

Biography

Nicole A. Narboni, D.M.A.

Known for her silvery tone, inspiring master classes, and broad solo and chamber music repertoire, Nicole Narboni is a pianist, teacher, blogger and advocate for broadening access and understanding to classical music in traditionally underserved communities.

As part of her musical mission, Dr. Narboni is reaching out to new audiences in rural areas of Nebraska. She is a 2008-2009 recipient of a \$10,000 Layman Fund grant which has allowed her to create the project “[Piano-in-Tow](#)”. With additional assistance from Yamaha Concert Artists Division, Narboni has taken her Yamaha C-7 grand piano to communities throughout Nebraska, South Dakota and Minnesota for a series of live classical concerts. During the day, Dr. Narboni gives informal talks and performs for middle and high school students and in the evening, she plays for adults members of these communities.

As part of the inaugural tour, Nebraska Educational Television sent a crew to film the school visits. This video has been featured on NET's “Nebraska Stories.” (<http://tiny.cc/pianointowNET>)

In addition to Dr. Narboni’s musical pursuits, she is Senior Lecturer in Piano at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln School of Music, where she has won awards for her innovative and inspired teaching. As proof of Dr. Narboni's commitment to teaching excellence, she has been awarded the Beta Theta Pi “Outstanding Educator on Campus” award for 2010. Narboni has also received the UNL Parents' Outstanding Teaching Award three times. It is a testimony to her ability to interest, engage, and enliven the musical experience for students.

Beginning in the fall of 2009, Dr. Narboni and Dr. Pedersen (UNL Professor and Director of Science Education) have been working together on a project to integrate music and science. It is recognized that in order for science and music to become more prominent in the elementary school curriculum, unique ways have to be developed to include these disciplines in the school day. Taking this as the main objective, Drs. Narboni and Pedersen have developed a unit that focuses on key science and music concepts. Having pilot tested the unit in the fall of 2009, revisions are under way with plans of publishing the unit in the spring of 2011.

Dr. Narboni has a B.M. degree from the University of Texas, a M.M. from the Shepherd School of Music, Rice University and a DMA from the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. She has studied with renowned piano masters Reah Sadowsky, John Perry and Yoheved Kaplinsky.

Nicole Narboni is an accomplished performer and recitalist both in the U.S. and abroad. As a champion of 20th-century French keyboard music, she frequently performs and presents lectures here, in France and in Morocco on such composers as Jean Francaix, Germaine Tailleferre, Olivier Messaien, Claude Debussy, and Maurice Ravel. She has often performed as a guest artist at the prestigious Cercle France-Amérique in Paris. During the 2009-2010 season, Dr. Narboni performed in the Liszt Society's annual festival at the University of

Nebraska. She also played the inaugural recital at the Fenton Theatre in Lincoln. As part of her passion for chamber music, Narboni regularly collaborates with UNL School of Music instrumental faculty.

Narboni's acclaimed concert performances have been broadcast on WQXR in New York, WETA/WGMS in Washington DC, and on more than 200 NPR stations nationwide via American Public Media's Performance Today. She frequently serves as an adjudicator, speaker, and presenter at conferences, competitions, and festivals. Nicole Narboni has conducted masterclasses at the Ameropa Chamber Music Festival in Prague, Czeck Republic, at the MusicFest Northwest in Spokane, Washington and at the Chamber Music Institute at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

As a recording artist, Nicole Narboni has issued CDs of works by Germaine Tailleferre, Francis Poulenc, Béla Bartók, Paul Bowles, Randall Snyder, and Bohuslav Martinu. Her newest release, a multimedia CD/video project supported in part by a grant from the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts, is devoted to the solo piano works of Jean Françaix. Selections from the CD, "The Solo Piano Works of Jean Francaix" have been featured on radio stations throughout the country and Dr. Narboni appeared through remote broadcast as a featured guest on WFMT's (Chicago) "Impromptu" hosted by Steve Robinson in March of 2009.

For many years, Dr. Narboni collaborated with musical partner Mark Clinton as the Clinton-Narboni Duo. They won a number of significant prizes, including the 1994 ProPiano New York Recital Competition, the 1995 National Federation of Music Clubs Ellis Duo Piano Competition, the Alvin Perlman prize at the Fifth Murray Dranoff International Two Piano Competition, and the 1996 Concorso Internazionale Carlo Soliva (four-hand division). The Clinton/Narboni Duo made their New York debut at Carnegie Recital Hall in February 1995, their Chicago debut on the prestigious Dame Myra Hess Series in July 1996, and their European debut in Paris in June 1997. They gave the world premiere performance of Ned Rorem's "Six Variations for Two Pianos" in Miami in December 1995. Clinton and Narboni's debut compact disc, "Works for Two Pianos and Piano Four-Hands by Germaine Tailleferre" (ELAN CD 82278) received high praise from Gramophone magazine which selected it as an "Editor's Choice" selection in the November 1997 issue and declared it "...absolutely first rate, with an immensely engaging spirit, delicacy, variety of touch and subtle shadings...an irresistibly joyous disc."

Nicole Narboni, a Steinway Artist, has been a faculty member at the School of Music at UNL since 1995. She can be reached at nnarboni1@unl.edu. You can also find her unique perspectives on music, the arts, and life in Lincoln, Nebraska on her blogsite: <http://drnan.wordpress.com>.