

CHRISTMAS

AT STEINWAY HALL

SIMON MULLIGAN, PIANO



STEINWAY & SONS

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The sounds of Christmas on a Steinway
— recorded at Steinway Hall in New York City.
Simon Mulligan's tasteful jazz arrangements are
an ideal accompaniment to the holiday season.

Baby, It's Cold Outside (Loesser) 3:20

The Christmas Song (Torme) 5:25

Winter Wonderland (Bernard) 4:29

O Holy Night (Adam) 5:19

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Mendelssohn) 4:48

The First Noel (Traditional) 4:27

I Saw Three Ships (Traditional) 4:46

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (Traditional) 5:37

Away in a Manger (Kirkpatrick) 5:16

O Little Town of Bethlehem (Davies) 3:23

I'll Be Home for Christmas (Kent) 5:19

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas (Martin) 3:03

Silent Night (Gruber) 4:27



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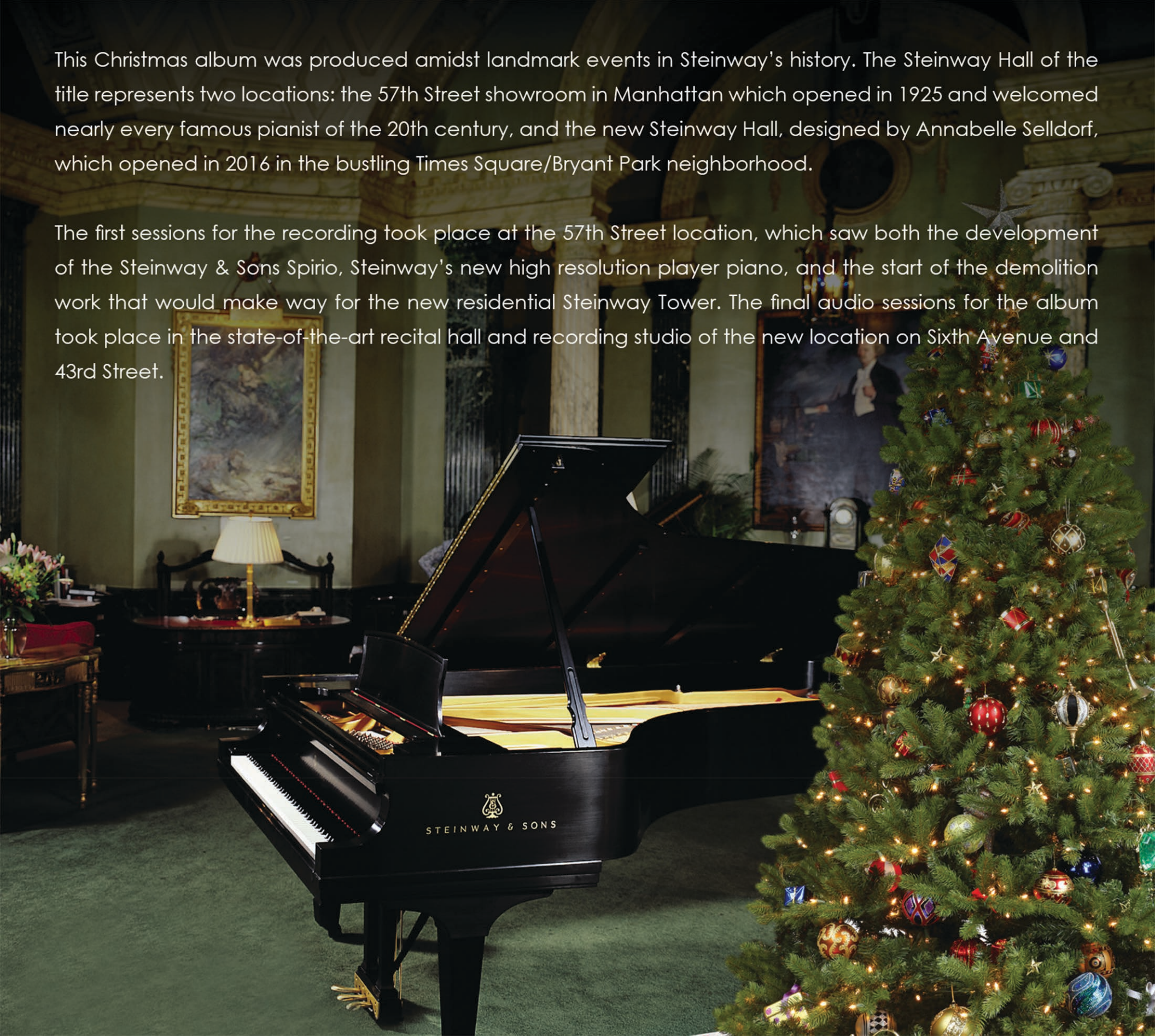
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This Christmas album was produced amidst landmark events in Steinway's history. The Steinway Hall of the title represents two locations: the 57th Street showroom in Manhattan which opened in 1925 and welcomed nearly every famous pianist of the 20th century, and the new Steinway Hall, designed by Annabelle Selldorf, which opened in 2016 in the bustling Times Square/Bryant Park neighborhood.

