

Electronic Press Kit

Mehana Ellis

Piano



Mehana Ellis

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 @mehanaellispiano  @mehana.ellis.piano  Mehana Ellis

Butler School of Music, University of Texas at Austin

M.M. Piano Performance, class of 2028

- Piano teacher: Anton Nel (Anton.Nel@austin.utexas.edu)
- Elizabeth Anne Tucker Centennial Scholarship, 2026
- Ching and Man-Li Yew Scholarship for Classical Piano, 2026
- Alamo City Endowed Scholarship for Pianists, 2026

University of California, Berkeley

Music/Mathematics double major, class of 2026

- Piano teacher: Betty Woo (bettywoo@berkeley.edu)
- Roslyn Schneider Eisner Prize in the Creative Arts, 2026
- Alfred Hertz Memorial Traveling Scholarship, 2024
- Bernece B. Lyon Memorial Prize, 2024/25
- Joan C. Reutinger Prize: Scholarship for "outstanding freshman pianist," 2022
- Performed solo piano for Noon Concert Series and Stebbins Piano Series (Berkeley Women's Faculty Club)
- University Chorus (2022 - 2024) and Javanese Gamelan (2025-2026)

San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Pre-College Division

Studied from 2015 - 2022, graduated with Honors

- Piano teachers: Annamarie McCarthy, 2019 - 2022 (amccarthy@sfc.edu); Tomoko Hagiwara, 2018 - 2019
- Noteworthy Musicianship Tutor Award, 2019
- Two scholar certificates (research papers and presentations on Liszt and Chopin)

Recent Honors + Awards

- First Prize, Rachmaninoff Concerto Competition (Triumph Music Festival), 2025
- Aspen Music Festival and School, Solo Piano (student of Anton Nel, full 8-week session), 75th Anniversary Season 2024
- Third Prize, The American Prize in Piano Performance (solo), 2024
- Second Prize, WPTA Spain International Piano Competition, 2024
- International Music Festival of the Adriatic, Solo/Chamber, (Duino and Trieste, Italy; Radovljica, Slovenia), 2023
- McKee Laureate, 25th Annual Ross McKee Piano Competition, 2023
- Grand Prize, 2nd Elena Leonova International Young Pianists Competition (New York Piano Society), 2022
- Boston University Tanglewood Institute, Young Artists Piano Program, Summer 2022
- Plus 90+ awards since 2020

Performances

- Isidor Bajic Music School, Novi Sad, Serbia (Concert) - TBD
- Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley (2026 Music Department Commencement) - May 17
- Wu Recital Hall, UC Berkeley (Solo Noon Concert/Senior Recital) - May 1
- Berkeley Piano Club (E4TT/RMF New Music Piano Summit) - March 1, 2026
- Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley (Solo Noon Concert) - January 28, 2026
- The Opéra Bastille, Paris, France - December 11, 2025
- Academy of Music Ballroom (Kimmel Center), Philadelphia - September 27, 2025
- Isidor Bajic Music School, Novi Sad, Serbia (Concert) - May 21, 2025
- Sala degli Arazzi, Piacenza, Italy - October 26, 2024
- Aspen Music Festival and School, Harris Hall - August 16, 2024
- 92nd Street Y - November 5, 2023
- The Bowes Center at SFCM - January 15, 2023
- Boston University Tanglewood Young Artists Piano Program - Various Dates, 2022

EPK

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Biography

50 words: Mehana Ellis is a master's student of Prof. Anton Nel, studying Piano Performance at the Butler School of Music (UT Austin). She previously studied with Betty Woo (UC Berkeley) and Annamarie McCarthy (SFCM Pre-College). Mehana has attended the Aspen Music Festival, and she performs frequently in the U.S. and abroad.

100 words: Mehana Ellis is a master's student of Prof. Anton Nel, studying Piano Performance at the Butler School of Music (UT Austin). She previously studied with Betty Woo (UC Berkeley) and Annamarie McCarthy (SFCM Pre-College). Mehana has received top prizes in many international competitions, UC Berkeley scholarships, and UT Austin's Elizabeth Anne Tucker Centennial Scholarship, Ching and Man-Li Yew Scholarship for Classical Piano, and Alamo City Endowed Scholarship for Pianists. Mehana studied with Anton Nel at Aspen Music Festival in 2024. She has performed at 92NY, Carnegie Hall, other prominent U.S. venues, and in Austria, England, France, Italy, Serbia, and Slovenia.

150 words: Mehana Ellis is a master's student of Prof. Anton Nel, studying Piano Performance at the Butler School of Music (University of Texas at Austin). She previously studied with Betty Woo (UC Berkeley) and Annamarie McCarthy (SFCM Pre-College Division). Mehana was named a Ross McKee Young Artist in the 25th Annual Ross McKee Piano Competition, Grand Prize winner of the 2nd Elena Leonova International Young Pianists Competition, First Prize winner of Triumph Music Festival's Rachmaninoff Concerto Competition, and received UC Berkeley's Alfred Hertz Memorial Traveling Scholarship and Roslyn Schneider Eisner Prize in the Creative Arts. She was awarded UT Austin's Elizabeth Anne Tucker Centennial Scholarship, Ching and Man-Li Yew Scholarship for Classical Piano, and Alamo City Endowed Scholarship for Pianists. Mehana studied with Anton Nel at Aspen Music Festival in 2024. She has performed at 92NY, Carnegie Hall, other prominent U.S. venues, and in Austria, England, France, Italy, Serbia, and Slovenia.

