being described by Beethoven scholar Denis Matthews as "masterly". In 1990 he gave the first of what became annual all-Gershwin recitals to a packed Queen Elizabeth Hall in London. A year later he was invited to New York to meet members of Gershwin's family, including Gershwin's sister Frances Godowsky. In 1994 he made his US debut with recitals in New York and Washington DC, and is now a frequent visitor to New York. He is also spending increasing amounts of time on composition when not performing. After childhood successes as a composer Jack returned to composing in 2001 during his convalescence from a life threatening car accident after a gap of 25 years. He has since had his music performed at Carnegie Hall in New York, the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, and on the BBC. Jack has been invited to be a composer in residence at the Italian home of Lady Walton (widow of composer Sir William Walton). Gibbons' music to date includes over 40 songs and choral works (mostly for soprano voice), 20 solo piano works, and two works for string orchestra.

Jack Gibbons' recording credits include a Gramophone Award nomination, MRA awards, and numerous special commendations by CD magazines, newspapers, etc. His award-winning "Authentic Gershwin" series of 4 CDs on ASV has been described in the media as "*a unique testimony to Gershwin's genius*". Jack Gibbons has also recorded a highly acclaimed two-CD set of Alkan's gargantuan Op.39 Études (the first ever CD recording of this remarkable work), described by Gramophone as "*among the most exhilarating feats of pianism I've heard on disc*".

PRESS QUOTES

"Jack Gibbons is utterly unique in the music world... astonishing."
(WNYC, New York City's premier classical music station)

"High spirited and historically informed"
(NEW YORKER)

"Jack Gibbons is not simply a pianist; he is a magician whose playing brings back to life another era. Gibbons' enthusiasm was evident from the start and made all the more clear in his interesting and at times humorous commentary. They gave the

performances a stamp of authority that made the evening memorable."
(Worcester MA Telegram and Gazette)

"Gibbons incarnates an uncanny representation of Gershwin's piano style that hasn't been heard since the glory days of Oscar Levant."
(VILLAGE VOICE, New York)

"Awe-inspiring... not only does he possess both the stamina and a technique prodigious enough to master everything the music requires, but he scrupulously respects Alkan's own insistence on clarity, precision and control in this most hugely romantic of music."
(THE LONDON TIMES)

"One of the most delightful aspects of going to a Gibbons concert is that you get to spend an evening with somebody who is really enjoying entertaining you. His delight in and enthusiasm for the music is almost tangible."
(OXFORD UNIVERSITY REVIEW)

"Although regarded as one of the finest Gershwin interpreters around (an assessment in which I heartily agree), Mr. Gibbons does not confine his extraordinary talent to a single composer; he is outstanding in Chopin, Bach and others. His recordings of Lambert's The Rio Grande and the piano works of Charles-Valentin Alkan are outstanding. In my considered view Jack Gibbons is one of the foremost pianists of his generation no matter whose music he plays."
(EDWARD JABLONSKI, Gershwin's biographer and longtime friend of the Gershwin family, New York)

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