

Flavio Varani

Born: Sao Paulo, Brazil

The Brazilian pianist, Flavio Varani, began his distinguished piano performance career at the age of 7 as a featured soloist on Brazilian Radio and TV. Two years later he toured with the Brazilian National Symphony Orchestra. At 13 he received a scholarship from the French Government to study with the legendary Magda Tagliaferro in France.

Varani, based in Paris for seven years, was heard in concerts in the USSR, and Europe. When he was 18 years old he won First Prize at the *Chopin International Competition* in Majorca, Spain. He continued his education in the USA where his mentors were Rosina Lhevinne and Artur Balsam. He received the *Harold Bauer Award* from Manhattan School of Music; *Musician of the Year* from the Michigan Foundation for the Arts; and *Best Soloist of the Year* by the Brazilian Art Critic's Association.

Flavio Varani has performed in major music centers and festivals throughout the world including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Moscow Conservatory and Munich Gasteig. He has been heard at numerous music festivals; Newport Music Festival, Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Meadow Brook Festival and the Cotignac Festival in France. Among his numerous orchestral engagements have been appearances with conductors Gunther Herbig, Sir Neville Marriner, Semyon Bychkov, Lukas Foss, Georg Schmohe and Eleazar de Carvalho.

Flavio Varani returns annually to Japan as soloist, chamber musician and teacher. In the year 2000, he joined the concert-master and principal cellist of the "Orchestre National de France" to form the *Gallia Trio*. Their successful inaugural concerts in Tokyo resulted in yearly return engagements to Japan and in concert tours of Brazil.

His CD of [Heitor Villa-Lobos](#) piano music was designated *Outstanding Classical Recording of 1999* by the Detroit Music Foundation, USA. In 2004, he collaborated with Father Eduard Perrone and musicians of the DSO, recording a "Fantaisie for piano and orchestra" and 40 solo piano pieces representing the entire output of [Paul Paray](#).



Presently Flavio Varani is Artist in residence and Professor Emeritus at Oakland University, USA. He is in the process of filming and recording two documentaries (one for Japan, and another for Brazil) on his life and activities, and also launching a DVD of the concert commemorating Edward Grieg's death anniversary, concert that was realized in the "Teatro Amazonas", in the Brazilian Amazon Forest capital.

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