250 words: Mehana Ellis is a first-year master's student of Prof. Anton Nel, studying Piano Performance at the Butler School of Music (University of Texas at Austin). As an undergraduate Music major, she studied with Betty Woo at UC Berkeley and previously with Annamarie McCarthy as a Pre-College honors student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Mehana was named a Ross McKee Young Artist in the 25th Annual Ross McKee Piano Competition, Grand Prize winner of the 2nd Elena Leonova International Young Pianists Competition, First Prize winner of the 2025 Triumph Music Festival Rachmaninoff Concerto Competition, and received UC Berkeley's Alfred Hertz Memorial Traveling Scholarship, Austin F. Williams Prize in Piano Performance, Roslyn Schneider Eisner Prize in the Creative Arts, Bernece B. Lyon Memorial Prize, and Joan C. Reutinger Prize. At UT Austin, she was awarded the Elizabeth Anne Tucker Centennial Scholarship, Ching and Man-Li Yew Scholarship for Classical Piano, and the Alamo City Endowed Scholarship for Pianists. Mehana studied with Anton Nel at the Aspen Music Festival and School in 2024, where she performed in a masterclass with Mikhail Voskresensky. She has also participated in the Boston University Tanglewood Institute and International Music Festival of the Adriatic. She has performed at 92NY, Harris Hall, SFCM's Bowes Center, Academy of Music (Philadelphia), Carnegie Hall, and abroad in Austria, England, France, Italy, Serbia, and Slovenia. Aside from solo performance, Mehana enjoys presenting lecture-recitals and chamber music, having performed the Brahms Piano Quintet in F minor and Dvorak Piano Quintet in A major.

Repertoire

Piano Solo

Albéniz - "Triana" from Iberia Book II
Bach - Italian Concerto in F major, BWV 971
Bach - Inventions/Sinfonias No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 15
Bach - Prelude & Fugue in C major BWV 846
Bach - Prelude & Fugue in C minor BWV 847
Bach - Prelude & Fugue in E major BWV 854
Bach - Prelude & Fugue in F-sharp minor BWV 859
Bach - Prelude & Fugue in A-flat major BWV 862
Bach-Hess - Chorale BWV 147 "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"
Bartok - Improvisations Op. 20 No. 1, 2, 8
Bauer - "Elegie" in E minor
Beethoven - Sonata No. 17 (Op. 31 No. 2) in D minor
Beethoven - Sonata No. 23 (Op. 57) in F minor
Beethoven - Sonata No. 24 (Op. 78) in F-sharp major
Bonds - "Troubled Water" from Spiritual Suite
Chew - "Pitter Patter"
Chopin - Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23
Chopin - Étude in C major Op. 10 No. 1
Chopin - Étude in E major Op. 10 No. 3
Chopin - Étude in C-sharp minor Op. 10 No. 4
Chopin - Étude in G-flat major Op. 10 No. 5
Chopin - Étude in F minor Op. 10 No. 9
Chopin - Étude in A-flat major Op. 10 No. 10
Chopin - Étude in C minor Op. 10 No. 12
Chopin - Étude in A-flat major Op. 25 No. 1
Chopin - Étude in F minor Op. 25 No. 2
Chopin - Étude in G-sharp minor Op. 25 No. 6
Chopin - Étude in B minor Op. 25 No. 10
Chopin - Étude in C minor Op. 25 No. 12
Chopin - Mazurka in A minor Op. 17 No. 4
Chopin - Nocturne in B major Op. 32 No. 1
Chopin - Nocturne in A-flat major Op. 32 No. 2
Chopin - Nocturne in E-flat major Op. 9 No. 2
Chopin - Nocturne in B-flat minor Op. 9 No. 1
Chopin - Nocturne in E minor posth. 72 No. 1
Chopin - Scherzo in B-flat minor Op. 31 No. 2
Chopin - Waltz in C-sharp minor Op. 64 No. 2
Chopin - Waltz in A minor Op. 34 No. 2
Chopin - Waltz in A minor posth. No. 11
Chopin - Waltz in D-flat major Op. 64 No. 1
Chopin - Waltz in A-flat major Op. 69 No. 1

