

Eliane Lust

CONCERT PIANIST
MASTER CLASSES

FULL BIO — edit as you like

Internationally acclaimed concert pianist Eliane Lust (*El-yaan Loost*) is an American classical pianist who was raised in Belgium. Her principle teachers, legendary concert pianists Leonard Shure and György Sebök, link Eliane directly to the roots of the great classical German and Hungarian musical traditions of both Ludwig van Beethoven and Franz Liszt. Lust is devoted to a tremendous repertoire range from Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Schumann, Brahms, Ravel, Debussy and Liszt to such modernists as Frederic Rzewski, Charles Shere, Leon Kirchner, Horațiu Rădulescu, Ron McFarland, Darius Milhaud and John Cage, most of whom she has worked with closely.

Early History

Eliane Lust began playing piano at age 5 in Brussels, Belgium where she was raised by her French-speaking Franco-Belgian parents. The Lust family moved to California where, at an early stage, Eliane performed the music of Darius Milhaud for him. It was Milhaud who suggested that Eliane should go into music professionally. By age 14, Lust was performing concerti with local orchestras and at age 16 was a chosen piano soloist for the chamber orchestra of the Marin Youth Orchestra Piccola's concert tour of Italy. This included participation in the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy. Shortly thereafter, she was also invited to Sommermusikwöchen, a music festival in Switzerland and to participate in Belgium's Eduardo del Pueyo's piano performance master classes held in the Alhambra in Granada, Spain.

Musical Education

Lust's principle teacher at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Paul Hersh, sent her to work with his former teacher, Leonard Shure. Shure had been the teaching assistant and student of the legendary concert pianist Artur Schnabel. Lust credits her studies with Leonard Shure with her ensuing interest and subsequent work with several other Schnabel students, including Claude Frank, Aube Tzerko, Menahem Pressler, Leon Fleisher and Schnabel biographer Konrad Wolff whose piano she currently owns and works on. While attending the New England Conservatory in Boston, Lust also become involved with chamber music studies and performances, working closely with Louis Krasner, Eugene Lehner, Yo-Yo Ma, Dorothy Delay and Eric Rosenblith, among many others. She also coached with most of the New England Conservatory faculty including Gabriel Chodos, Benjamin Zander, John Heiss and Laurence Lesser as well as Leon Kirchner at Harvard University and Walter Trampler at Boston University. Lust attended the Tanglewood Music Center at the Tanglewood Music Festival as one of several nationally chosen fellowship pianists where she coached with Gilbert Kalish, Leonard Bernstein, Yehudi Wyner, Gunther Schuller and Theodore Antoniou among others. On full scholarship at the Aspen Music Festival and School, Lust was also chosen to perform on national television for concert pianist Misha Dichter's master class.

From 1984 to 1986, Eliane was a fellow at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada where she performed with Anner Bylisma, Ronald Leonard and Aurele Nicolet. Eliane also coached there with pianists Richard Goode, John Perry, Marek Jablonski, Menahem Pressler and most importantly, György Sebök, who became her musical mentor for the next seventeen years. Lust's close musical relationship with Sebök led to scholarships at the Ernen Musikdorf, a music festival he organized in Ernen, Switzerland. In addition, Eliane also attended his McMinnville, Oregon master classes where her own master class studio pianists subsequently coached with Sebök.

International Performances & Award Recognition

Over the past forty years, Lust has concertized throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and French Polynesia. She was the featured piano soloist for the theater piece "Chronique d'un Piano Femme" by director Maurice Guillaud at the Theatre de Vincennes in Paris, France. She's also performed as recital soloist at the MusicConcerts Series in Périgueux, France, the Palais de l'Athénée in Geneva, Switzerland, the American Cultural Center in Brussels, Belgium, the Los Angeles Worker's Circle and throughout French Polynesia as a solo recitalist, competition judge

