

CD 503 THE HOROWITZ PIANO



Oscar Levant and Vladimir Horowitz seated. John H. Steinway and Alexander W. Greiner (bow tie) standing. Greiner was Steinway's Concert & Artist manager for many years.



Vladimir Horowitz in 1931, two years before he married Wanda Toscanini.

Widely recognized as one of the greatest pianists of all time, Vladimir Horowitz was born in Russia in 1903 and rose to international acclaim. “Held in awe by aficionados of the instrument, Mr. Horowitz virtually cornered the market on celebrity among 20th-century pianists,” wrote the New York Times upon the pianist’s death in 1989.

Horowitz was a staunch loyalist to STEINWAY & SONS pianos. In 1934, STEINWAY presented Horowitz and his bride Wanda with the Steinway Model D, Serial #279,503, as a wedding present. The piano was replaced in the early 1940’s with #314,503.

This is the piano Horowitz kept in his New York townhouse and used in many recitals and recordings in the 1970’s and 80’s.



Vladimir Horowitz and his beloved CD 503 depicted in oil painting.

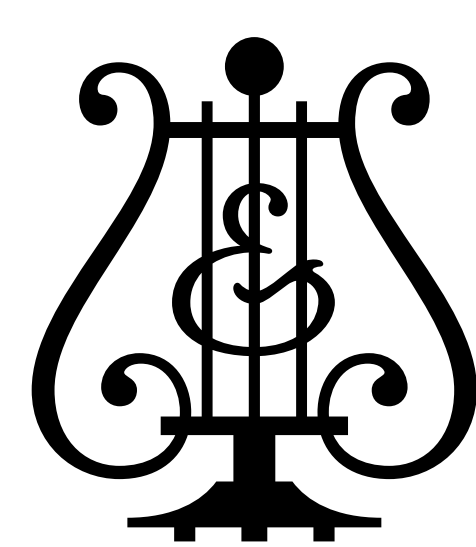


Horowitz performs in Moscow in 1986 with CD 503.

After serving Horowitz for decades in his home, because he loved the sound and touch of this piano so much, it became his exclusive tour piano for the last four years of his life, including his triumphant 1986 return to Moscow. For the purposes of the STEINWAY Concert & Artist Department, two or three digit numbers have always been used to identify the C&A pianos. This Horowitz STEINWAY, #314,503, was known on tour as CD 503.

“I am happy that the Steinway has been my faithful and inseparable friend since the inception of my concert career.”

—VLADIMIR HOROWITZ



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