



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



Sydney Opera House & ABC Classic FM present

Classical Women: 4 Hand Freestyle

All About Women, Sunday 8 March 2015, Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House

Ideas at the House and **ABC Classic FM** have joined forces to present *Classical Women: 4 Hand Freestyle*, a unique classical music experience at this year's **All About Women** festival taking place in the Utzon Room on International Women's Day (Sunday 8 March 2015).

Featuring two of Australia's most talented women in classical music, *4 Hand Freestyle* will offer a feast of "music in action" from contemporary composer **Elena Kats-Chernin** and long-time collaborator, internationally acclaimed pianist **Tamara-Anna Cislowska**. Performing and improvising live, second-to-second, the duo will traverse the wonderful catalogue of Elena's music, shining light onto new treasures and old favourites.

The concert will be hosted by ABC Classic FM's new Classic Breakfast presenter, **Julian Day**, and broadcast live on ABC Classic FM.

Sydney Opera House Head of International Development and Senior Producer of Talks and Ideas, Danielle Harvey, said, "It's wonderful to be including this special event as part of All About Women. Elena is a hugely influential composer with a fascinating background. We are very glad to be including her story and fantastic work in our best All About Women festival yet."

ABC Classic FM's Julian Day said, "I hope you will join me in person in the evocative Utzon Room or on the radio for this encounter with two of the finest talents in Australian classical music. Elena and Tamara-Anna in 4 Hand Freestyle make the perfect musical contribution to the 2015 All About Women festival."

All About Women returns for its third festival in 2015 with a program bursting with storytellers, thinkers and adventurers from around the world. The program promises an exhilarating day of stories about how women shape their lives - and everybody's future - and an opportunity to celebrate International Women's Day in the ever-inspiring surrounds of the Sydney Opera House.

In 2015, *All About Women* has expanded beyond its 19 thought-provoking talks and panels to include the classical concert *4 Hand Freestyle* and has also partnered with **Music at the House** for Grammy Award-winning Irish legend **Sinead O'Connor's** *I'm not bossy, I'm the boss* and the Sydney Opera House debut of Swedish singer-songwriter **Neneh Cherry with RocketNumberNine+**. The festival will also include the inspirational stories and music of the *Baulkham Hills African Ladies Troupe* and a rare chance to take part in the sacred Yolngu women's celebration of the new day in *Crying Country*.

A complete list of events and the festival calendar can be found at: sydneyoperahouse.com/aaw

MEDIA CONTACT:

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KEY INFO:

Utzon Room
Sunday 8 March 2015
5pm

TICKETS:

On-sale 9am Friday 23 January
sydneyoperahouse.com/aaw
02 9250 7777
\$45

REPERTOIRE:

- 1 Scherzino
- 2 Lullaby for Nick
- 3 Dance of the Paper Umbrellas
- 4 For Richard
- 5 Waltz of Things Past
- 6 Marcato
- 7 Slicked Back Tango
- 8 Eliza Aria
- 9 Russian Rag
- 10 Russian Toccata

BIOS:**TAMARA-ANNA CISLOWSKA**

Tamara-Anna Cislowka is one of Australia's most acclaimed and recognised pianists. She has performed across five continents in repertoire spanning three centuries, from Scarlatti to Sculthorpe, to consistent critical and public acclaim. Tamara has won international prizes in London, Italy and Greece, including the **Rovere d'Oro**, and in Australia was the youngest pianist to win **ABC Young Performer of the Year** at age 14. She is a recipient of the prestigious **Freedman Fellowship** (2003) from the Music Council of Australia, a **2012 Art Music Award for 'Performance of the Year'** (ACT) and nominated for a 2014 AIR Independent Music Award. Tamara is a regular guest of orchestras and festivals worldwide, including as soloist with the **London Philharmonic Orchestra**, the New Zealand Symphony, Auckland Philharmonia and all the Australian Symphony Orchestras with conductors such as Werner Andreas Albert, Matthias Bamert, Asher Fisch, Johannes Fritzsich, Christopher Hogwood, James Judd, Markus Stenz, Yaron Traub, Edo de Waart, and Marco Zuccarini. She has toured with the **Australian Chamber Orchestra** and as a recitalist she has performed at the Purcell Room in London (earning acclaim as "skilful and poetic - a true artist" from *The Times*), Kleine Zaal of the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Frick Collection in New York, and the Utzon Room at Sydney Opera House. Her latest solo recording: *Peter Sculthorpe: Complete Works for Solo Piano* (ABC Classics/UMA) reaching **no.1 on the ARIA Classical Charts** and described as "an Australian treasure" on news.com.au.

Full bio: <http://www.cinqueartistmanagement.com/index.php/artists/tamara-anna-cislowka/>

ELENA KATS-CHERNIN

Elena Kats-Chernin is one of the most cosmopolitan composers working today, having reached millions of listeners worldwide through her prolific catalogue of works for theatre, ballet, orchestra, and chamber ensemble. Her dramatically vivid music communicates a mixture of lightheartedness and heavy melancholy, combining strong rhythmic figures with elements of cabaret, tango, ragtime, and klezmer. Born in 1957 in Tashkent (Uzbekistan), Kats-Chernin received training at the Gnesin Musical College before immigrating to Australia in 1975. She graduated from the New South Wales Conservatory in 1980 and was awarded a DAAD (German academic exchange) grant to study with Helmut Lachenmann in Hanover. She remained in Germany for 13 years, returning in 1994 to Australia where she now lives in Sydney. One of Australia's leading composers, Elena Kats-Chernin has created works in nearly every genre. Among her many commissions are pieces for Ensemble Modern, the Bang on a Can All-Stars, the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Adelaide, Tasmanian and Sydney Symphony Orchestras, Present Music, City of London Sinfonia, Swedish Chamber Orchestra and the North Carolina Symphony. Her brilliantly scored, energetic, and often propulsive music has been choreographed by dance-makers around the world. In 2000 she collaborated with leading Australian choreographer Meryl Tankard in a series of large-scale dance works. The first of these, "Deep Sea Dreaming", was broadcast to an audience of millions worldwide as part of the opening ceremonies of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. A CD of her complete music for string quartet, performed by Acacia, was released under the title "Blue Silence" by Vexations 840 in 2012.

Full bio:

https://boosey.com/pages/cr/composer/composer_main.asp?composerid=2756&ttype=BIOGRAPHY&ttitle=Biography

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