

Artist Biography

Marian Lee made her New York City debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall as winner of the Artists International Award and has appeared as soloist and with orchestra internationally in Austria, Belgium, Italy, France, Norway, Russia, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Poland, Brazil, Byelorussia, Estonia, Hong Kong, Thailand, as well as in Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, Seattle's Benaroya Hall, Moscow's Tchaikovsky Hall and Rachmaninoff Hall, and St. Petersburg, Russia at the Winter Palace. In liaison with the U.S. State Department, Lee also received numerous grants in support of performances of American contemporary music abroad and is a former Fulbright and International Research and Exchange (IREX) scholar.

An enthusiast of 20th-century music, Marian Lee is frequently invited to perform at international contemporary music festivals and has appeared with such distinguished ensembles as Continuum in New York City and the Seattle Chamber Players. She has given numerous world and U.S. premieres by contemporary composers from Russia, France, the Baltic republics and the United States. Recent professional activities include violin and piano duos with Philadelphia Orchestra concertmaster David Kim, Frank Almond, concertmaster of the Milwaukee Symphony and Naha Greenholz, concertmaster of Madison and Quad City Symphony Orchestras. She has also held master classes in Hong Kong, Delaware, Louisiana, Illinois and Iowa.

Marian Lee made her initial concert debut in high school performing with Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and Flint Symphony Orchestra in Michigan. She entered The Juilliard School as a scholarship student receiving a Bachelor of Music under the guidance of Gyorgy Sandor, whose own piano professor was Bela Bartok at the Liszt Academy in Hungary and is the author "On Piano Playing: Motion, Sound, and Expression," a staple in the piano pedagogy literature. She went on to receive a Master of Music degree in piano performance with Seymour Lipkin, winner of the prestigious Rachmaninoff Competition and artistic director of Kneisel Hall Chamber Festival. Subsequently, she was awarded the coveted Fulbright Grant to study with Naum Shtarkman, a Tchaikovsky competition laureate, at the Moscow Conservatory in what was then the Soviet Union. During her three-year stay, Dr. Lee witnessed the fall of the Soviet Union and toured extensively within the former USSR. Upon her return to the United States, Dr. Lee completed her doctoral degree at the Peabody Conservatory of Music at The Johns Hopkins University with Boris Slutsky, the youngest winner of the William Kapell Competition in College Park, Maryland.

Dr. Lee previously taught at the University of Delaware before moving to the Quad Cities. She also taught at the University of Iowa as a sabbatical replacement for Dr. Ksenia Nosikova. In 2012, Marian Lee moved to Davenport, Iowa and was appointed an assistant professor in piano and serves as head of the keyboard area at St. Ambrose University. As an active teacher and frequent adjudicator, Dr. Lee is a proud member of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), National Federation of Music Teachers (FMTA), the Iowa Music Teachers Association (IMTA), Quad City Music Teachers Association (QCMTA), and served as past president of the Delaware Music Teachers Association (DSMTA). Most recently, Dr. Lee was asked the honor to adjudicate the West Central MTNA Divisional competition and has judged the Northeastern MTNA Divisionals in the past.