

Heidi Hau

“Her keyboard touch is both weighty and delicate, and her dynamic range encompasses a wealth of details.”

San Francisco Classical Voice

“She created a varied palette of beautiful limpid sounds that projected even to the last rows...”

Peninsula Reviews

Heidi Hau started her piano studies at age four and has given annual solo recitals since the age of ten. She has received many awards, including first prize in the 1990 Piano Competition of the Soviet/American Youth Festival of Music in New York, resulting in performances at Carnegie Recital Hall in 1991 and 1992. In 1993, she was the first-prize winner of the Silver Lake International Piano Competition (Wisconsin) and performed with its orchestra in that year. In the following year, she won the Palo Alto Philharmonic Concerto Competition and was the featured soloist in its 1994-1995 season. She also won first prize at the French Piano Institute, an international piano festival/competition sponsored by the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris, France, in July 1996. As part of the prize, Heidi, the youngest participant there, gave a solo recital in January 1997 at the Salle Cortot, Paris. In 1998, she gave a solo recital in Sunset Cultural Theater, Carmel, as the winner of its 1998 Carmel Music Society's Piano Competition. She was also a finalist in the 2002 Naumburg International Piano Competition in New York. In 2003, she was awarded both the Sixth Prize and the Lyric FM Prize for the Best Interpretation of the Commissioned Work at the AXA Dublin International Piano Competition. Subsequently, in 2004 she was the only American in the top six finalists of the China International Piano Competition.

She has performed in recital venues throughout the world including the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Wiener Saal in Salzburg, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the National Concert Hall and the John Field Room in Dublin and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing. She has performed with numerous orchestras, including the Palo Alto Philharmonic, Redwood Symphony, Stanford University Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland and Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra.

Her playing has been praised by music critics and notable international musicians. Arie Vardi, Professor of Piano at the Hochschule fuer Musik in Hannover, Germany describes her playing as “compelling” and “distinguished by her intellect and poetry of expression”. An expert on the entire repertoire of Ravel and Debussy, he particularly notes Heidi's performance of Ravel's Valses nobles et sentimentales as being “one of the best performances I have ever heard...memorable in her fine delicacy of touch, exquisite tone and rich evocations of color.” John O'Connor, Director of the Royal Irish Academy of

Music states, "She is without doubt one of the most accomplished, artistic and imaginative musicians I have ever come across."

Heidi has studied with Erna Gulabyan, a faculty member of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. An English major, Heidi graduated from Stanford University and was one of eight recipients awarded the Deans' Award for Academic Excellence. At Stanford, she founded the Stanford Music Society Piano Competition, which brought classical music into the classrooms of underprivileged schools. She was also selected nationally as one of the two recipients of the Fulbright Scholarship for graduate study in Ireland. She received her Masters degree with a First Class Honors at the Royal Irish Academy of Music under the director, Dr. John O'Conor.

Currently, she is the Artistic Director of the Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition of the Peninsula Symphony, a competition featuring talented young pianists, held annually at Stanford University. She is also the educational music workshop coordinator for the Peninsula Symphony's *Bridges to Music* program which brings classical music into the classrooms of Bay Area elementary schools. Each workshop, attended by 150 4th- 5th grade students features performances by the Marilyn Mindell Piano Competition finalists and gives children an intimate look into the world of classical music. She is also the host of an eight-part TV series documenting the annual Young Musicians Competition which is currently being aired on Peninsula TV channel 26. Heidi has judged several piano competitions, including the Menuhin-Dowling Competition as well as the MTAC Solo Piano Competition. She is a board member of the Music Teachers' Association of San Francisco and a member of the piano faculty at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. More information can be found on her website www.heidihau.com