



Edith Widayani (Indonesia)

Hailed as one of the most accomplished young pianists in her home country of Indonesia, Dr. Edith Widayani has established herself as performing solo artist, chamber musician, and music educator, with appearances in North and Central Americas, Europe, and Asia. Currently residing in Jakarta, Edith is the Artistic Program Director at Indonesia

International Piano Competition and the Brand Ambassador of The Grand Signature Piano.

Edith earned her Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Performance and Literature with double minors in Chamber Music/Collaborative Piano and Music Theory from the Eastman School of Music - the first Indonesian to earn a doctorate from Eastman - and graduated as a Pi Kappa Lambda and was awarded the prestigious Henry Cobos Endowed Piano Prize for demonstrating excellence in piano performance. She also holds a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance, magna cum laude, from Texas Christian University School of Music and a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Literature from Eastman School of Music. As laureate of both solo and chamber music competitions, including the 1st Prize Winner of Indonesia International Piano Competition, the 1st Prize and Best Instrumentalist Award at the Concurso de Música Cámara Ecoparque Trasmiera in Arnuero, Spain, 1st Prize Winners in the 2014 Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition in New York City, 2013 Jakarta International Open Piano Competition, and Ananda Sukarlan Award 2010, Edith has also received Award of Achievement in International Forum given by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Indonesia.

Committed to music education as a young on-demand pedagogue, Edith established partnerships with music schools in Indonesia, giving lectures, workshops, and masterclasses as well as maintaining her private studio in Jakarta. Previously, Edith has taught intensively at Eastman, as assistant to Prof. Snyder for piano, instructor for keyboard literature, and teaching assistant in musicology and theory departments. In 2019 she did both performances and residencies at the Escuela de Música Victoriano López in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and at the Escuela Superior de Música, Universidad Juárez del Estado de Durango in Mexico. She also performed and gave masterclasses as a guest artist in Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, TX in 2016 and at 2013 Bogotá International Piano Festival in Colombia. An avid chamber musician, Edith was a guest artist on the 6th Asia Region Suzuki Conference in Bali in 2016. As a collaborative artist at Eastman, Edith was given Award of Excellence in Accompanying two years in a row and featured at the Eastman Virtuosi Concert Series, performing with Eastman faculty. Previously, during her residency at Texas Christian University School of Music, Edith has also been awarded the Judith Solomon Award in Chamber Music and notably the TCU Faculty and Friends Chamber Music Award. Besides her passion in piano, Edith also enjoys playing Chinese gu-zheng and Indonesian gamelan. During her spare time she enjoys cooking, baking, as well as watching movies and doing some chamber music sight-reading with her friends. Edith is also a graduate of the 2019 cohort of The Global Leaders Program, focusing on transforming lives around the world through music, cultural agency, social entrepreneurship, community development and teaching artistry.



Michael Low **(Malaysia/South Africa)**

As a teenager, Michael studied piano under the guidance of Richard Frostick before enrolling in London's prestigious Centre for Young Musicians, where he studied composition with the English composer Julian Grant, and piano with the internationally acclaimed pedagogue Graham Fitch. During his studies at Surrey University in England, Michael made his debut playing Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto in the 1999 Guildford International Music Festival, before graduating with Honours under the tutelage of Clive Williamson. In 2000, Michael obtained his Masters in Music (also from Surrey University), specialising in music criticism, studio production and solo performance under Nils Franke.

An international scholarship brought Michael to the University of Cape Town, where he resumed his studies with Graham Fitch. During this time, Michael was invited to perform Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto for The Penang Governor's Birthday Celebration Gala Concert. In 2009, Michael obtained his Doctorate in Music from the University of Cape Town under the supervision of South Africa's greatest living composer, Hendrik Hofmeyr. His thesis set out to explore the Influence of Romanticism on the Evolution of Liszt's Transcendental Etudes.

In 2013, Michael started a project in Singapore collaborating with The Kawai School Elite in a series of masterclasses and workshops for teachers and students. Having grown up in the East and lived his life in the West, Michael believes that both cultures have much to offer and envisage an exchange between Singapore and Cape Town in the future.

