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## Agnes Wan, Pianist



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## Biography

A native of Hong Kong, pianist Agnes Wan (a. k. a. Agnes Wan-Patterson) has received awards at various competitions including the Los Angeles Liszt International Piano Competition, Artists International Debut Auditions, the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition, Loyola Concerto/Aria Competition, University of Iowa All-University Concerto/Aria Competition, the University of Iowa Chamber Music Competition, and the Hong Kong Open Piano Competition. She has performed at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center in New York. Critic/pianist Rorianne Schrade wrote of her New York debut, “Ms. Wan put her all into a substantial program that she clearly knew down to each millisecond ... an excellent performance ... the attention to detail Ms. Wan showed will be of great benefit to her students ... Ms. Wan’s joy in music making is infectious ... Her encores of Chopin were meltingly lovely ... an enjoyable debut.” She has also been praised as a “big pianist, big musician, big potential” with “compelling artistry that draws the listeners in and envelops them with musical joy” at the Los Angeles Liszt International Piano Competition. She has appeared as a concerto soloist with the Loyola Chamber Orchestra, University of Iowa Chamber Orchestra, and the Maryville Orchestra. Having served as a resident artist at the Banff Centre for the Arts in Canada where she frequently performed as a soloist and collaborative pianist, she is an active recitalist. In recent years, she has given full-length solo recitals across the southern and Midwestern United States, in addition to her Paris debut recital at the American Cathedral and her Chicago debut on the PianoForte Salon Series broadcasted live on WFMT. She regularly performs on WPLN Nashville Public Radio’s “Studio C” program, and has also debuted on the “Lunchtime Classics” series on Louisville’s Fine Arts Station, broadcasted live on WUOL. She has also appeared as a soloist at the Feminist Theory and Music Conference in North Carolina. The reviewer wrote that, “Pui-Shan Cheung’s piano work, *Three Chinese Paintings*, beautifully performed by talented pianist Agnes Wan ... exhibited an array of virtuosic musical flourishes which Wan executed energetically.” Her upcoming recital and concerto engagements will bring her to Illinois, Texas, Georgia, South Carolina, and Alabama in the next season.

After gaining her undergraduate degree in piano performance from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Agnes furthered her studies in the United States, completing her master’s at Loyola University New Orleans and her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy from the University of Iowa. She also holds an Artist Diploma from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Her teachers have included Gabriel Kwok, Nancy Loo, H. Jac McCracken, Uriel Tsachor, Rene Lecuona, James Tocco, and Michael Chertock. Additionally, her passion for the music of Johann Sebastian Bach has led her to mentor with the renowned Chinese pianist Yuan Sheng, who studied intensively with the legendary Bach expert, Rosalyn Tureck.

Agnes’ book, *Physical and Mental Issues in Piano Performance: The Interrelationships between Physical Tension, Performance Anxiety, and Memorization Strategies*, has been published by VDM-Verlag in 2008. She is also active as a presenter and an adjudicator at youth competitions including the United States Open Music Competition. Having served on the faculties at various universities including the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University and Lipscomb University, she currently teaches at the Professional Piano Academy of Nashville, which she founded in May 2010.

## Critical Acclaim

“Ms. Wan put her all into a substantial program that she clearly knew down to each millisecond ... Her steadiness was remarkable ... the greatness of the music shone through. The moderately paced Bourrées held the most interest, showing playful articulations and voicing ... The Mozart Sonata in F Major, K. 332, was colorfully interpreted. A good range of dynamics was realized, and the Mozartean drama was well delineated in in what an excellent performance. The attention to detail Ms. Wan showed will be of great benefit to her students ... [In] the two Chinese works, there were moments of virtuosity, but Ms. Wan’s involvement seemed most intense in the softly expressive moments ... Ms. Wan’s joy in music making was infectious. Her encores of Chopin were meltingly lovely, closing an enjoyable debut.”

– Rorianne Schrade, *New York Concert Review*

“The conference's opening concert began with Pui-Shan Cheung's piano work, *Three Chinese Paintings*, beautifully performed by talented pianist Agnes Wan. Separated in to three movements, "Lotus Pond", "Cloudy Mountains", and "Wildflowers", the work exhibited an array of virtuosic musical flourishes which Wan executed energetically.”

- *Feminist Music and Theory Conference, University of North Carolina Greensboro Music Review*

“A totally committed and involved interpretation of this music. Compelling artistry that draws the listeners in and envelops them with musical joy ... There is nice poetry and flow to your lyrical playing ... terrific variety of sound and meaningful sonority ... Big pianist. Big musician. Big potential.”

