

Belle Chen: A dynamic and versatile performer, Australian-Taiwanese pianist Belle Chen is much sought after as a soloist, chamber musician, and collaborator. With a continually expanding musical horizon and constant desire for musical challenges, Belle is emerging as one of the most exciting and multifarious musicians of her generation.

Chen has performed in major cities in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and Asia. Recent UK engagements have included solo recitals at Steinway Hall London, Colston Hall, and Senate House. Her diverse repertoire ranges from the music of J.S. Bach to contemporary composers. Of particular note, Chen's interest in promoting new music led to the world premiere of Josephine Yin-Fan Jin's piano suite *Horai* (2011) in Taipei (Taiwan), solo and chamber performances at the 2010 Encounters Festival, and the Australian premiere of George Antheil's *Ballet Mecanique* in 2007. In recent years, Chen has also given solo performances as part of the 2010 and 2011 Piano! Festival (Melbourne, Australia), as well as the 2010 Shanghai World Expo (China), Teneriffe Festival, and the Queensland Youth Music Festival. Chen's performances have been broadcasted by ABC FM, 4MBS, and Dateline (TV), and her concerto appearances have been with the Mueller Chamber Orchestra and Queensland Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra. Belle was an award finalist for 2010 Australian National Piano Award.

Chen is currently studying for the Master of Music (Concert Project) in piano performance under the tutelage of Ian Fountain at the Royal Academy of Music (London, United Kingdom). She obtained her Bachelor of Music in Advanced Performance with Honours from Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University (Brisbane, Australia), where she studied under Oleg Stepanov and exited with Fred Ellaway Prize for the best graduating pianist and all piano performance prizes. Chen is the winner and recipient of numerous prizes and scholarships, amongst which include: Ruby C Cooling Prize (2007), Minnie May Bussey Scholarship (2007), Hilda Woolmer Accompaniment Prize (2009), Brisbane Women's Club and Yvonne Haysom Bursary (2009), and the QCGU Postgraduate Award (2010). From Royal Academy of Music, she received the Dominions Fellowship prize (2011/12). Her previous teachers also include Neville Baird and Helen Dobrenko. She has also been privileged to perform in public masterclasses for Leon Fleisher, John Perry, Kathryn Stott, Leslie Howard, Cyprien Katsaris, Boris Berman, Piers Lane, Roy Howat, Tamas Unger, Gerald Willems, and Ian Munro. She has also been privileged to work privately with Pascal Roge, Stephen Osbourne, Pascal Deveyon, Yevgeny Subdin, Michael Kieran Harvey, Natasha Vlassenko, Michael Dussek, Andrew West, Rita Reichman, Timothy Young, and Stephen Savage.

In addition, Chen has a strong academic interest, being a current member of the Golden Key International Honour Society and the recipient of Griffith Award for Academic Excellence (2006, 2007, 2009 and 2010).

Chen is the founder and artistic director of Heard Behaviour, an online platform that promotes Western art music through innovative collaborations and distribution.