Michael is also the co-founder of the Elvira Ensemble – a Classical Chamber Orchestra specialising in the Piano Concertos of Mozart and Beethoven as well as Soundtracks from Blockbuster Hollywood Movies. The Ensemble have given performances at several high-profile events such as the wedding of Justin Snaith, one of South Africa's leading race-horse trainer. In January 2020, the ensemble was engaged to perform at the wedding of the former Miss Universe and Miss South Africa, Miss Demi-Leigh Nel Peters.

Michael has also worked with numerous eminent teachers and pianists, including Nina Svetlanova, Niel Immelman, Frank Heneghan, James Gibb, Phillip Fowke, Renna Kellaway, Carolina Oltsmann, Florian Uhlig, Gordon Fergus Thompson, Francois du Toit and Helena van Heerden.

Michael currently holds teaching positions in two of Cape Town's exclusive education centres: Western Province Preparatory School and Herschel School for Girls. He is very much sought after as a passionate educator of young children.



Kseniia Vokhmianina (Ukraine/Singapore)

Kseniia Vokhmianina performs internationally as a piano recitalist, concerto soloist, and chamber musician.

She won international piano competitions held in France, Australia, Indonesia, Poland, Italy, Serbia, Malaysia and Singapore, including the 1st Prize and Special Prize for “The Best Performer from Eastern Europe” at the International Competition “Citta di Barletta” in Italy; the 1st Prize at the IX International Piano Competition in Serbia; the 3rd prize at Singapore National Piano and Violin Competition; Silver prize at 4th ASEAN Chopin Piano Competition (Malaysia); the 2nd Prize in “Russian Piano” category at Sydney Eisteddfod (Australia). Ms Vokhmianina’s most recent achievements include the 1st Prize (Artist category) at Medan International Piano Competition (Indonesia) and two awards (including “Prix du Barreau du Val D’oise”) at the Piano Campus International Piano Competition (France).

A recipient of the Lee Foundation Scholarship, she studied at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (Singapore), and consequently continued with the degree course offered in collaboration with the Royal College of Music (UK). Upon successful graduation, Ms Vokhmianina was awarded the “Best Graduate (Degree)” and the “Embassy of Peru” awards. She also completed her Masters in Music with distinction at the Kharkiv National Pedagogical University in Ukraine and has been a student of the distinguished pianist and pedagogue, Professor Boris Kraljevic for many years. Ms Vokhmianina also obtained the Certificate of Advanced Studies in Classical Music Performance at the Zurich University of the Arts (Switzerland) in class of Prof. Konstantin Scherbakov.

Ms Vokhmianina has been a guest artist in various international music festivals, including “Convivium Musicum” (Serbia), “International Piano Festival” (Vietnam), “Days of Music” (Montenegro), “George Town Festival” (Malaysia), “International Holland Music Sessions” (Netherlands), and “65th Pablo Casals Festival” (France). She appeared as a concerto soloist with Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts Symphony Orchestra, Festival Symphony Orchestra (Singapore), Kharkiv Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra (Ukraine), Belgorod Chamber Orchestra (Russia), Kaunas Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra (Lithuania), and Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra (Singapore).

Besides her international performing career, Ms Vokhmianina is a full time Music Faculty member of the School of The Arts (SOTA) in Singapore. In both 2018 and 2019 Ms Vokhmianina was invited as a judge for the “Golden Lion Awards” International Piano Competition (Singapore) as well as WPTA Finland International Piano Competition 2019. Ms Vokhmianina is the President of the World Piano Teachers Association (Singapore affiliate) since 2018.

During previous season, Kseniia Vokhmianina has been curating the programme and performing for the new chamber music series “By Candlelight” in collaboration with the Arts House Singapore. She performed solo and chamber music recitals in Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as concerto appearances with Sichuan Symphony Orchestra (China) and Murmansk Philharmonic Orchestra (Russia).