

Cortona Contemporary Music Festival
Giovedì, 20 Luglio 2006 at 21:30

Guest Performers Concert
~ *Music for Flute and Piano* ~

Mary Fukushima, flute Michael Kirkendoll, piano

PROGRAM

Claude DEBUSSY	Etudes (1915) "Pour les huit doigts"
Leo ORNSTEIN	Suicide in an Airplane (1913)
Frederick RZEWSKI	Winnsboro Cotton Mill Blues (1978)
David RAKOWSKI	Firecat (1993)
Brian BONDARI	Kaykhosrow's Ascension* (2006)
Gabriela FRANK	Sueños de Chambi: Snapshots of an Andean Album* (2002)

* denotes European premiere

Mary Fukushima (flute) gave her first public performance as a featured guest soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic under the baton of Grant Gershon while yet in high school. She has since performed as soloist with the Torrance and Westchester Symphonies in California, and the Hunter Symphony and C.W. Post Orchestra in New York. Recent forays into the arena of new music have led to performances with the Columbia Sinfonietta in New York, as well as premieres of works by composers Ljova Zhurbin, Paul Chihara, Gabriela Frank, and Brian Bondari. In addition to her debut recital in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall under the auspices of Artists International, Mary will be presenting recitals on tour in Southeast Asia in late 2006. Mary has been a prizewinner in competitions sponsored by the New York Flute Club, Los Angeles Philharmonic, FéBland Foundation, and Artists International Competition. In 2002, Mary was invited to the College of Music at Mahidol University in Thailand where she served as an artist teacher and performer in residence. She is also the co-founder and director of both the Maui World Music Workshop in Hawaii, and the Brooklyn Band Academy of Brooklyn, New York. Mary received a BFA from Long Island University and a MM degree from the Manhattan School of Music.

Michael Kirkendoll (piano) Critics for La République heralded Michael's recitals in the Loire Valley as "astonishing," calling his performances of Beethoven and Chopin "regal and eloquent." In April 2002, Michael was called upon as a last minute substitute for a performance of Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto in New York's Merkin Hall. He was also presented as a soloist at the 1999 Evelyn Swarhout Hayes Piano Institute, celebrating the 70th Birthday of Leon Fleisher. Michael was a laureate in the 2002 IBLA Grand Prize Competition in Ragusa Ibla, Sicily, performing both solo recitals and concerti. In 2001, he was named one of 5 finalists at the 1st Annual Léni FéBland National Piano competition in Santa Barbara, California, and was the only American of four finalists in the 1998 International Chopin Piano Competition held in Corpus Christi, TX. Michael has been featured on New York's WNYC Radio program Soundcheck with John Schaefer and in recital throughout the Midwest on Kansas Public Radio (NPR). Michael holds a BM degree from the University of Kansas, and a MM with Phillip Kawin at the Manhattan School of Music in New York.