

Fazioli pianos have a 'singing tone' unmatched by competitors

Local sensation **Tristan Teo**, a 13-year-old concert pianist who has been winning competitions all over North America, says his piano has a "singing tone that is unmatched by any other piano."

That instrument is a Fazioli, made by world-renowned piano maker **Paolo Fazioli**.

"When I first played a Fazioli piano, I was amazed by the beautiful sound it produced. I have had my Fazioli for less than a year, but I can honestly say that I have become a better musician because of this extraordinary instrument," said Teo.

Teo won first prize and the gold medal at the *USASU Young Artists International Junior Piano Competition* in January 2011. In the coming months he will have solo recitals both locally – at the **Shadbolt Centre** in Burnaby – and internationally in Paris, France.

Teo was invited to play for world-renowned piano maker Paolo Fazioli during his well publicized visit to Vancouver in January. Fazioli was in town to dedicate a \$225,000 one-of-a-kind satin white Fazioli piano that sits in the stunning lobby lounge of the **Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel**. The piano is played every evening by some of the city's top jazz musicians. The hotel also honoured the piano maker by creating a "Fazioli Suite."

The Fazioli pianos have been made

available to the Vancouver musical community because of **Manuel Bernaschek** who founded **Showcase Pianos** in 2007 when Bernaschek recognized the need for fine pianos for local musicians.

Bernaschek explains, "For many years there was much talk in the piano community about a man in Italy who was making the finest pianos in the world. We kept hearing that more and more famous pianists were converting to playing on Fazioli pianos, so I really wanted to bring them here."

The price tag for a Fazioli starts at \$80,000 and runs to nearly half-a-million dollars. Showcase Pianos now has two locations and are in their fourth year of operation. Originally hoping to sell two or three of these fine instruments per year, Bernaschek is happy to have now sold 33, making Western Canada one of the most important markets for Fazioli pianos in the world.

For more information on the Fazioli pianos, visit www.showcasepianos.com.

Thirteen-year-old pianist Tristan Teo is interviewed after playing the one-of-a-kind satin white Fazioli piano in the lobby lounge of the Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel. Teo had the rare opportunity recently to perform on the unique piano while also meeting the world-renowned piano maker Paolo Fazioli.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

