

Hayato Sumino – Biography

Redefining the art of piano performance, pianist and composer Hayato Sumino captivates audiences worldwide with his artistry and vision. With over 2.2 million followers across his social media platforms, he has built a remarkable global presence. In April 2024, he made a spectacular Royal Albert Hall debut with Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and, in August 2025, appeared at the BBC Proms in a historic overnight event.

Renowned for his vibrant stage presence and technical brilliance, he has performed with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the NHK Symphony Orchestra, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Philharmonic, Japan Philharmonic, BBC Philharmonic, Bamberg Symphony, Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, Baltimore Symphony, and Chicago Symphony. His performances have captivated audiences across North America, Europe, and Asia, both in major concert halls and through his dynamic online presence.

In 2025, Hayato received three prestigious awards: the Leonard Bernstein Award from the Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, and two Opus Klassik Awards — Young Talent of the Year and Solo Live Performance of the Year — becoming the first artist in history to win in two categories in the same year. His artistry blends wide-ranging musical interests, both as a pianist and composer.

The 2024/2025 season brought major highlights: an 11-concert Japan tour with the Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra under Marin Alsop; recital debuts at prestigious concert halls including the Berlin Philharmonie, Munich Prinzregententheater, and Tonhalle Zürich; performances of Messiaen's *Turangalîla-Symphonie* with the New Japan Philharmonic under Joe Hisaishi; and a European tour with the Bamberg Symphony under Jakub Hrůša.

In November 2025, Hayato made history by presenting the first-ever classical piano concert at K Arena Yokohama, one of Japan's largest music-dedicated arenas. The one-night-only event sold 18,546 tickets and was officially recognised by Guinness World Records as the largest indoor solo piano recital by ticket sales, setting a new benchmark for classical performance in an arena setting.

The 2025/2026 season marks another major step in Hayato Sumino's international career. Highlights include his debut at the Beijing Music Festival performing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 with the BBC Philharmonic under John Storgårds; his orchestral debut at the Berlin Philharmonie with the Deutsche Symphonie-Orchester Berlin; and landmark appearances at two of the world's great venues: Carnegie Hall (recital debut at Stern Auditorium and orchestral debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Marin Alsop) and the Vienna Konzerthaus (recital debut and orchestral debut with the Vienna Symphony under Petr Popelka). Further highlights include his first European tour with the Aurora Orchestra (Berlin, Cologne, Munich, Rotterdam, Zurich, Bern, Geneva).

In March 2024, Hayato signed as an exclusive Sony Classical recording artist. His second album will be released in January 2026. He holds a Master of Engineering from the University of Tokyo Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, where he was honoured with the President's Award for his exceptional achievements in both music and engineering.

Hayato is among the leading figures of a fearless new generation of musicians who move effortlessly between genres, dismantling boundaries and embracing complete artistic freedom. His unique style — combining classical virtuosity, innovative arrangements, and improvisation — has made him a digital sensation. Named to Forbes Japan's "30 Under 30" in 2023, he is also an Artist Ambassador for Apple Music Classical, Steinway & Sons, and CASIO.