– *Adjudicators’ comments, Los Angeles Liszt International Piano Competition*

# Repertoire

## Solo Repertoire

J. S. Bach:

15 Inventions

15 Sinfonias

Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue

English Suites, No. 2 in A minor and No. 3 in G minor

French Suites, No. 5 in G and No. 6 in E

Goldberg Variations

Partitas, No. 1 in B-flat, No. 2 in C minor, and No. 6 in E minor

Preludes and Fugues from Well-Tempered Clavier I: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 12, 13, 17

Preludes and Fugues from Well-Tempered Clavier II: Nos. 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 24

Tocatta in E minor

Barber: Sonata, Op. 26

Bartok: Suite Op. 14

Beethoven:

Sonata in F minor, Op. 2, no. 1

Sonata in A, Op. 2, no. 2

Sonata in C minor, Op. 10, no. 1

Sonata in D, Op. 10, no. 3

Sonata in A-flat, Op. 26

Sonata in E-flat, Op. 31, no. 3

Sonata in F minor, Op. 57, "Appassionata"

Sonata in E minor, Op. 90

Sonata in A, Op. 101

Sonata in E, Op. 109

Sonata in A-flat, Op. 110

Brahms:

Fantasien, Op. 116

Vier Klavierstücke, Op. 119

Cheung, Pui-Shan: Three Chinese Paintings

Chopin:

Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23

Ballade No. 3 in A-flat, Op. 47

Ballade No. 4 in F minor, Op. 52

Barcarolle, Op. 60

Bolero, Op. 19

Etudes Op. 10, nos. 1, 2, 5, 8, and 12

Etudes Op. 25, nos. 1, 2, 6, and 12

Fantasia in F minor, Op. 49

Scherzo No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 31

Scherzo No. 4 in E, Op. 54

Various Mazurkas

Various Waltzes

Debussy:

Etudes, Nos. 1 and 4

L'isle joyeuse

Selections from Preludes, Book 1

Faure:

Impromptu No. 2 in F minor, Op. 31

Theme and Variations in C-sharp minor, Op. 73

Granados:  
Escenas Romanticas  
Spanish Dances  
Valses Poeticas

Haydn:  
Sonata in C minor, Hob. XVI: 20  
Sonata in E-flat, Hob. XVI: 52  
Variations in F minor, Hob. XVII: 6  
Various other early sonatas

Janacek: In the Mist

Liszt:  
Concert Etude No. 2 in F minor  
Concert Etude No. 3, "Un Sospiro"  
Paganini Etudes, Nos. 3 ("La Campanella"), 4. and 5  
Sonata in B minor  
Vallee d'Obermann

Mendelssohn:  
Rondo Capriccioso, Op. 14  
Selections from Songs Without Words

Mozart:  
Rondo in A minor, K. 511  
Sonata in B-flat, K. 281  
Sonata in E-flat, K. 282  
Sonata in G, K. 283  
Sonata in C, K. 309  
Sonata in D, K. 311  
Sonata in C, K. 330  
Sonata in A, K. 331  
Sonata in F, K. 332  
Sonata in B-flat, K. 333  
Sonata in C minor, K. 457  
Sonata in C, K. 545  
Sonata in B-flat, K. 570  
Sonata in D, K. 576

Prokofiev:  
Selections from Ten Pieces from Romeo and Juliet, Op. 75  
Sonata No. 3 in A minor, Op. 28  
Sonata No. 4 in C minor, Op. 29

Rachmaninoff:  
Etude Tableau, Op. 33, no. 3  
Preludes, Op. 23, nos. 6 and 7

Rameau: Gavotte and Variations

Ravel:  
Jeux d'eau  
Sonatine

Scarlatti: Various Sonatas

Schubert:  
Four Impromptus, D. 899  
Four Impromptus, D. 935  
Drei Klavierstücke, D. 946  
Sonata in A, D. 664  
Wanderer-Fantasie in C, D. 760

Schumann:  
Arabesque, Op. 18  
Davidsbundlertänze, Op. 6  
Drei Fantasiestücke, Op. 111  
Kinderszenen, Op. 15  
Kreisleriana, Op. 16  
Papillons, Op. 2

Shostakovich: 24 Preludes, Op. 34

Tchaikovsky:  
Dumka, Op. 59  
Selections from The Seasons, Op. 37a

### **Concerto Repertoire**

J. S. Bach:  
Keyboard Concerto in D minor  
BWV 1052

Beethoven:  
Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat, Op. 19  
Piano Concerto No. 4 in G, Op. 58

Chopin:  
Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22  
Piano Concerto No. 2 in F minor, Op. 21

Haydn: Piano Concerto in D

Mozart:  
Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor, K. 466  
Piano Concerto No. 22 in E-flat, K. 482  
Piano Concerto No. 23 in A, K. 488  
Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor, K. 491

Poulenc: Piano Concerto

Schumann: Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 54