



BETH LEVIN

PIANIST

2020 // EPK

BIOGRAPHY

Brooklyn-based pianist BETH LEVIN is celebrated as a bold interpreter of challenging works, from the Romantic canon to leading modernist composers. *The New York Times* praised her “fire and originality,” while *The New Yorker* called her playing “revelatory.” *Fanfare* described Levin’s artistry as “fierce in its power,” with “a huge range of colors.”

Debuting as a child prodigy with the Philadelphia Orchestra at age twelve, Levin was subsequently taught and guided by legendary pianists such as Rudolf Serkin, Leonard Shure and Dorothy Taubman. Another of her teachers, Paul Badura-Skoda, praised Levin as “a pianist of rare qualities and the highest professional caliber.” Her deep well of experience allows an intuitive connection to the great pianistic traditions, to Bach, to Mozart, to Beethoven.

Critics hail the immediacy of her performances. “Levin plays with a rare percussive audacity, making notes and phrases that usually rush by in the background stand out in high relief,” writes Richard Brody in *The New Yorker*. “Her choice of adventure over suaveness,” stated David Patrick Stearns of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, “created a sense of barely controlled improvisation.”

Levin has appeared as a concerto soloist with numerous symphony orchestras, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Pops Orchestra, the Boston Civic Symphony and the Seattle Symphony Orchestra. She has also worked with noted conductors such as Arthur Fiedler, Tonu Kalam, Milton Katims, Joseph Silverstein and Benjamin Zander.

BIOGRAPHY

Chamber music festival collaborations have brought Levin to the Marlboro Festival, Casals Festival, Harvard, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the Ankara Music Festival and the Blue Hill Festival, collaborating with such groups such as the Gramercy Trio (founding member), the Audubon Quartet, the Vermeer Quartet and the Trio Borealis, with which she has toured extensively. Her solo performances have been broadcast on National Public Radio, WGBH (Boston), WFMT (Chicago) and WNYC, WNYE, and WQXR (New York).

Among Levin's recent albums include *Bright Circle: Schubert, Brahms, Del Tredici*, on Navona Records; *Personae: Chopin, Eliasson, Schumann*, released on the Parma label, and *Inward Voice: Schumann, Eliasson, Schubert*, from Aldila. Wrote Henry Fogel in *Fanfare*, reviewing *Bright Circle*: "Levin's performance is a blend of power and grace, wit and warmth, grandeur and intimacy. It is worthy of standing alongside that of her teacher [Rudolf Serkin]." Tiara Atai in *Music and Vision*, reviewing *Personae*: "Levin's performance is near perfection, maintaining intensity in each note and crystalline tone in every register."

Two live performance recordings have been extremely well praised: Bach's Goldberg Variations and Beethoven's Diabelli Variations, both released by Centaur Records. Steve Smith of *The New York Times* described her interpretation of Diabelli "consistently fascinating," while Robert Levine of *Stereophile Magazine* termed it "stunning." Of Levin's Goldberg Variations, Peter Burwasser of *Fanfare Magazine* stated that "she is in love with the notes...with always the sense that she is exploring Bach's genius."

BIOGRAPHY

For all her devotion to the Romantic canon, Levin remains committed to the performance of the music of our time, interpreting composers such as Henryk Gorecki, Scott Wheeler, Mohammed Farouz and Michael Rose, among many others. Her closest collaborators have been the composers David Del Tredici and Andrew Rudin, both of whom have written works for her.

Photo Credit: Tess Steinkolk

WEBSITE //

www.bethlevinpiano.com

SOCIAL MEDIA //

www.facebook.com/bethlevinpiano/

[www.linkedin.com/beth-levin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/beth-levin)

REVIEWS

"A pianist with a bold interpretive personality and a powerful technique. She brought fire and originality to her program."

ALLAN KOZINN, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"From the very beginning of Op. 109, which started very quietly, slowly, ruminatively, and was filled in by diabolically dark and threatening notes in the left hand, it was apparent that the evening's music would be filled with a rare fury. Ultimately, she brought the full terror factor to the music, realizing a vision of Beethoven as a dynamo of fantasy that ranged from celestial to violent—a wild man shattering with both fists the Biedermeier china and the sociable decorum. From pages of the scores that Beethoven filled with aggressively slashing clusters of notes, Levin played with a swirling, thunderous frenzy."

