VAN CLIBURN FOUNDATION, INC.
presents
GRAND PRIZE WINNER
1977 Van Cliburn International Quadrennial Piano Competition

STEVEN DEGROOTE
PIANIST

"...marvelous poet, superb colorist, constantly exciting artist..."
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

CARNEGIE HALL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1977 at 8:00 P.M.
Tickets: $7, 6, 5, 4, 3, at Box Office
To charge tickets by phone, call Chargit, (212) 239-7177
Program to include works by Haydn, Prokofiev, Beethoven, Chopin
STEVEN DE GROOTE, pianist

Born into a Belgian family in which, for three generations, almost every member has been a professional musician, twenty-four year old South African-born pianist Steven De Groote began performing solo and chamber music concerts throughout Europe and South Africa at an early age. Following his studies with the American pianist Lamar Crowson, his three years at the Brussels Royal Conservatory with Eduardo del Pueyo, and his four years at the Curtis Institute of Music with Rudolf Serkin, Seymour Lipkin and Mieczyslaw Horszowski, he became a Finalist in the 1976 Leventritt Competition and was the only artist from over 270 applicants to win the 1977 Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

On September 25, 1977, Steven De Groote won the Grand Prize in the Fifth Van Cliburn International Quadrennial Piano Competition. In addition to cash awards totalling over $13,000, he was awarded a Gold Medal, a Carnegie Hall Debut Recital, a two-year recital and orchestral tour of the United States (including appearances with such orchestras as those of Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati), a $500 cash award from RCA Records, a London Debut, and a concert tour of Europe, the Far East and South America. At the Van Cliburn Competition, he also won the prize for the Best Performance of Chamber Music and the prize for the Best Performance of the Commissioned Work—Ballade by Samuel Barber.

"De Groote displayed impressive technical apparatus and ingrained musical perspicacity. What the young musician has in abundance is great fluency and ease at the keyboard as well as power and a musical perspective on everything he essays."

Los Angeles Times

"The star of the evening was pianist Steven De Groote, an electric pianist with great technical skills as well as the maturity to use them well. His playing is emotional and moving."

Philadelphia Inquirer

"I cannot remember when I have heard such marvelously controlled sounds at the keyboard put to such poetic as well as bravura use. Everything De Groote touched turned to gold."

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

"De Groote has everything one hopes for in a pianist: agility, flexibility, sensitivity, nuance, delicacy and power."

Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville)

VAN CLIBURN FOUNDATION, INC. is a non-profit organization for educational purposes which has expanded its commitment in the musical world to include:

The VAN CLIBURN INTERNATIONAL QUADRENNIAL PIANO COMPETITION, since its inception in 1962, has attracted musical talent and listeners from all over the world. Like other leading competitions—namely, the Tchaikovsky in Moscow which was won by Van Cliburn in 1958—it arouses tremendous interest throughout the world. The 5th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition was held in Fort Worth, Texas, September 1977.

CLIBURN COMPETITION CONCERTS, a division of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, has been established to obtain national and international engagements and to promote the careers of Van Cliburn Competition winners until artist managements have assumed these responsibilities. Cliburn Competition Concerts maintains a continuing active interest in all its winners.

Robert H. Alexander, Executive Director
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Photo: Henry Grossman
Design: Michael Sabanosh

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