

Music students meet the American pianist Kimball Gallagher -

"For any pianist, technique is not the only thing that matters"

Zhang Yan

"First of all, you played very well, but Americans always say good things first.... But then you didn't control your rhythm very well." "Very charismatic, do you know how to waltz? Oh, that's too bad! I would recommend you to learn after you go to go back and it will inspire you when you play the this piece again." "Doesn't this kind of piano



teaching sound interesting? On January 9th, American pianist Kimball Gallagher came to Ao-Yuè music center in Nanjing. The students not only had the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful performance, they also had the opportunity to learn about the perspectives on performing and playing from this master.

The thirty-two year old Gallagher comes from Boston, United States. Now he lives in New York. Pianist Joseph Smith is his lifelong mentor. Gallagher's playing was been praised by critics as a dynamo, whose performance was sunlit and rapturous and like a lightning bolt. Since his Carnegie Debut in 2008, he launched the 88 concert tour around the world. What makes this tour particularly special is his passion to advocate and revive salon concert in different countries, integrating culture into everyday life.

Another thing that is amazing about Gallagher is that he does not have a manager. He likes to go to different countries and perform in different types of venue, and gain different performing opportunities by the words of mouth. He enjoys this way of communication. "In the past hundred years, pianists around the world including China focus more and more on the technical ability. But they really need to understand better what is going on in the societies, to explore and to open up different fields for classical music." In fact, composers such as Chopin and Schubert really didn't create their compositions for the big concert halls, but a lot of time it is meant to be performed in the music salon setting.