The first sessions for the recording took place at the 57th Street location, which saw both the development of the Steinway & Sons Spirio, Steinway's new high resolution player piano, and the start of the demolition work that would make way for the new residential Steinway Tower. The final audio sessions for the album took place in the state-of-the-art recital hall and recording studio of the new location on Sixth Avenue and 43rd Street.



We embarked on the project as we were developing Steinway's first new product in decades — a remarkable technological achievement that allows us to capture and reproduce every nuance of an artist's performance, all while saying goodbye to Steinway's Manhattan home. Subsequent Spirio sessions took place at a temporary location high above the new Steinway Hall (on the 33rd floor). The audio you hear on the album is entirely produced through Spirio technology, reproducing Simon's every gesture and touch, on a Spirio playback instrument, recorded at the new Steinway Hall.

Most importantly, this album is dedicated to a dear colleague, Irene Wlodarski. Irene was, perhaps, the best example of Steinway's engagement with the artists who perform on our pianos. For nearly 40 years she was a steady source of support for Steinway Artists and provided an important continuum between changing administrations at Steinway. She was a fixture at the "old" Steinway Hall and helped make a smooth transition to the new one. — *Jon Feidner*



British pianist Simon Mulligan is, according to the Times of London 'the most abundantly gifted of pianists.' Pulitzer prizewinning composer Paul Moravec calls him 'a pianist with complete mastery of the instrument', while Herbie Hancock says 'You have a phenomenal touch, man!' In addition to his extensive discography and vast repertoire, Mulligan's solo work gains praise from critics and audiences alike, and his collaborations include performances and recordings with Yehudi Menuhin, Joshua Bell, Leonard Slatkin and Sting. He has performed all over the world, most notably at Carnegie Hall in New York, the Wigmore Hall and Royal Albert Hall in London, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, as well as private performances for Her Majesty the Queen and President Barack Obama. His keen interest in film composition led to a long association with composer Michael Kamen, culminating in his performance on the soundtrack to Spielberg's *Band of Brothers*. He has led his own jazz quartet since he was thirteen, which has performed in major international festivals. His eclectic work has led to profiles in Downbeat, JazzTimes, BBC Music, Classic fM, and Gramophone magazines, among others. Simon is a recipient of the prestigious Fellowship of the Royal Academy of Music, and his teachers include Alexander Kelly, Murray Perahia, Alfred Brendel and Alexis Weissenberg. Simon Mulligan is a Steinway Artist.



Christmas at Steinway Hall

was recorded at Steinway Hall, New York City:

Spirio recording made November 5, 2014;

June 5 & 6, September 14 & 30, November 2, 2015.

Audio recording made May 11, 2017.

Producer: Jon Feidner | Engineer: Lauren Sturm

Mixing and Mastering: Daniel Shores

Equipment: Pyramix using Merging Technologies Horus Converters;
mixed and mastered through Merging Technologies Horus Converter

Microphones: AEA N8, Schoeps MC6/MK2

Executive Producers: Eric Feidner, Jon Feidner

Art Director: Jackie Fugere

Design: Cover to Cover Design, Anilda Carrasquillo

Photo of Simon Mulligan: Don Ashby

Piano Technician: Lauren Sturm

Spirio Record Piano: Steinway Model B # 567568 (New York)

Spirio Playback Piano: Steinway Model D # 597590 (New York)

Performances captured using Steinway's exclusive Spirio® technology;
audio recording made using Spirio® piano in playback mode.

This album is dedicated to
Irene Wlodarski (1944–2017).