

Sarah Grunstein '75



Praised by *The New York Times* for her “penetrating musical intelligence”, her performance “tempestuous” and “imbued with a luminous calm”, internationally acclaimed Australian pianist Sarah Grunstein has performed in the United States, Austria, Hungary, Italy, England, Ireland, New Zealand, and her homeland. Reviews have likened her performances to those of Dame Myra Hess, Harold Samuel, and Wanda Landowska.

Early in her career, in celebration of the Bach Tercentenary, she performed Bach’s complete *Well-Tempered Clavier* in London’s Purcell Room, New York’s Merkin Concert Hall, and the Sydney Opera House, her all-Bach recital in London leading to an invitation to perform at Kensington Palace before His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. More recently her performance of the Goldberg Variations led to her being acclaimed as the “shining light” among the Bach pianists of the generation following Glenn Gould.

A longtime Steinway Artist, her career has included concerts at London’s Southbank Centre, New York’s Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, La Civica Musica in Milan, the Sydney Opera House, and the Melbourne Recital Centre.

A sought-after pianist and pedagogue, Sarah Grunstein has presented master-classes and seminars in the United States including the New England Conservatory and the Frederick Historic Piano Collection, Durham University (England), the Norwegian Academy of Music, the Royal Irish Academy of Music (Dublin), the universities throughout Australia, and the University of Auckland, New Zealand, as Artist-in Residence. She has adjudicated for composer awards and major piano competitions in the United States.

Many will remember Sarah Grunstein as the pianist who, as a young teenager, performed the soundtrack for Bruce Beresford’s early Australian film, “*The Getting of Wisdom*.” A winner of the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Award for Young Australians, she soon after moved to New York to train at The Juilliard School where she earned the Bachelor and Master of Music degrees. She earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She has taught at The Juilliard School as Teaching Fellow, the Manhattan School of Music, Fordham University, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Victorian College of the Arts, College of the Holy Cross, the City University of New York, and has created and directed Historic Piano Chamber Festivals at the Frederick Piano Collection. She is fervent about historic pianos and Bach improvisation.

Passionate about engaging in conversations with audiences, Sarah Grunstein recently joined the KOGU Committee as mentor in the arts and would be delighted to hear from anyone who wishes to reach her.