

SHANNON WETTSTEIN SADLER (USA)

St. Cloud State University (St. Cloud, Minnesota)

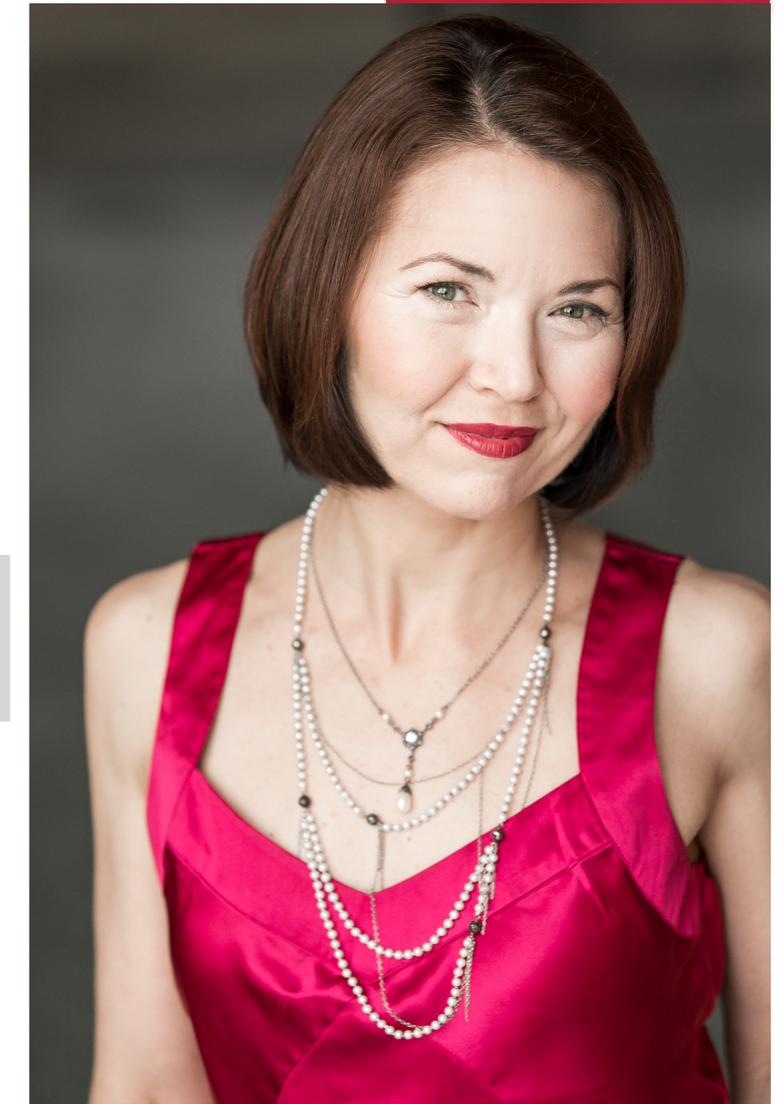


Shannon Wettstein, pianist, specializes in making connections between cutting-edge, experimental classical music and historical masterworks. With over 400 premieres as soloist and chamber musician, she has collaborated with composers such as Brian Ferneyhough, Chinary Ung, Jeffrey Mumford, Frederick Rzewski, and Martin Bresnick. Recent performances include the China-ASEAN Music Week, Costa Rica's Monteverde Institute, Nirmitta Composers Workshop, and the Sounds Modern series at the Ft. Worth Modern Museum. Shannon holds degrees from University of California, San Diego, New England Conservatory, and University of Kansas. Her teachers include Aleck Karis, Sequeira Costa, Stephen Drury, Richard Angeletti, and Claude Frank. She has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, US Artists International, Minnesota State Arts Council, and the American Composers Forum. She has 18 CDs available with music from Bach to Xenakis. Dr. Wettstein is piano faculty, St. Cloud State University.

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Florence Price: Underrepresented Repertoire for Pianists of All Levels

Florence Price (1887-1953), the first significant African-American female composer, is known as the first African-American woman to have a work performed by a major American orchestra. Much of the music of Price is only recently becoming widely published and distributed, almost seventy years after her passing. Price's first composition was published when she was 11, and she continued to be a prolific composer throughout her life. This session explores her piano music from a pedagogical perspective. An experienced teacher of pianists from beginning through college levels, Price taught independently in Little Rock, Arkansas, following her graduation from New England Conservatory of Music, until she moved to Atlanta to become the head of the music department at Clark Atlanta University. After marriage, she returned to Little Rock, until racial tensions prompted the Price family to relocate to Chicago, where she flourished in her composition career, in spite of numerous obstacles. Many of Price's piano compositions reflect her experience and expertise with elementary and intermediate level pianists. This presentation focuses on how concepts of choreography, tone production, and musical texture run a through line between Price's works of all levels. This presentation illuminates how Price's elementary level pieces *Etude* and *Three Sketches for Little Pianists* specifically prepare students for her intermediate works *Meditation*, *On a Quiet Lake*, and *Clouds*, and likewise, these same elements of choreography, tone, and texture in the intermediate works prepare students to play her advanced level works the suite *In the Land O' Cotton* and *Fantasia Negre No. 4*.



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