



BIOGRAPHY – DR. HALEY SIMONS

“One of the best pianists in Canada today”

Dr. Ernesto Lejano

Haley Simons received her Doctor of Music and Bachelor of Music degrees from the University of Alberta with Marek Jablonski and Ernesto Lejano. Her Master of Music degree was completed with John Perry at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University in Houston, Texas. Dr. Simons has attended the Banff Centre and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria on scholarship from the Johann Strauss Foundation. In 1989, she received a scholarship to attend the Musique International Summer Academy in Alkmaar, Holland. She has studied under such renowned teachers as Jean-Paul Sevilla, Robin Harrison, Claude Helffer, Jan Wyn, Karl-Heinz Kammerling, Germaine Mounier, and Adam Wibrowski.

In addition to recitals in Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Texas, Ohio, Illinois, Austria, Holland, and Poland, her performances include appearances with the St.Cecilia, Edmonton Youth, CFRN-TV, and Edmonton Symphony Orchestras. Dr. Simons has appeared in concert with maestros Grzegorz Nowak, Uri Mayer, Agnes Grossmann, Daniel Swift, and Malcolm Forsyth. Along with many radio and television appearances, Haley Simons has won numerous prizes and awards from the CBC (radio), Canadian Music Competition, Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Alberta Culture, Young Keyboard Artists Piano Competition, and San Antonio (Texas) Piano Competition.

Haley is a member of the highly acclaimed, award-winning new music ensemble Hammerhead Consort. In addition to successful appearances at the Winnipeg New Music festival and with the ESO under the direction of Maestro Grzegorz Nowak, Hammerhead Consort finished their 2000 concert season with a performance tour of Poland. The Consort has also appeared with Heidi Bunting and the Brian Webb Dance Company, Maestro Nowak and the Calgary Girl's choir, and Pro Coro Canada. The Consort has, to date, commissioned over thirty works by Canadian composers, has two award-winning CDs on the Arktos label, and has recently won an Alberta Foundation Arts award to complete a third CD.

Dr. Simons was on the music faculty at Alberta College for nine years, was Visiting Artist Lecturer and Instructor at the University of Alberta for five years, and is active as soloist and chamber musician, clinician, author, and recording artist. She resides in Edmonton, Canada with her family.

Most recently, she formed “Creative Alberta”, a not for profit Society formed to stimulate creativity and innovation in the areas of education, culture and business. For more information about Creative Alberta, check out the following: http://www.epsb.ca/board/dec14_10/item04.pdf.

For more information, check out her website at: www.haleysimons.com