and master class coach as guest of the Musique en Polynésie organization. Lust has also played in fellowship residency at the Villa Montalvo Arts Center, as a fellow at the Chateau LaGessee Foundation in Toulouse, France, on the San Francisco Performances at Six concert series, as the featured solo pianist at the Paderewski Festival in Paso Robles, California and at the Dame Myra Hess Concert Series in Chicago, Illinois and at Carnegie Recital Hall, among countless other venues. The California Arts Council placed Lust on its touring roster and awarded her for her dedication to contemporary American music and for her innovative programming. Lust has also appeared as soloist with the New Jersey Philharmonic, the Schubert Society of New York, Boston's Orchestra and Chorale Society, the Diablo Symphony and the New England Contemporary Ensemble, among many others. Her two-piano collaborations include partnership tours with the American composer Frederic Rzewski (Jev-skee) who has been called *"the greatest pianist-composer of our time and something of a legend in modern music"* by the Los Angeles Times.

Teaching

Lust has given master classes and clinics or held visiting residencies at DePauw University, Montclair State College, Sacramento State University, the Music Teachers National Association and throughout the United States, French Polynesia and Western Europe. She has adjudicated local, national and international music competitions for over 30 years, performing or teaching at music festivals in Aspen, Tanglewood, Banff, Alberta, and Hereford, England among others. Her master classes are designed for advanced pianists, critics and dedicated piano teachers. Many of her monthly San Francisco master class students are professional musicians as private studio teachers or faculty members of colleges, universities and conservatories as well as active solo and chamber performers themselves.

New music collaborations, unusual programming

While trained by traditional classical music masters, Lust also started to collaborate very early in her professional life with living composers. She has worked closely with or has had music written for her by Charles Shere, Leon Kirchner, Frederic Rzewski, Jeffrey Miller, John Heiss, Horațiu Rădulescu and John Cage, among others. Her visionary programming and a selected discography include such unique projects as the complete Mendelssohn Songs Without Words; the 24 Chopin Preludes Opus 28 coupled with Rzewski's 24 'Ludes; composer Ron McFarland's "Homages" for solo piano; a program of spoken word accompanied by piano in collaboration with writer and music commentator Michael Steinberg; the penultimate piano Sonatas of Scriabin, Beethoven, Prokofiev and Schubert; a program of contemporary tangos for solo piano by William Schimmel, John Cage, Eric Satie, Scott Pender, Darius Milhaud, Robert Berkman, Dane Rudhyar, Robert Elkjer, Igor Stravinsky and others; and a program titled "Love Letters" which consists of solo piano music composed by both Robert Schumann and his wife, concert pianist Clara Schumann.

Eliane's passion for bridging the gaps between the classical and modern piano repertoires, diverse generations and different audiences has led to her curating such breakthrough projects as the "O Solo Milhaud" Marathon which presented the complete piano works of Milhaud, the multi-faceted Musicalliance Concert Series and "Mozart Madness," Mozart's 250th anniversary celebration, among countless others. Her students have also participated in such unique performance events as "C'est Poulenc," the "Concert of the Century" (all new piano music by the Bay Area's leading 20th Century composers), and a historical performance of Satie's "Vexations" to honor John Cage's 100th birthday.

Critical Acclaim

Lust's accolades include praises from global publications ranging from San Francisco to Paris. California's San Mateo Times raves *"Eliane Lust, a powerful, bold performer with a confident stage presence... Lust portrayed the music's different moods and characters clearly and instantly, much like the way good actors change their moods as the script demands...she is a true artist who can convey the message of the music. She also has extraordinary technique and poise..."* while the Independent Coast Observer states *"...Lust played with grace and understanding...she caressed the music and presented the nuances of each piece for our delectation."* And Les Nouvelles de Tahiti praises, *"She expresses an entire palette of emotions, from gentle, tender and affectionate to savage and impatient, then angry, passing through joy and humor...without a doubt it's in this paroxysmal, passionate music that Lust is at her best...this marvelous and fascinating young woman is a testament to the strength of the human spirit as well as to true passion for music."*

For more information, visit elianelust.com