

## **2017 JUDGED FESTIVAL**

### **JUDGES' BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **A.J. GORDON MEMORIAL CHAPEL**

##### **EILEEN HUTCHINS**

Eileen was born in Massachusetts into a musical community. From an early age she accompanied her older sisters in their chamber music repertory and toured internationally as piano soloist with the New England Youth Ensemble. This honed her performance skills (quick study, strong communicator, versatile, enterprising), and made her curious about new music. Later, she used these skills to replace an ailing soloist on short notice in the solo part of Chopin's *e minor concerto* (MIT Symphony), and the Beethoven *Choral Fantasy* at UMass. She received her bachelor's degree with Distinction in Performance from the New England Conservatory as a student of Victor Rosenbaum, and her Masters degree at the Juilliard School with William Masselos. Of her U.S. premiere performance of Messiaen's *Des Canyons aux Etoiles*, New York Times critic Bernard Holland wrote: "Eileen Hutchins's piano roared through the Mockingbird movement impressively." She was invited to perform with the Da Capo Chamber Players in New York, the CUBE Ensemble of Chicago, and at the Women Composers Congress in London. Vincent Persichetti wrote: "She projects the meaning of the composer behind the notes" when he heard her in the semi-finals of the Carnegie Hall International American Music Competition. At the Concours de Yvonne Lefebure, the jury told her "That's how we like to hear Debussy played!" Inspired, she played more Debussy. Her three DMA recitals spawned more concerts at colleges across the Midwest and the East Coast. This culminated in making her CD recording featuring Debussy's *Images* at the Manhattan Center in New York. Eileen co-founded the Delmarva Piano Festival in Rehoboth Beach, DE and premiered works written for her by composers Ron Warren, Ruth Lomon, and Heiner Frost. She served as the Chair of the Piano Departments of the Longy School of Music and Andrews University. She is also an aspiring organist and was named a Colleague of the American Guild of Organists. Eileen lives in Boston with her husband and daughter.

##### **ELIZABETH CHLADIL**

Pianist Elizabeth Chladil encourages her audiences and students to embrace a lifelong participation in music through her work as an active performer, teaching artist, and piano instructor. In addition to being a founding member of the Marvento Flute and Piano Duo, she has performed in the United States and internationally including recitals in France and Japan. She has participated twice in the Musical Summer at the Mill in Andè, France as well as the Aria International Chamber Music Academy.

A dedicated teacher of private lessons and classes, Elizabeth encourages musical artistry through balancing energy and spontaneity with patient attention to detail. She maintains a private studio and currently serves on the faculty of several Boston area private and community music schools. Elizabeth holds an M. M. degree in Piano Performance from the Longy School of Music of Bard College and a B. M. degree in Piano Performance from Ball State University. Her principal teachers include Rieko Aizawa, Eda Shlyam, and Robert Palmer. More information can be found at [www.elizabethchladil.com](http://www.elizabethchladil.com).

## **PHILLIPS CLASSROOM**

**ELAINE ROMBOLA AVENI**, a native of Los Angeles transplanted to Boston, is a pianist and teacher who works with students of all ages and levels of experience; her approach to lessons is sensitive to the individual needs and abilities of each student. She has both bachelor's and a master's of music degrees in piano performance (Oberlin and New England Conservatories) and has been teaching piano for almost 20 years.

From 2005-2016 she was Program Director for Stephen Drury's Summer Institute for Contemporary Performance Practice at NEC. She continues to perform solo and chamber music, as part of RAHA Duo with violist Amelia Hollander Ames, as well as with large ensembles around Boston such as the Callithumpian Consort and Sound Icon, with recent performances at the ICA and at NEC.

**KATHRYN SOUTHWORTH LUNDAHL** holds a B.M. in piano performance from Oberlin Conservatory and an M.M. in Vocal Accompanying and Coaching from the University of Illinois. While pursuing her graduate studies, she held an assistantship as staff accompanist under the tutelage of acclaimed accompanist John Wustman, and served as a musical ambassador to Costa Rica as vocal accompanist. She has been a collaborative pianist for Opera North, Dartmouth College, Plymouth State University, Boston Ballet, Belle Voci, and has also served as music director, accompanist, and organist for numerous theater and choral groups throughout New England. She performs regularly with the Musicians of Wall Street Ensemble. Kathryn has been an interim piano faculty member at Plymouth State University, and was a member of the piano faculty at St. Paul's School for ten years, where she also served as chapel organist for the Advanced Studies Program. She is currently Dean of Students and Faculty at the Concord Community Music School (NH), where she previously served as Piano Department Chair for many years. Additionally, she is music director and organist at the Canterbury United Community Church in New Hampshire. Kathryn has been the site coordinator for the Royal Conservatory of Music Music Development Program exams in Concord, NH, and has served twice as President of the New Hampshire Music Teachers Association. She has studied the Feldenkrais method as it relates to piano technique through the Alan Fraser Institute, and continues to teach piano and work with vocalists as accompanist and coach in addition to her administrative duties.

## **PHILLIPS RECITAL HALL**

**JOAN GARNISS** received her BMus and MMus degrees from Boston University. She studied piano with Alexander Borovsky and Louis Cornell, and accompanying with Ludwig Bergman. Since then she has studied with Andrew Wolf, Benjamin Pasternack, Anthony di Bonaventura, and jazz piano with Paul Schmeling at Berklee. She has performed in Maine and Massachusetts as soloist, duo-pianist and accompanist. Joan has served as judge and evaluator at events in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. She is a past president of the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association, and is Chair of the Waltham Public Library Trustees. She is also a member of Pi Kappa Lambda music society and appears in "Who's Who of American Women", "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in the World". Joan was named 2007 Teacher of the Year by the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association which also gave her a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013. She has now retired from private piano teaching.

## **JENNIFER SHO**

A native of Taiwan, Jennifer Sho moved to the United States at the age of eleven and was immediately accepted into the private studio of Adolph Baller, an honored member of the Alma Trio and a frequent accompanist to Yehudi Menuhin. At age twelve, she gave her first solo recital at Stanford University and concerto performances with the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra. Since then, she has performed numerous recitals in the San Francisco bay area including the Stanford Alumni Music Series, Santa Rosa Chamber Music Series, Music in the Redwoods Concert Series, Twilight Concert Series, San Francisco Chopin Council, and broadcasted three programs with the Grand Piano Cable Television Program (1990-1992). She has won various competitions including the International Piano Recording Competition, the Young Artist Award Competition, and the CCPC Romantic Festival Competition. Following the decease of Adolph Baller in 1993, she studied with Mack McCray at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, then continued her studies with Patricia Zander at the New England Conservatory of Music, where she received her masters and doctorate.

Over the past eighteen years, Ms. Sho has been an active solo and chamber performer in the Greater Boston area and has taught at several music institutions such as Gordon College and Dana Hall School of Music. She has adjudicated for the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association and successfully prepared students for the Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music exams. She currently resides in Wellesley, Massachusetts, where she teaches a vibrant group of students at her private studio.