

PIANO DUO SUSAN AND SARAH WANG

Twin sisters Susan and Sarah Wang were born and raised in Ridgewood, New Jersey. They began their piano studies at the age of seven with Dmitry Rachmanov at the Manhattan School of Music Preparatory Division. In 2005 they each received their bachelor's degree for piano performance under Louis Nagel at the University of Michigan, and in 2007 they received their master's degree for piano performance from the Manhattan School of Music where they studied with Marc Silverman. Susan and Sarah are currently enrolled in the Konzert Exam program for duo piano performance at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Rostock, Germany, under the tutelage of Hans-Peter and Volker Stenzl.

In March of 2008 Susan and Sarah won second prize at the prestigious Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competition, becoming the first American team to have reached the finals of this competition in more than a decade. They have also won third place in the Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Preis in Berlin 2009, third place in the International Two Piano Competition in Bialystok, Poland 2008, second place in the 2003 Ellis National Duo Competition and first place in the 2004 Concerto Competition at the University of Michigan.

The twins performed their New York piano duo debut concert in December of 1998 at Cooper Union. Together with their high school's percussionists, Susan and Sarah participated in the 17th Annual Young Musicians Concert at Alice Tully Hall sponsored by The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center on April 18, 2000, performing the Bartok Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion. Susan and Sarah have also appeared in performances at Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor, Weill Recital Hall and Steinway Hall in New York, the Bard Music Festival, Katharinsaal in Rostock, Germany, Adamant Music School's Waterside Hall, Lincoln Theatre in Miami, and Middlebury College Center in Vermont. Susan and Sarah have recorded for Vermont Public Radio and the NDR Radio Station in Hamburg, and they have also been broadcast in New York's Classical Radio Station WQXR.

Susan and Sarah are recipients of numerous scholarships and grants, including the Valerie B. Schwarz Grant from the Salon de Virtuosi program in 2001 and the Theodore Presser Scholarship at Michigan in 2004. Performances with orchestras include: the Bruch Double Concerto with the Florida Classical Orchestra under Stewart Robertson in 2008, the Poulenc Concerto for Two Pianos with the University of Michigan Philharmonic Orchestra under Kenneth Kiesler in 2004, and the Mozart Concerto in Eb, K. 365 with the Manhattan Preparatory Symphony Orchestra under James Sadewhite in 1998.

The piano duo team has had coachings with renowned pianists and professors Jeffrey Cohen, Franklin Larey, John O'Connor, Christopher Harding, Katherine Collier, Philip Bush, Julia and Irina Elkina, Angela Cheng, Alvin Chow, Peter Basquin, Ed Turgeon, and Alex Braginsky.

For further information, please visit Susan and Sarah Wang's website at <http://www.wangpianoduo.com>