

RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENTS

Butterflying

*Elena Kats-Chernin
& Tamara-Anna Cislowska*

Image by Steven Godbee

SUNDAY 10 APRIL AT 3PM RIVER

SIDE MUSIC

MUSICIANS

ELENA KATS-CHERNIN
COMPOSER AND PIANIST

TAMARA-ANNA CISLOWSKA
PIANIST

cinque
artist management

BIOGRAPHIES



**ELENA
KATS-
CHERNIN**
Composer and Pianist

“Tamara and I like to play with material. We like to experiment. Perhaps there lies the essence of what we do together in our group and why this form of music comes so naturally to us. Being a composer since I was a very little girl, I have always improvised at the piano. I played the piano. I played WITH the piano. Every single day of my life. It is simply what I do. When I am not doing it, I think about when I will do it next. It is my best friend and my great love.

Tamara loves to play as well and so, since we met in 1995, we have often played together. It is only in the last few years that we have decided to perform in public (or rather, Tamara convinced me that we should!). We think alike and that makes it easy for us to fit together. Tamara has always had a great understanding of my music and so what could be very complicated becomes very easy. I don't have to say in words how the music should be, and that is a great relief because notes are really

my language, not words! What is so simply played or written in music is incredibly difficult to express in words.

In the works that we present, Tamara often plays what I would call the outline of my written score or sketches whilst leaving me plenty of room to elaborate or create further. The piece can take an entirely different turn by the end of the performance! It is this freshness and licence of creativity that excites me about these concerts, and many times a new piece has been born out of what happens on the stage.”

– Elena Kats-Chernin

Born in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, Elena Kats-Chernin studied music in Moscow, Sydney and Hanover.

She has created works across nearly every genre, from rags to ballet and operas, and from intimate compositions for piano, string trio and chamber ensembles to robotic instruments, and full-scale choir and symphony orchestra, from the world's leading orchestras, opera, ballet and theatre companies and festivals. Her music featured at the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games and the 2003 Rugby World Cup. She has received many prestigious prizes for her music (such as 'Best Original Score' and 'Best Composition') from the Helpmann Awards, Limelight, Sounds Australia, Sydney Theatre Awards and a Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award (2013).

Companies setting ballets to her scores include Nederlands Dans Theater, Munich Ballet Theater, San Francisco Ballet and the Stuttgart Ballet. The extraordinary reach of Kats-Chernin's music spans the worlds of film and television also: *Eliza's Aria* - from her score for Meryl Tankard's ballet *Wild Swans*, commissioned by the Australian

Ballet - was used in British Bank, Lloyds TSB's celebrated ad campaign 'For The Journey'. Her *Russian Rag* was used in the claymation feature film, *Mary and Max* by Oscar-winning director Adam Elliot, and was also the theme for *Late Night Live* on ABC Radio National for many years (now, *Eliza's Aria*).

Elena Kats-Chernin was featured in *Creative Minds*, a 6-part TV portrait documentary series by Robin Hughes. Her 10-hour adaptation of Monteverdi's opera trilogy at the Komische Oper Berlin, directed by Barrie Kosky, was broadcast live on the 3SAT TV channel across Europe in 2012.

In 2015 Elena collaborated with the Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company and the Smith Quartet on *Material Men*, which premiered at the Southbank Centre in London. A second collaboration, *The Three Dancers*, based on Picasso's eponymous painting and choreographed by Didy Veldman for Rambert Dance Company, premiered at Sadler's Wells.

The same year, Elena's children's opera *Schneewittchen und die 77 Zweige* (*Snow White and the 77 Dwarves*) was premiered to wide acclaim at the renowned Komische Oper Berlin, along with the broadcast of her widely-praised episodic opera, *The Divorce*, on-screen and online by ABC. With libretto by Joanna Murray-Smith, this pioneering work was commissioned by Opera Australia and produced by ABC TV and Princess Pictures, featuring artists including Kate Miller-Heidke, Lisa McCune, Marina Prior and Meow Meow.

For the centenary of Gallipoli, Kats-Chernin's five movement work *Meeting the Sun* was commissioned by the Kokoda Memorial Track Walkway and performed by the Royal Australian Navy Band and the Sydney Childrens' Choir. Her movement

Landing was featured in the Gallipoli Symphony project, which premiered in Istanbul, Turkey and Brisbane, Australia.

Elena is currently writing for Australian World Orchestra, The Flinders Quartet and the Australian Chamber Orchestra, and her music is published exclusively by Boosey & Hawkes / Bote und Bock.

In addition to her work as a composer, Kats-Chernin is an accomplished pianist with recent live performance engagements including for Sydney Opera House's *All About Women Festival* in 2015 (broadcast by ABC Classic FM for International Women's Day), Australian Festival of Chamber Music in Townsville (QLD), Canberra International Music Festival and Recitals Australia (Adelaide). In 2016, concerts include Melbourne Recital Centre, The Concourse and Riverside Theatres Parramatta (Sydney), Music by the Sea (Brisbane), and regional centres such as Geelong and Kangaroo Valley's Arts in the Valley Festival with her long-time collaborator, ARIA award-winning Australian pianist Tamara-Anna Cislowska.

