

ABOUT ZOFO (short bio)

"...jaw-dropping awesome!" - SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

"...electrifyingly out of this world" - BACHTRACK

"...dazzling" - LOS ANGELES TIMES

Since joining forces as a professional duo in 2009, internationally acclaimed solo pianists Eva-Maria Zimmermann and Keisuke Nakagoshi – **ZOFO** - have electrified audiences from Carnegie Hall to Tokyo, Japan with their dazzling artistry and outside-the-box thematic programming for piano-four-hands. This GRAMMY-nominated, prize-winning Steinway Artist Ensemble – one of only a handful of duos worldwide devoted exclusively to piano duets – is blazing a bold new path for piano-four-hands groups by focusing on 20th and 21st century repertoire and by commissioning new works from noted composers each year.

ZOFO, which is shorthand for 20-finger orchestra (ZO=20 and FO=finger orchestra), also performs heart-pumping duet arrangements of famous orchestral pieces such as Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, exploring the realms in which many composers first experienced their symphonic visions. They believe that the piano duet is the most intimate form of chamber music, with two musicians playing individual parts on one instrument in a complex, often beautiful choreography of four hands.

Since its inception in 2009, ZOFO has made some remarkable achievements:

TWO GRAMMY NOMINATIONS: 2013 Best Chamber Music/Small Ensemble Performance and Producer of the Year, Classical for their debut CD MIND MELD

FIRST PLACE: 2010 Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition

CARNEGIE HALL concert debut May 2010

FINALISTS: 2011 Osaka International Chamber Music Competition – only piano duo to be elevated to the final round

MULTI-DISC RECORDING CONTRACT with GRAMMY Award winning Sono Luminus Records

STEINWAY ARTIST ENSEMBLE designation conferred by Steinway & Sons

12 SELF-COMMISSIONED WORKS by noted composers including Pulitzer Prize winner William Bolcom, Gabriela Lena Frank and Terry Riley

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCES at a wide variety of concert venues across the US, Europe and Japan, including intimate, informal spaces, colleges and universities, and major concert venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Tokyo Opera Recital Hall and Tonhalle Zurich

BROADCAST MEDIA ATTENTION: featured multiple times on prominent radio programs such as American Public Media's *Performance Today*, WFMT Chicago's *Impromptu*, and KING Seattle's *Second Inversion*, among many others.

ZOFO is based in San Francisco, California.