RICHARD BRODY, THE NEW YORKER

"Over the years Levin has transformed herself. The flame still burns with undimmed intensity but now there is warmth as well as blinding light...these were performances that Rudolph Serkin would have relished for their density and solidity of musical substance, and envied for their purely pianistic panache."

RICHARD DYER, THE BOSTON GLOBE

"Levin's personal connection and deep affinity for the three Beethoven sonatas on the bill –Nos. 109-111 – made itself obvious from the beginning. But beyond the alternately harrowing and mystical quality of her playing, what was just as revelatory is that she'd programmed the three pieces as a suite. Imputing intentions to an artist or composer can be risky, but by the end of the performance, Levin left no doubt that Beethoven had created these works as an integral whole. Playing a big, robust, restored 1887 Steinway, she brought out every bit of lingering otherworldliness in the rapturously hypnotic variations that serve as perhaps the most vivid link connecting the three sonatas, along with plenty of wrathful firepower."

DELARUE, LUCID CULTURE

VIDEOS

Rameau, 3 Pieces for Piano

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tj7knBaN8IU&t=26s

Schubert, Piano Sonata D. 959, No. 20 in A Major // II. Andantino

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKk_OO3EFYQ

Beethoven, Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor Op. 37

www.youtube.com/watch?v=awd_h_XwFos&t=704s

Brahms, Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel Op. 24

www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G1SdSv8ecY

REPERTOIRE

Works for Piano and Orchestra

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH //

Clavier Concerti

No. 1 in D Minor, BWV 1052

No. 2 in E Major, BWV 1053

No. 3 in D Major, BWV 1054

No. 5 in F Minor, BWV 1056

No. 7 in G Minor, BWV 1057

Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 in D Major, BWV 1050

BELA BARTOK //

Concerto No. 3

Concerto for Two Pianos, Percussion, and Orchestra

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN //

Solo Concerti

No. 1 in C, Op. 15

No. 2 in B-flat, Op. 19

No. 3 in C Minor, Op. 37

No. 4 in G, Op. 58

No. 5 in E-flat, Op. 73 "Emperor"

Fantasy for Piano, Chorus, and Orchestra in C Minor, Op. 80

Triple Concerto in C, Op. 56

REPERTOIRE

Works for Piano and Orchestra

JOHANNES BRAHMS //

Concerto No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 15
Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major, Op. 83

FREDERIC CHOPIN //

Concerto No. 2 in F Minor, Op. 21
Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante, Op. 22

EDVARD GRIEG //

Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN //

Concerto in C Major, Hob. VIII:1
Concerto in D Major, Hob. VIII:XI

DIMITRY KABALEVSKI //

Concerto No. 3 in D

FRANZ LISZT //

Concerto No. 2 in A Major

FELIX MENDELSSOHN //

No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 16

REPERTOIRE

Works for Piano and Orchestra

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART //

E-flat, K. 107, No. 3 (after J.C. Bach)
No. 6 in B-flat, K. 238
No. 8 in C, K. 246
No. 9 in E-flat, K. 271 "Jeunhomme"
No. 11 in F, K. 413
No. 12 in A, K. 414
No. 14 in E-flat, K. 449
No. 15 in B-flat, K. 450
No. 16 in D, K. 451
No. 17 in G, K. 453
No. 18 in B-flat, K. 456
No. 20 in D Minor, K. 466
No. 21 in C, K. 467
No. 22 in E-flat, K. 482
No. 23 in A, K. 488
No. 24 in C Minor, K. 491
No. 27 in B-flat, K. 595

FRANCIS POULENC //

Concerto for Piano and Orchestra (1949)

SERGEI PROKOFIEV //

Concerto No. 1 in D-flat, Op. 10

REPERTOIRE

Works for Piano and Orchestra

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF //

Concerto No. 1 in F-sharp Minor, Op. 1

Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18

Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini, Op. 43

MAURICE RAVEL //

Concerto in G

ROBERT SCHUMANN //

Concerto in A Minor, Op. 54

DIMITRY SHOSTAKOVICH //

Concerto No. 2 in F Major, Op. 102

PETER TCHAIKOVSKY //

Concerto No. 1 in B-flat Minor, Op. 23

REPERTOIRE

Solo Works

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH //

The Well-Tempered Clavier // Books I and II
 The Art of Fugue // Complete
 The Goldberg Variations
 Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue
 Italian Concerto
 French Overture // Partita in B minor
 The Complete Inventions and Sinfonias
 The Six Partitas
 The Six French Suites
 The Six English Suites
 Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 894
 Fantasy in C minor, BWV 906
 Fantasy and Fugue in A minor, BWV 904
 Fantasy and Fugue in A minor, BWV 944

