

Dr. Sonia Lee

Canadian performer-scholar Dr. Sonia Lee has given performances, talks and masterclasses in more than eighteen countries on four continents. Her performances have been praised by critics as "masterly" (Aliénor News & Notes), "nicely rendered" (Early Music America Magazine), and "full of elegance and expression" (Cleveland Classical). She is a laureate of the Mae & Irving Jurow International Harpsichord Competition, the Montréal Baroque Galaxie-CBC Rising Star Competition, the Canadian Music Competition, and the American Musical Instrument Society William E. Gribbons Award. She holds advanced degrees in music from McGill University and the University of Illinois.

A performer on the modern piano and historical keyboards with a versatile repertoire spanning from the 16th to the 21st century, she has appeared as soloist and collaborative artist at numerous festivals, conferences, and venues, among them: the Rome Festival, the Nordic Historical Keyboard Festival, the Early Keyboard Music Cycle of Buenos Aires, Midtown Concerts of New

York, Festival Oude Muziek Utrecht, Festival Música Antigua de Costa Rica, Boston Early Music Festival, Society for Historically Informed Performance Series, KEK-Japan Concerts, the National Music Museum of Vermillion, South Dakota, and the Milwaukee Museum of the Pianoforte. As a collaborative keyboardist, she has worked with groups including the Classical Chamber Players, La Donna Musicale, Concerto Urbano, Rome Festival Orchestra and Opera, Sinfonia da Camera, Camerata Antiqua Seoul, Les Jeunes Virtuoses de Montréal, Pittsburgh Baroque Ensemble, Musicerend Gezelschap, Amor Musicae, and La Réunion Musicale, of which she is the Founding Artistic Director. As guest conductor, she has directed groups such as the University of Illinois Collegium Musicum, Dulces Exuviae, and Phantasie String Orchestra.

A strong advocate of contemporary and interdisciplinary projects, she has performed works by such prize-winning composers as Dagmar Feyen, James Dorsa, Kent Holliday, Asako Hirabayashi, Peter Machajdík, Luis Mucillo, and herself, and for concerts organized by Aliénor. In 2015, she was invited to be composer-in-residence at the prestigious La Napoule Art Foundation in France.

Her discography includes solo and collaborative projects, featuring rediscovered music of Antonia Bembo, Joseph Weigl, Thomas Vincent, Georg Berg, and Leopold Kozeluch. Her performances have been broadcast on Harmonia/WFIU, WGBH, WQED, WILL-FM, RTHK, and CBC/Radio Canada.

In demand as an adjudicator and clinician, she has served on juries of regional and international competitions, including the Regina Music Festival (2016), the Illinois High School Association Solo and Ensemble Contest (2014–2016), and the Aliénor International Harpsichord Composition Competition (2015). She has also taught master classes and given lectureperformances at numerous institutions, among them: University of Waterloo (Canada), Temple University (US), Eastern Illinois University (US), Indiana Wesleyan University (US), Calvin College (US), Irvine Valley College (US), Universidad de Costa Rica (Costa Rica), Conservatorio Provincial de Música Julián Aguirre (Argentina), and the Tainan National University of the Arts (Taiwan). Her excellence in teaching has been recognized by a number of awards, including the "University of Illinois Teachers Ranked as Excellent." She has presented at conferences organized by the American Musical Instrument Society, the Historical Keyboard Society of North America, the Southeastern and Midwestern Historical Keyboard Societies, and various music teachers associations.

Dr. Lee has contributed biographical articles on Claudio Arrau, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Wanda Landowska, August Wenzinger, and Lauritz Melchior to two reference series, "Musicians and Composers of the 20th Century" (Salem Press, 2009) and "Great Lives from History: Latinos" (Salem Press, 2012). An active member of many arts and cultural organizations, she currently serves as the President of the Historical Keyboard Society of North America. Visit www.sonialeemusic.com.