Alpin Hong - Pianist - Whirlwind American tours and performances across the globe have earned, pianist, Alpin Hong the reputation as a modern day Pied Piper. His combination of stunning technique, emotional range, and rare humor continues to bring audiences young and old to their feet. The New York Times lauded his "crystalline energy...clear and persuasive ideas...and remarkable breadth of coloration" and called him "a pianistic firebrand" in a review of his standing-room only New York recital debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. Rooted in extensive classical training and a background in skateboarding, snowboarding, martial arts, and videogames, Mr. Hong is a creative force unmatched in his youthful vivacity and boundless energy. His astonishing ability to connect to people of all ages, experiences, and backgrounds distinguishes him and shapes his evolving performance style. The Ocala Star-Banner has called Mr. Hong "Classical for the iPod generation." Mr. Hong's uniquely humorous and visionary approach to arts education has resulted in artistic residencies from coast-to-coast. In recognition of the pianist's gift for communicating his passion for music to audiences of all ages, The McGraw-Hill Companies honored him with the Robert Sherman Award for Music Education and Community Outreach. His tireless pursuit to find, inspire, and collaborate with talents in every community results in unforgettable presentations that both expand worlds and hit close to home. Alpin Hong is a native of Michigan and made his orchestral debut with the Kalamazoo Symphony at the age of ten. He moved to Los Angeles soon after and garnered competition victories at a young age with wins at the 1989 Stravinsky Piano Competition, the 1993 SYMF Competition and the 1994 Los Angeles Spotlight Awards Competition. He was the winner of the Concert Artists Guild Competition in 2001. His teachers include Mark Richman and Emilio del Rosario. He completed his Master's degree as a student of Jerome Lowenthal at The Juilliard School.