



**Ariella Mak-Neiman, Pianist**

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Biography (< 600 words)

Pianist **Ariella Mak-Neiman** has engaged audiences throughout North America with her elegant and imaginative performances, fusing multifaceted interpretations with thoughtful and dynamic programming. Recent appearances include features at the WFMT Chicago Bach Festival, PianoFest at the Chicago College of Performing Arts (CCPA), and the "Mozart Binacional" series at the Mainly Mozart Festival. Her 2016-2017 season includes a return to the CCPA PianoFest, a solo recital and chamber

collaborations at the University of California (Santa Barbara), and an appearance at the Manchester Music Festival. Her debut CD, an all-Bach recording, is scheduled for release on Aeolian Classics in 2018.

Since making her orchestral debut with the Spokane Symphony as winner and gold medalist of the Greater Spokane Music and Allied Arts Festival, Mak-Neiman has been awarded prizes, scholarships, and fellowships sponsored by, among others, the American Musicological Society, Yale University, University of California (Santa Barbara), Indiana University, Victoria Conservatory of Music, Aspen Music Festival, Summit Music Festival, Avon Foundation, Performing Arts Festival of the Eastside, and Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Her principal teachers include Olive Endres, Victoria Bogdashevskaya, Mary Toy, Regina Yeh, Craig Sheppard, Norman Krieger, Jordan Rashkov, and, most recently, Paul Berkowitz. She has benefitted from additional studies with Kevin Fitz-Gerald and James Giles, and performed in master classes presented by Paul Roberts, Frank Heneghan, Daniel Pollack, Nelita True, Byron Janis, and Christopher Taylor.

Mak-Neiman graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Music in piano performance and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, cum laude. She continued her studies at the University of Southern California (USC), where she earned a Master of Music in piano performance at the Thornton School of Music and a Master of Arts in strategic public relations at the Annenberg School for Communication. Following her graduation from USC, she completed additional graduate work in musicology as a fellowship recipient at Yale University. Mak-Neiman was recently awarded a prestigious five-year Chancellor's Fellowship by the University of California (Santa Barbara) to pursue doctoral studies in piano performance under the guidance of esteemed pianist Paul Berkowitz. She is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Theta Kappa, and Psi Chi national honor societies.

Mak-Neiman has served as a founding performer of the Seattle-based piano ensemble Pianists in Collaboration, events coordinator on the board of the Southern California Early Music Society, performer and director of public relations on the executive board of Collaborative Artists EastWest, Nevada state president and Junior Festival chair for the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC), and MTNA chapter president of the Las Vegas Music Teachers Association (LVMTA). As an adjudicator, Mak-Neiman has appeared at the Las Vegas Silver State Competition, the Reno Youth Music Festival, the LVMTA Ensemble Festival, and the NFMC Junior Festivals in both Seattle and Las Vegas. An active member of MTNA, she has garnered over 15 years of experience teaching piano students of all ages and levels, both in her private studio and as a former faculty member of the Seeds of Learning School (Washington), the Pialish School of Music (California), and the Nevada School of the Arts.

For more information, please visit [www.siuyinmak.com](http://www.siuyinmak.com).