

SUSAN MERDINGER, pianist

Steinway Artist, Susan Merdinger has been internationally acclaimed in prestigious newspapers and journals for her stunning performances. The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung described her recital as a “daring, enormously joyous presentation which captured and transfixed the audience”. Fanfare Magazine (March/April 2014) declared that her “Carnival” CD was “exquisitely detailed and full of life”, likening her playing to that of legendary pianists Leonard Bernstein, Annie Fischer and Nadia Reisenberg. Among her many honors, Merdinger is a First Prize Winner of the 2012 (Professional Solo) and 2017 (Professional Piano Duo) Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition and the 2013 International Music Competition of France, Gold Medalist of the Global Music Awards (2014), Winner of the Dewar’s Young Artists Award in Music (1990), the Artists International Young Musicians Competition (1986), the Artists International Alumni Winners Prize (1987), and she is a laureate of the prestigious Harveys Leeds International, Montreal International Concours de Musique, William Kappell International and Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competitions. Performing her sold-out solo recital debut in Carnegie Recital Hall at age twenty-four, Merdinger has continued to grace the stages of some of the world’s best concert halls. In addition to touring as a soloist in Europe and the USA under the auspices of the International Concert Administration Foundation, Merdinger made a triumphant Chicago Orchestral Debut in 2013 at Harris Theater with The Chicago Philharmonic and Sony Classical Artist, Mattia Rondelli, and her Mexico debut with the State of Mexico Symphony Orchestra performing Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No.1 under direction of Gabriela Diaz Alatraste in October 2017. In 2019, Merdinger made her debut with the Northbrook Symphony and Lawrence Rapchak performing Brahms’ Piano Concerto No. 2. For the past six years Merdinger has been a Visiting Artist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Chamber Music Series with the Tononi Ensemble at The Art Institute and at Symphony Center. Merdinger’s live performances and recordings have been broadcast on WQXR, WFMT, WDAV, CKWR (Canada), BRT-3 (Belgian National Radio), and BBC Television (United Kingdom). Conservatory and Ivy-league educated at Yale University, the Yale School of Music, the Manhattan School of Music, and the Ecole Normale de Musique in Fontainebleau, France, Merdinger studied with renowned pianists Claude Frank, Constance Keene and Gaby Casadesus. Merdinger is an Artist Faculty member of the Summit Music Festival in New York since 2011. Additionally, Susan Merdinger is Artistic Director of Sheridan Music Studio Presents, a fiscally sponsored charitable arts organization and project of Fractured Atlas which presents Pianissimo!- Chicago’s Premier Piano Ensemble, Sheridan Solisti and The Five Greene’s. www.susanmerdinger.com