

Brenna Berman

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Piano Performance, Hunter College, New York, New York, 2003.

Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance, Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, Ohio, 2000.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Second Prize in the International Piano Competition “Giuseppe Terracciano” in Giffoni Valle Piana, Italy, 2007.

New York Debut Award from Artists International and a Special Presentation solo concert at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, 2007.

Master Class with Ilya Itin, International Concert Pianist and Faculty Member of the Golandsky Institute, 2006.

Master Classes with Paul Roberts, leading exponent of French impressionist music and author of *Images: The Piano Music of Claude Debussy*, 2005, 2006.

Honorable Mention, PMTA Keystone Competition, Collegiate Division, 2003.

Master Classes with Edna Golandsky, Founder and Artistic Director of The Golandsky Institute, 2001-2004.

Master Classes with Jerome Rose and Sergei Babayan at the International Keyboard Institute and Festival, 1999.

Second Place, Wells/Yamaha Piano Competition, Denver, 1996.

Performance Scholarships from Oberlin Conservatory, 1996-2000.

First Place, H.S. Colorado State Music Teachers Association State Auditions, 1995.

Finalist, Colorado All-State Accompanist Competition, 1995.

Master Class with Christopher Taylor, Bronze Medalist of the 1993 Van Cliburn competition, 1994.

Honorable Mention, MTNA Yamaha High School State Competition, 1993.

Master Class with Stephen Drury, Professor of Piano at New England Conservatory of Music, 1993.

Alternate, Regional Division, Keyboard Baldwin Competition, 1993.

First Place, Colorado State Baldwin Competition, 1992.

Second Place, Fort Collins Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Competition, 1992.

First Place, Colorado State Music Teachers Association State Auditions, 1992.

Second Place, Boulder Youth Symphony Concerto Competition, 1991.

Gold and Silver Medals, Greater Spokane Music and Allied Arts Festival, 1990-93.

Music Scholarships, Boulder Area Music Teachers Association, 1990-92.

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Solo and collaborative concerts: I have performed extensively in Italy and in more than a dozen states including solo concerts in major cities such as New York, Philadelphia, Berkeley, Portland, Boston, Oberlin, Boulder, Albuquerque, and on live radio broadcasts in Philadelphia and. In 2008, I gave my New York Recital Debut performance at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. Other concert venues have recently

included the Berkeley Piano Club in Berkeley, the Nicholas Roerich Museum in New York City, The Philadelphia Art Alliance, The Ethical Society Building in Philadelphia, The Mandell Theater in Philadelphia, The Slought Foundation of Philadelphia, Lang Recital in New York City, and Warner Concert Hall in Oberlin, among others. Most performances involve a diverse program of works ranging in style from Baroque to Contemporary, with an emphasis on New Music. I have been featured in two articles on Boesendorfer.com.

I have been involved in concerts with other performers on a regular basis since the age of eight, and continue to be active in collaborative performances today. I have performed in Italy and in more than a dozen states. Performances range from festivals such as the 2004 International Busoni Competition in Bolzano, Italy and the Philadelphia Fringe Festival 2005, and the Spokance Music and Allied Arts Festival, to charity concerts such as the "End Violence" benefit concert in Philadelphia in May 2007. Most recently, I have collaborated with Modern Composer, Neil Rolnick, in several East Coast concerts, presenting his work *Digits* (2005) for piano and computer.

Chamber music concerts: I also collaborate with pianist Jonathan Fisher in *BIDECA*, our piano duo. *BIDECA* seeks to challenge conventional ideas in contemporary music. The duo gives concerts regularly in Philadelphia and New York. Our concert entitled *Philadelphia Suite* took place on September 17, 2005, as part of the *Philadelphia Fringe Festival*. The program highlighted contemporary two-piano music, including one of our own original works, *Urban Suite*. Our first large-scale musical event, *Unplayable Music: Conlon Nancarrow for Four Hands*, took place in 2004 at the Slought Foundation in Philadelphia; the concert explored the role of human interpretation in mechanical music. *BIDECA* has produced two live recordings for sale to the public. In Spring, 2009, I will be collaborating with composer Neil Rolnick as we present his work *Digits for Piano and Computer* at concerts in Philadelphia, Coeur d'Alene, and Farmingdale.

TEACHERS

Robert Durso, Senior Director of the Golandsky Institute, Philadelphia, PA, 2001-present.

Ilya Itin, Faculty Member of the Golandsky Institute, New York, NY, 2005-present.

Edna Golandsky, Founder and Artistic Director of The Golandsky Institute, New York, NY, 2001-present, periodically.

Dorothy Taubman, Founder and Music Director of The Taubman Institute of Piano, New York, NY, 2003, periodically.

Nancy Weems, Professor Of Piano at University of Houston, Houston, TX, 2000-01.

Robert Shannon, Professor Of Piano at Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, OH 1996-2000.

Tanya Gille, Professor Of Piano at University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, 1994-96.

John Bloomfield, Senior Director of The Golandsky Institute, Boulder, CO, 1994-96, periodically.

Fifi Hut, Boulder, CO, 1989-94.

Maribeth Gunning, Albuquerque, NM, 1985-1989.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, The Golandsky Institute, 2009- present.

Certified in the Taubman Approach at the Associate level with The Golandsky Institute, 2009-present.

Certified in the Taubman Approach at the Instructor level the The Golandsky Institute, 2006-present.

Professor of Piano, Drexel University, 2004-2006.

Private piano teacher, 1992- present.

Member of the Music Teachers National Association, 2003-present.

Private piano teacher at Suburban Music School, Media, PA 2002-03.

Private piano teacher at Dragonetti's Music, Newtown Square, PA 2002-03.

Private piano teacher at Troubadour Music Store, Wayne, PA, 2002.

Private piano teacher at St. Mark Lutheran Conservatory, Houston, TX, 2000-01.

Private piano teacher at Memorial School of Music, Houston, TX 2000-01.

Private piano teacher of college students through Oberlin teaching program, 1998-99.

Judge, Ohio Music Teachers Association festival, 1999.