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN //

Sonata Op. 2 No. 2 in A major
 Sonata Op. 2 No 3 in C
 Sonata Op. 7 in E-flat major
 Sonata Op. 10 No 1 in C minor
 Sonata Op. 10 No 2 in F
 Sonata Op. 10 No 3 in D
 Sonata Op. 13 in C minor // "Pathétique"
 Sonata Op. 22 in B flat
 Sonata Op. 27 No 2 in C-sharp minor // "Moonlight"

REPERTOIRE

Solo Works

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN //

Sonata Op. 26 in A flat
Sonata Op. 28 in D // "Pastoral"
Sonata Op. 31 No 3 in E flat
Sonata Op. 49 No 1 in G minor
Sonata Op. 49 No 2 in G major
Sonata Op. 54 in F major
Sonata Op. 57 in F minor // "Appassionata"
Sonata Op. 78 in F sharp
Sonata Op. 90 in E minor
Sonata Op. 101 in A major
Sonata, Op. 106, the // "Hammerklavier"
Sonata Op. 110 in A flat
Variations in F major, Op. 34
Eroica Variations, Op. 35

JOHANNES BRAHMS //

Scherzo in E-flat minor, Op.4
Sonata in F minor, Op.5
Variations on a Theme by Schumann, Op.9
Variations on a Theme by Handel, Op.24
Waltzes, Op.39
Two Rhapsodies, Op.79

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN //

Selected Nocturnes (21)
The Four Impromptus
Selected Scherzos

REPERTOIRE

Solo Repertoire

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN //

Sonata in B-flat minor, Op.35
Fantasy in F minor
Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante
Ballades Nos 1, 3 and 4
Polonaises in C-sharp minor and F-sharp minor
Various Mazurkas

FRANÇOIS COUPERIN //

Pièces de Clavecin
Ordres: 6, 8, 13, 18, 21, 24, 26, & 27

CLAUDE DEBUSSY //

- *Pour le Piano*
- *Estampes*
- *L'Isle Joyeuse*
- *Suite Bergamasque*
- *Children's Corner*
- *Danse*

DAVID DEL TREDICI //

Selected Works

VLADIMIR N. DROZDOFF //

Elegia
Two Pieces for Piano: Dithyramb, Ode to the Past

REPERTOIRE

Solo Repertoire

CÉSAR FRANCK //

Thème et Variations, op.73

GABRIEL FAURÉ //

Ballade, Op.19

Nocturnes Nos 3, 5, 6, 13

Valses-Caprice Nos 1 and 2

Barcarolle No 3

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL //

Suite No. 2 in F major

Suite No. 8 in F minor

Chaconne and 21 Variations in G major

JOSEPH HAYDN //

Sonata in E-flat major, Hob.52

Andante and Variations in F minor

WANG JIE //

Memories of that First Summer

FRANZ LISZT //

Sonata in B minor

Après une Lecture de Dante

REPERTOIRE

Solo Repertoire

FELIX MENDELSSOHN //

Various Songs without Words
Variations Sérieuses, Op.54

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART //

Sonata K.281 in B-flat major
Sonata K.282 in E-flat major
Sonata K.283 in G major
Sonata K.330 in C major
Sonata K.332 in F major
Sonata K.333 in B-flat major
Sonata K.457 in C minor
Sonata K.545 in C major
Sonata K.576 in D major
Three Fantasias, K.396,397,475
Variations on "Ah, vous dirai-je Maman"

MODEST MUSSORGSKY //

Pictures at an Exhibition

ALBA POTES //

Soliloquio II // Dedicated to Beth Levin

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF //

Variations on a Theme by Corelli
Selected Preludes from Op. 23 and 32

REPERTOIRE

Solo Repertoire

MAURICE RAVEL //

Jeux d'Eau
Sonatine
Gaspard de la Nuit

ANDREW RUDIN //

Sonata for Piano // Written for Beth Levin
Museum Pieces

FRANZ SCHUBERT //

Sonata in G major, Op.78 // D.894
Four Impromptus, Op.90
Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 122
Two Impromptus, Op.142 // Nos. 2 & 3
Twelve Valses Nobles, D. 969