This year heralds ABC Classics' highly anticipated release of *Butterflying*, a double disc recording of Elena Kats-Chernin's music for piano with solo performances by Cislowska and unique 'four hands' renditions of the spectrum of Kats-Chernin's work, by both pianist and composer.

Find out more about Elena at
boosey.com/katschernin



TAMARA- ANNA CISLOWSKA

Pianist

“Riding shotgun with one of our greatest ever composers is a powerful experience! To sit next to Elena is to enter a force-field of the highest creativity and musicianship. Being alongside this draws from me inspiration I often didn't know was there and I seem to enter into her world and music as if I had always been a part of it. When we use the piano it is as one artist and so the parts naturally extend from the core of the music itself rather than being in two set parts or divided into four hands. When we perform, I see a stream of music that runs through the instrument itself as well as us. Such is the magic of her thought.

Elena's works have never been geared to any instrument in particular, that is why her 'pure' music is so successful across all types of solo and ensemble combinations. It is this core of artistry and material that we work with in our concerts. Often we perform a piece written for orchestra which may have a full score of over 80 pages. In front of us, performing the same piece, are a few A4 bits of paper containing sketches. From this we will reconstruct the work, Elena leading the way with me running along behind, or sometimes trying to anticipate where she is heading. Each performance will be different and many pieces have been 're-transformed' in the course of our concerts. I think it is a thrilling experience for an audience or any onlooker to actually see, hear and feel what composition and creation actually is. Much musicology and research goes into trying to recreate the exact environment, conditions and sound-world of our legendary composers such as Bach, Mozart and Beethoven to gain any kind of insight into their genius - and here we have it before our very eyes when we see Elena!

In all my years of collaboration with great artists, ensembles and performers, none has brought me more joy and excitement than this partnership. Ensemble work is about synchronising a goal and working as one entity, and in this duo we have a group that is both uplifting and challenging at the same time, full of fun and meaning, virtuosity, intelligence and real music-making.”

– Tamara-Anna Cislowska

Tamara-Anna Cislowska is one of Australia's most acclaimed and recognised pianists for both her solo and chamber performances, and winner of the 2015 ARIA award for 'Best Classical Album' for her recording *Peter Sculthorpe: Complete Works for Solo Piano* (ABC Classics). She has performed worldwide with repertoire spanning five centuries, and won international prizes in London, Italy and Greece, including the Rovere d'Oro.

The youngest pianist to win ABC Young Performer of the Year at age 14, other awards include the David Paul Landa Memorial Scholarship for pianists, the Freedman Fellowship, and in 2012, the APRA-AMCOS Art Music Award for *Performance of the Year (ACT)*.

Tamara is a regular guest of orchestras and festivals in Europe, America and Australasia, including as soloist with the London Philharmonic, the New Zealand Symphony, and all the Australian symphony orchestras with conductors such as Matthias Bamert, Edo de Waart, Asher Fisch, Johannes Fritzs, Christopher Hogwood, James Judd, Markus Stenz and Yaron Traub. She has toured with the Australian Chamber Orchestra and as recitalist has performed at the Purcell Room in London, Kleine Zaal of the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Frick Collection in New York and Sydney Opera House. She was a founding member of the acclaimed Mozart Piano Quartet in Berlin, and Australia Quartet in Sydney.

As a recording artist, Tamara has recorded for Chandos, Naxos, ABC Classics, Tall Poppies, Artworks and MDG (Dabringhaus und Grimm) received three ARIA nominations and critical acclaim, with 7 solo albums featuring in the classical charts, including her 2014 release, *Peter Sculthorpe: Complete Works for Solo Piano* (ABC Classics) reaching No.1 in the ARIA Classical and Limelight charts and 'Editor's Choice – Instrumental' in BBC Music Magazine, January 2015. Earning 5 star reviews, the landmark recording has been described as “*Australian piano gold*” (BBC Music Magazine), “*a profoundly affecting release*” (Gramophone), and “*an Australian treasure*” (news.com.au).

Most recent and upcoming engagements include as soloist with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, Queensland Symphony Orchestra, and Sydney Youth Orchestras, along with solo and chamber recitals around Australia including for the renowned Musica Viva and Canberra International Music Festivals, Australian Festival of Chamber Music, Australian World Orchestra, Museum of Old and New Art's Festival of Music and Art, ABC Sunday Live and for Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Recital Centre, and Elder Hall (Adelaide).

In addition to this *Butterflying* tour, 2016 engagements include as Artist-in-Residence at Darwin Festival, Australian World Orchestra in Sydney and Singapore, Musica Viva's Huntington Festival, Bowral Autumn Music Festival, and two tours to Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne and France for the centenary of Australian composer, Frederick Septimus Kelly. Tamara also records on the new album by Gurrumul, along with many solo recitals Australia-wide.

