

**Pianist Ivan Moshchuk, Verbier Festival Academy**

*Le Festival au quotidien.* Verbier, Valais, Switzerland  
July 31, 2010

**Academy Spotlight:**

"If I were an actor, I would set myself the aim of performing Shakespeare; if a poet, be a contemporary of Lermontov. Born in Moscow, I grew up across Michigan, attend school in Baltimore, and have had trouble staying in one spot more than a month for some time now. As a child, I had serious ambitions to pursue medicine. At 18 years, I chose to abandon a "career" for a life in music. As an aspiring artist, I think that performing for people is a serious responsibility and privilege. Art is unique in its capability to have a direct, immediate, powerful effect. It should be summoned to guide people into a more beautiful and noble direction."