Chopin - Waltz in B minor Op. 69 No. 2
Chopin - Waltz in E minor posth. B. 56
Chopin - Prelude in C major Op. 28 No. 1
Chopin - Prelude in A minor Op. 28 No. 2
Chopin - Prelude in E minor Op. 28 No. 4
Chopin - Prelude in B minor Op. 28 No. 6
Chopin - Prelude in D-flat major Op. 28 No. 15
Chopin - Polonaise in D minor Op. 71 No. 1
Chopin - Polonaise in C-sharp minor Op. 26 No. 1
Debussy - Estampes (complete)
Debussy - "Clair de Lune" from Suite Bergamasque
Debussy - "Rêverie"
Debussy - Arabesque No. 1, L 66
Fauré - "Pavane" Op. 50
Granados - 8 Valses Poéticos
Grant Still - "Summerland" from Three Visions
Grieg - Lyric Pieces Book II (No. 1-4, No. 7-8)
Haydn - Piano Sonata in B minor, Hob. XVI:32
Kodaly - Zongora Muzsika
Liszt - Sonata in B minor S.178
Liszt - "Bénédiction de Dieu dans la Solitude"
Liszt - Transcendental Étude No. 1 ("Prelude")
Liszt - Transcendental Étude No. 11 ("Harmonies du Soir")
Liszt - "Un Sospiro" from Drei Konzertetuden
Liszt - Liebestraume No. 1, 2, 3
Liszt - "Sursum Corda" from Années de pèlerinage III, S.163
Liszt - Grandes Études de Paganini No. 5 in E major "La Chasse"
Mozart - Sonata No. 16 in C major
Paderewski - Nocturne in B-flat major Op.16 No. 4
Poulenc - Mouvements Perpétuels
Rachmaninoff - Étude-Tableau in C major Op. 33 No. 2
Rachmaninoff - Étude-Tableau in C minor Op. 33 No. 3
Rachmaninoff - Étude-Tableau in D minor Op. 33 No. 4
Rachmaninoff - Étude-Tableau in E-flat major Op. 33 No. 7
Rachmaninoff - Étude-Tableau in G minor Op. 33 No. 8
Rachmaninoff - Étude-Tableau in C-sharp minor Op. 33 No. 9
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in B-flat major Op. 23 No. 2
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in D major Op. 23 No. 4
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in G minor Op. 23 No. 5
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in G major Op. 32 No. 5
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in B minor Op. 32 No. 10
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in B major Op. 32 No. 11
Rachmaninoff - Prélude in G-sharp minor Op. 32 No. 12
Rachmaninoff-Kreisler - "Liebesleid"
Siloti-Rachmaninoff - "Vocalise" Op. 34 No. 14
Volodos-Rachmaninoff - "Zdes khorosho" Op. 21 No. 7
Ravel - "La Valse" (arr. for solo piano)
Ravel - "Pavane pour une infante défunte"

Rochberg - Short Sonata No. 2
Satie - Trois Gymnopédies
Schubert-Liszt - "Auf dem Wasser zu Singen"
Schubert-Liszt - "Ständchen"
Schubert - Impromptu in A-flat major Op. 90 No. 4, D. 899
Schubert - Moment Musical in F minor Op. 94 No. 3, D. 780
Schubert - "Ungarische Melodie" in B minor D. 817
Schubert - Sonata No. 13 in A major, D. 664
Schumann-Liszt - "Widmung"
Schumann - Kinderszenen
Scriabin - Étude in B major, Op. 8 No. 4
Wagner-Liszt - "Liebestod" from Tristan und Isolde

Complete Concerti

Chopin - Piano Concerto No. 1 in E minor
Rachmaninoff - Piano Concerto No. 1 in F-sharp minor

Complete Chamber Works

Brahms - Piano Quintet in F minor Op. 34
Dvořák - Piano Quintet in A major Op. 81
Edna Alejandra Longoria - "Cuatro Ritmos" for piano four hands

Accompaniment

Brahms - "Ständchen" Op. 106 No. 1
Chopin - "17 Polish Songs" Op. 74 No. 1 - 8
Grant Still - "Summerland" from Three Visions (violin)
Mozart - "Porgi Amor" (Le Nozze di Figaro)
Ponce-Heifetz - "Estrellita"
Rachmaninoff - "Vocalise" Op. 34 No. 14
Rachmaninoff - "Zdes khorosho" Op. 21 No. 7
Schubert - "An die Musik"
Schubert - "Auf dem Wasser zu Singen"
Schubert - "Du bist die Ruh"
Schubert - "Nacht und Träume"
Schubert - "Ständchen"
Schumann - "Widmung"

Original Compositions + Transcriptions

Mehana Ellis - Piano Trio in A-flat major Op. 1 ("Three Wishes and What Comes After")

Mehana Ellis - String Quartet in A major Op. 2 ("Snoopy Museum: Santa Rosa Fire")

Mehana Ellis - Préludes pour piano Op. 3

Mehana Ellis - Suite pour orchestre Op. 4

Mehana Ellis - "Le Gui de Mont Saint-Michel"

Mehana Ellis - "Récitatif en hommage à Duruflé"

Rachmaninoff-Ellis - "The Mellow Wedding Bells" from The Bells, transcribed for solo piano

Rachmaninoff-Volodos (arr. Ellis) - "Zdes Khorosho"