Find out more about Tamara-Anna at tamara-annacislowska.com.au

PROGRAM

SLICKED BACK TANGO

BUTTERFLYING

LULLABY FOR NICK

FIRST DANCE

RUSSIAN RAG

RUSSIAN TOCCATA

BLUE SILENCE

DANCE OF THE PAPER UMBRELLAS

CONVERSATION

ELIZA'S ARIA

CINEMA

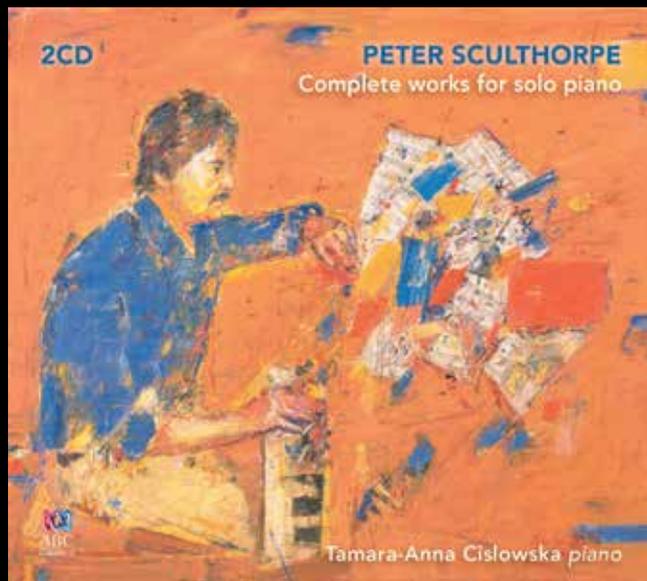
RAIN PUZZLE

REMEMBERING BIALYSTOK

HOMECOMING

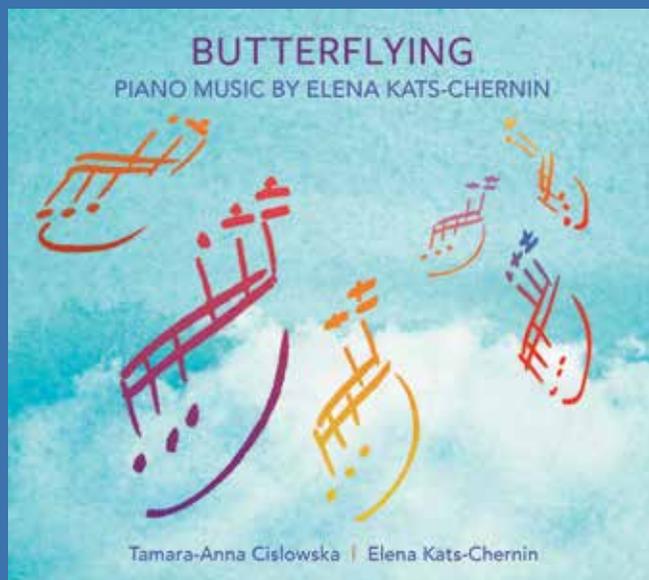
MERCHANDISE

PURCHASE SOME TAMARA-ANNA CISLOWSKA MERCHANDISE, AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER AFTER THE SHOW.



PETER SCULTHORPE:
THE COMPLETE WORKS
FOR SOLO PIANO - \$25
THE PERSIAN HOURS - \$20
DANCE OF THE
WILD MEN - \$20

BOTH TAMARA-ANNA AND ELENA WILL BE SIGNING CD'S AFTER THE PERFORMANCE.



BUTTERFLYING:
PIANO MUSIC OF
ELENA KATS-CHERNIN
(ABC CLASSICS)
WILL BE AVAILABLE IN STORES ON MAY 6, 2016 AND IS AVAILABLE NOW FOR PRE-ORDER AT THE ABC SHOP ONLINE.

RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENTS

TEDDY TAHU RHODES*
AND JANE RUTTER

CLASSICAL HEROES
~ AND THE ART OF ~
SEDUCTION

ALL TICKETS INCLUDE A GLASS OF CHAMPAGNE OR DRINK OF YOUR CHOICE!

Award-winning bass baritone singer Teddy Tahu Rhodes and internationally acclaimed flautist Jane Rutter are both bona fide rock stars of the classical music world. In this concert they combine their musical gifts, pulling at your heartstrings with some of the world's greatest love songs.

FRIDAY 15 APRIL AT 8PM

RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENTS

Nick Parnell

VIBES VIRTUOSO

Nick Parnell, one of the world's greatest vibraphone players, will re-imagine some of music's greatest 'hits' in this inspirational and energetic show.

"Nick Parnell is a complete and utter star. A brilliant and beautiful performer."
ABC Radio Classical FM

SUNDAY 29 MAY AT 3PM

RIVERSIDE THEATRES PRESENTS

LIZ MARTIN

In a sweet spot between jazz, pop, folk and electronica Liz Martin has found a groove that perfectly conveys the subtle, wistful, longing of a poet's muse with a suite of songs that range from heart achingly tender ballads to playful instrumentals.

"...wildly eclectic...quirky, playful hipness coupled with emotional openness... an ever-changing, surprising ride..."

Lucky Oceans, ABC Radio National DJ and jazz musician

SUNDAY 19 JUNE AT 6PM

RIVERSIDE THEATRES

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ROBERT LOVE

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NATIONAL THEATRE OF PARRAMATTA
JOANNE KEE

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