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NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pianist Ronald Hawkins performs at Wilton Library May 22

Wilton, CT – American pianist Ronald Hawkins takes to the Brubeck Room stage at Wilton Library on Sunday, May 22 at 4 p.m. for the library's *Connecticut's Own* concert series. Hawkins has embarked on a series of recitals that feature one of the most influential works in the history of western classical music, Johann Sebastian Bach's "The Well-Tempered Clavier" (WTC). The WTC is comprised of two books and a total of 96 pieces: 48 Preludes and 48 Fugues, which feature all the 24 major and minor keys. Hawkins will be playing a complete performance of "The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1 Preludes" in his Wilton Library performance.

Hawkins began his musical studies at the age of sixteen and was performing in concert within eighteen months. Shenandoah Conservatory awarded Hawkins his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance. Hailed for his "great depth of poetry, understanding and excitement" (Gazette), Hawkins is quickly establishing himself as one of the country's leading pianists and has earned international acclaim for his sensitive and insightful performances.

Hawkins enjoys a flourishing solo concert career, appearing before audiences in North America, Europe, and Russia. He has performed in such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., Tchaikovsky Great Hall in Russia, St. Martins-in-the-Fields in London, and the Franz Liszt Concert Hall in Budapest among many other major concert stages around the world. Hawkins lives in Connecticut.

The Connecticut's Own concert series is free of charge. Advance registration is strongly recommended due to the popularity of this Sunday afternoon series. Pre-registrants should arrive by 3:50 p.m. to be guaranteed seating. Waitlisted and walk-in registrants will be seated after 3:50 p.m. if space is available. CDs will be available for purchase and signing before and after the performance.

(More)

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The last concert of the series for this season is Sunday, June 5 featuring the Schubert Club of Fairfield County. For registration and directions, visit www.wiltonlibrary.org or call 203-762-3950, ext. 213. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center.

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Ronhawkins012511 Caption: American pianist Ronald Hawkins performs at Wilton Library's *Connecticut's Own* concert series on Sunday, May 22 at 4 p.m. He will be playing a complete performance of "The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1 Preludes." The concert is free of charge; advance registration is recommended. To register: www.wiltonlibrary.org or call 203-762-3950, ext. 213. Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT.