

## **Professor**



**Daniel Manoiu**

Prof. Daniel Manoiu was born in Bucharest, Romania in 1985. At the age of five he began studying piano at the School of Music no.4 in Bucharest with Manuela Nedelea. He was regarded as a very promising young pianist and at the age of ten he transferred to the “George Enescu” Music High School in Bucharest, where he studied piano with one of Romania’s most renowned professors for young pianists, Olga Szel. Under her guidance, Daniel won several awards at prestigious national and international competitions, including the AMSA World Piano Competition in Cincinnati, OH (3<sup>rd</sup> Prize) and the Rivere D’Oro Giovanni Talenti Competition in San Bartolomeo , Italy (1<sup>st</sup> prize). He has performed at important music halls such as the Carnegie Hall – Weill Recital Hall and the United Nations Auditorium in New York.

During his high school years, Daniel started studying composition privately with Dr. Valentin Petculescu. He completed his undergraduate studies at the National University of Music in Bucharest, where he majored in both music composition and piano performance. His principal professor was Dr. Doina Rotaru, one of Romania’s leading contemporary composers. He had important achievements in both composition and piano performance, winning the Profil Special Award for his composition “Extreme Percussions” for piano and one percussionist, as well as performing Bella Bartok’s Rhapsody no. 1 for piano and orchestra with the Transylvania Symphony, one of Romania’s leading orchestra ensembles. During his undergraduate studies, Daniel wrote music for a variety of ensembles and soloists and had his works performed at major venues in Romania, such as the recital hall of the Palace Cantacuzino in Bucharest. In June 2007 he performed his composition “Vitreous” for piano and orchestra for his graduation recital to much critical acclaim.

In the fall of 2007, Daniel began his graduate studies in Music Composition with Dr. Orlando Garcia at Florida International University in Miami, where he was a Teaching Assistant. In addition to his work with Dr. Garcia he has worked with Dr. Paula Matthusen on electro-acoustic music and additional piano studies with Kemal Gekic. In January 2009, Daniel was commissioned by the New World Symphony Orchestra (NWSO) of Miami Beach to write “Trei” for piano, flute and percussion. The piece was premiered by the NWSO as part of a concert featuring new works influenced by the music of Charles Ives. Daniel graduated from Florida International University in May 2009 with a Master in Music degree and is now a Founding Member of Stage Masters Music Competitions as a Professor and Judge.