

TCA to entertain audiences in Steinway concert grand style

Tempe recognizes that state-of-the-art acoustical facilities typically complement outstanding performances.

As a result, TCA musicians will be entertaining audiences with the help of some of the best instruments available.

In addition to purchasing a wide array of percussion and keyboard instruments, Tempe will be showcasing a Steinway Concert Grand on its stage.

“Tempe is getting a fantastic piano. I fully expect that it will be fantastic for a long time if properly cared for,” Professor Walter Cosand, coordinator of the piano division in the Arizona State University School of Music, said.

Cosand traveled to New York City in October to select the Concert Grand. He had five pianos from which to choose.

“...in the selection process the two senior technicians ... and myself all agreed that the one Walter selected was the best of the lot,” David Pocock, Sherman Clay Steinway representative, said.

Cosand, who boasts of being happily married for 26 years,

compared the selection to a marriage proposal.

“The process was not at all unpleasant,” he said. “When there is something that will be around for a long time it is not enough to choose something that is merely beautiful or has several great qualities.”

Pocock lauded Cosand’s choice, “It has a wonderfully full and rich sound. It is even from treble to bass, it seems to play itself and it just sounds fantastic in all kinds of repertoire.”

“Tempe is getting a fantastic piano. I fully expect that it will be fantastic for a long time... ”

– Walter Cosand, pianist

Pocock explained that Steinways have more than 12,000 parts and



Photo by Sally Garrison

Tempe's new concert piano is being housed temporarily at Steinway of Phoenix in Scottsdale.

that it takes hundreds of skilled workers an entire year to build a nine-foot, 900 pound Concert Grand piano.

“It is always astonishing to me that the pianos which are made by the same [workers] in the same factory can be so different from one another,” Pocock said.

“But it is true that each Steinway has its own character, and that touring artists easily remember where the really special ones are. [Tempe is] getting a really special one.”

Tempe’s Steinway was shipped from New York in October and arrived at Steinway of Phoenix in November.