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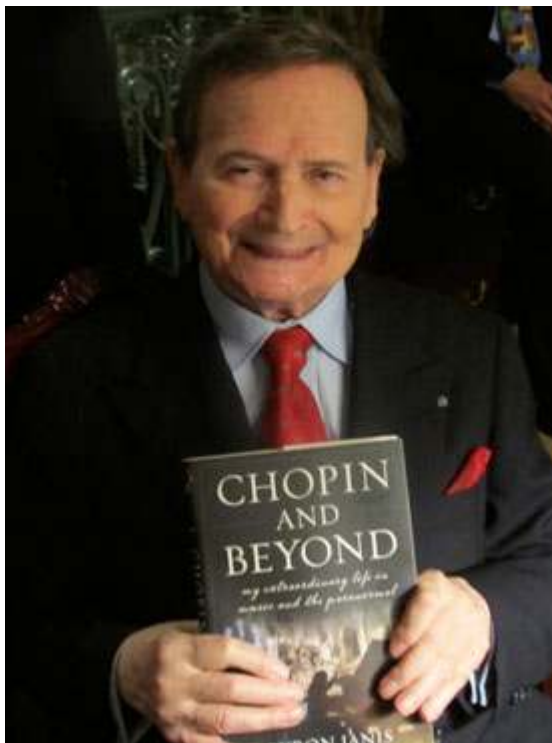
BYRON JANIS

NEW · YORK · SOCIAL · DIARY

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Last night the subject was definitely music. From Leviev, I ventured a few blocks south and west over to Steinway piano's showroom on West 57th Street where another great piano virtuoso **Byron Janis** was having a book signing for his memoir "Chopin and Beyond; My Extraordinary Life in Music and the Paranormal."

The Steinway showroom is a large gallery-like space with a grand piano. The last time I was there was also for a reception for Byron to celebrate his 80th birthday. Called for 6, there was a large crowd of friends and fans as well as a long line of people waiting to have their book signed. Byron was accompanied by his beautiful wife **Maria**.



Byron Janis and his memoir: [click to order](#).



Byron and Maria Cooper Janis.



The master's hands signing my copy of his memoir.

I haven't read the book yet although **Jeffrey Kluger**, co-author of "Apollo 13," offers an intriguing summary: "Byron Janis' life has been the stuff of music and of magic – and so is his extraordinary autobiography. From **Chopin** to **Horowitz** (one of his teachers) to **Pablo Picasso** (whom he met through Maria's parents **Gary and Rocky Cooper**), from the Soviet Union in the thick of the Cold War to otherworldly dimensions in which the unexpected happens, he has been on a remarkable and compelling ride. Don't think classical music, global politics and the paranormal can mix? You will."



Looking north along Madison Avenue from 63rd Street. 9:00 PM.