ROBERT SCHUMANN //

ABEGG Variations, Op.1
Papillons, Op.2
Davidsbündlertänze, Op. 6
Sonata in F-sharp minor, Op.11
Kinderszenen, Op.15
Arabeske, Op.18
Humoreske, Op.20
Novelletten, Op.21
Sonata in G minor, Op.22
Waldszenen, Op.82

REPERTOIRE

Solo Repertoire

SCOTT WHEELER //

Selected "Portraits"

YEHUDI WYNER //

Selected Works

REPERTOIRE

Chamber Works

BELA BARTOK //

Contrasts, Sz. 111, BB 116

Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion, Sz. 110, BB 115

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN //

Numerous Piano Trios

Complete Piano and Violin Sonatas

Clarinet Trio Op. 11

Cello Sonatas Nos. 1-5

Horn Sonata

REPERTOIRE

Chamber Works

JOHANNES BRAHMS //

Piano Quintet, Op. 34
Piano Quartets Nos. 1-3
Violin Sonatas Nos. 1-3
Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major, Op. 8
Cello Sonata No. 1 in E minor, Op. 38
Cello Sonata No. 2 in F major, Op. 99
Clarinet Trio, Op. 114
Clarinet Sonatas Op. 120

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

Polonaise Brillante for cello and piano

AARON COPLAND

Violin Sonata
Danzon Cubano for two pianos

CLAUDE DEBUSSY

Violin Sonata in G minor
Cello Sonata in D minor

ERNŐ DOHNÁNYI //

Piano Quintet No. 1 in C minor, Op. 1

REPERTOIRE

Chamber Works

ANTONIN DVOŘÁK //

Piano Quartet No. 2 in E-flat Major, Op. 87
Piano Quintet No. 2, Op. 81
Violin Sonata, Sonatine, Four Romantic Pieces
Piano Trio Op. 65

CESAR FRANCK

Piano Quintet in F minor
Violin Sonata in A major

GABRIEL FAURÉ //

Piano Quartet, Op. 45
Violin Sonata, Op. 13

JOSEPH HAYDN //

Numerous Piano Trios

LEOŠ JANÁČEK //

Capriccio
Concertino

BOHUSLAV MATRINU

Trio for flute, violin and piano

REPERTOIRE

Chamber Works

FELIX MENDELSSOHN //

Piano Trio No. 1, Op. 49

Piano Trio No. 2, Op. 66

DARIUS MILHAUD

Trio for clarinet, violin and piano

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART //

Numerous Piano and Violin Sonatas

Piano Quartet in G minor, K. 478

Piano Quartet in Eb major, K. 493

Quintet for Piano and Winds, K. 452

Kegelstadt Trio, K. 498

Sonata in D Major for 2 pianos, K. 448

ASTOR PIAZZOLA //

Various Tangos

FRANCIS POULENC //

Five Melodies for voice/violin and piano, Op. 35

Overture on Hebrew Themes, Op. 34

Violin Sonata in F minor, Op. 80

Violin/Flute Sonata in D Major

REPERTOIRE

Chamber Works

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF //

Cello Sonata, Op. 19

MAURICE RAVEL

Violin Sonata

ANDREW RUDIN

Cello Sonata

Ephemera for Clarinet and Piano

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS

Violin Sonata No. 1 in D minor, op. 75

FRANZ SCHUBERT //

Introduction and Variations on "Trockne Blumen" for Flute and Piano

Piano Trio No. 1 in B-flat major, D. 898

Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, D. 929

Sonatensatz for Piano Trio

Sonatinas for Violin and Piano

"Trout" Quintet

REPERTOIRE

Chamber Works

ROBERT SCHUMANN //

Piano Quintet, Op. 44
Piano Trio, Op. 63
Violin Sonata No. 1, Op. 105
Violin Sonata No. 2, Op. 121
Romanzes (various instrumentations)

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH //

Piano Quintet, Op. 57
Piano Trio No.2, Op. 67
Violin Sonata

KAROL SZYMANOWSKI //

Three Mythes for violin and piano

PYOTR I. TCHAIKOVSKY //

Piano Trio in A minor, Op. 50

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