*Victoria Rowsell Artist Management Ltd*

34 Addington Square

London SE5 7LB

T&F:+44 (0)20 7701 3219

www.victoriarowsell.co.uk

**LOUIS LORTIE**

**Piano**

**2017/18 season**

The highly-esteemed French-Canadian pianist Louis Lortie possesses a unique interpretative voice spanning a broad range of repertoire, with the “combination of total spontaneity and meditated ripeness that only great pianists have” *(The Times)*

In demand on five continents, the 2017-18 season includes European concerto appearances with the MDR Sinfonieorchester, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, BBC Philharmonic, Hungarian National Philharmonic, Bern Symphony Orchestra, as well as a recording with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Andrew Davis. North American concerto engagements include the Dallas Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Utah Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Detroit Symphony and Toronto Symphony. In Asia, Louis Lortie is Artist in Residence of the Shanghai Symphony, performing four different programmes throughout the season, and he will also perform with the National Symphony Orchestra of Taiwan. Earlier in 2017 he also performed in South America with the Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo and with the West Australian and Adelaide Symphony Orchestras. Equally active as a recitalist, Louis Lortie appears regularly at the Wigmore Hall, including two recitals in 2017-18. The season also includes performances at the Liszt Festival in Raiding, the Chicago Symphony Recital Series, and an extensive recital tour in Italy.

Lortie is also co-founder and Artistic Director of the LacMus International Festival on Lake Como, and a Master in Residence at The Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel of Brussels. Together with fellow pianist Hélène Mercier, as the Lortie-Mercier duo, he has also shed new light on the repertoire for four hands and two pianos both in the concert hall and on several best-selling recordings.

Louis Lortie has made more than 45 recordings for Chandos, covering repertoire from Mozart to Stravinsky, including a set of the complete Beethoven sonatas and the complete Liszt “*Annees de Pelerinage*”, which was named as one of the top ten recordings of 2012 by the *New Yorker*. His recording of the Lutosławski Piano Concerto with Edward Gardner and the BBC Symphony received high praise, as did a recent Chopin recording (part of an ongoing project with Chandos to record all of Chopin’s solo piano music), which was named one of the recordings of the year by the *New York Times*. Recently released recordings are Chopin Waltzes (“This is Chopin playing of sublime genius”- *Fanfare Magazine*), Saint Saens’ Africa, Wedding Cake, and Carnival of the Animals with Neeme Jarvi and the Bergen Philharmonic, and Rachmaninov’s complete works for two pianos with Hélène Mercier. Current recording projects in 2017 for future release feature Poulenc works for piano and orchestra with the BBC Philharmonic, Faure piano works, and Scriabin piano works. he has also recorded two acclaimed CDs with violinist Augustin Dumay for Onyx Classics.

Louis Lortie studied in Montreal with Yvonne Hubert (a pupil of the legendary Alfred Cortot), in Vienna with Beethoven specialist Dieter Weber, and subsequently with Schnabel disciple Leon Fleisher. In 1984, he won First Prize in the Busoni Competition and was also prizewinner at the Leeds Competition. Louis Lortie is a citizen of Canada and has homes in Montreal, Berlin and Italy.

**September 2017**

*499 words*

*Please do not use this biography if it is more than 6 months old*