

Bennington College Presents

JULIA BARTHA, Pianist



*Deane Carriage Barn
Bennington College*

Tuesday, September 21, 2010 at 8:00 P.M.

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Program

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| Sofia Gubaidulina
(1931*) | Chaconne (1962), dedicated to Marina Mdivani | |
| Allen Shawn
(1948*) | Sonata No. 4, (2009) for Julia Bartha | (premiere) |
| | I. Tempo Giusto | |
| | II. Very flexibly | |
| | III. Fast, impetuous | |
| Claude Debussy
(1862 - 1918) | from „Préludes“ Book 1 and 2 | |
| | „...La fille aux cheveux de lin“ | |
| | „...Ce qu'a vu le vent d'ouest“ | |
| | „...Des pas sur la neige“ | |
| | „...Feux d'artifice“ | |
| | ---- | intermission---- |
| Robert Schumann
(1810 - 1856) | Fantasy C major, op.17, dedicated to Franz Liszt | |
| | I. Durchaus phantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen | |
| | II. Mäßig. Durchaus energisch. | |
| | III. Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten | |

Julia Bartha took her final diploma as a concert pianist with Karl-Heinz Kämmerling at the Hanover University of Music and Drama in Germany. She completed her studies with the pianist Homero Francesch at the Zurich Conservatory of Music in Switzerland.

At the age of fourteen Julia Bartha made her debut as soloist in the piano concerto by Edvard Grieg. In 1990, she was awarded first prize in the German “Jugend Musiziert” national musical competition for young people. She was also a prize winner at the piano competition in Vercelli, Italy, and in 1999 was one of four finalists in the celebrated Clara Haskil Competition in Vevey, Switzerland.

From 1994 - 1999, Julia Bartha received a scholarship from the German National Academic Foundation (Deutsche Studienstiftung), and since 2000 has been on the German Music Council's list of recommended young German artists.

Concert tours have taken her to Ireland, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and Switzerland. Julia Bartha has appeared at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, the Lower Saxony Music Festival, the Göttingen International Handel Festival and the Fringe Festival in Dublin, Ireland.

She has played with distinguished orchestras under conductors such as Nicholas McGegan, Saulius Sondeckis, Gabriel Feltz, Georg Fritzsche and Volker Schmidt-Gertenbach.

Her concert featuring Manuel de Fallas “Nights in the Gardens of Spain” with the Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra at the famous Stuttgarter “Liederhalle” in 2007 was broadcasted live on “Deutschland Radio”. A solo CD with works by Kirchner, Schumann, and Brahms was released in 2004.

In addition to solo concertos and chamber music, Julia is particularly interested in programs combining music and literature, in which she collaborates with Cornelia Froboess and Rainer Piwek.

2005 she founded the *Blue Chamber Quartet*, consisting of vibraphone, harp, doublebass and piano.

The Repertory combines Jazz with contemporary music in arrangements of original compositions by Chick Corea, Allen Shawn, Astor Piazzolla, Sergej Prokofiev, and other 20th and 21st century composers.

Their debut CD „First Impressions“ produced by the German label “stockfisch records” earned enthusiastic reviews in America and Germany.

December 2009 a second CD with arrangements of the 20 „Children's Songs“ of Chick Corea was released.

Since 2009 Julia Bartha has been a member of the faculty of the University of Music and Theatre “Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy” in Leipzig.

She lives with her husband and her two daughters in Göttingen, Lower Saxony, Germany.