

Australian piano the key to virtuoso's performance

PIANO virtuoso Artur Cimirro has travelled from Brazil for the sole reason of experiencing a handcrafted Australian piano.

Cimirro will perform tonight on the piano at North Sydney's Independent Theatre in his only public performance in Sydney.

He will play a Stuart & Sons piano which has 102 keys -14 more than a conventional piano.

Cimirro is visiting Australia to record and compose at the Newcastle factory where the pianos are made and designed

by Wayne Stuart. A Stuart & Sons piano with extended keyboard was played for the first time in public at the University of Sydney last year and is considered by many to be the best grand piano in the world.

Cimirro will play several of his own compositions on one of the pianos at The Independent Theatre tonight, plus works by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt and several Brazilian composers, including Cziffa and Villa-Lobos.

One of the highlights will be



Pianist Artur Cimirro

Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*.

The concert is being presented by the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust.

According to trust general manager Warwick Ross, the recently-installed sound shells on the main stage of the theatre would provide Cimirro with near-perfect acoustics for his recital.

Mr Ross said Cimirro had phenomenal technique and the extended keyboard increased the range of frequencies for composers. He said The Independent Theatre was about to embark on a long-term recording project using the piano.

Artur Cimirro in Concert

What: When: Tonight, May 19, at 8pm

Where: The Independent Theatre, 269 Miller St, North Sydney

Tickets: \$35

Bookings:

theindependent.org.au or 8019 0290. Limited tickets will be available at the door.