

AUDREY ANDRIST

Canadian pianist Audrey Andrist grew up on a farm in rural Saskatchewan. While still in high school, she commuted six hours round trip for piano lessons with William Moore, himself a former student of famed teachers Rosina Lhévinne and Cécile Genhart. Ms. Andrist went on to study at the University of Regina on a full scholarship with Moore, and later traveled to New York, where she completed Masters and Doctoral degrees at the Juilliard School with Herbert Stessin. Now a busy soloist and chamber player, Ms. Andrist has performed with the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, and the Juilliard Orchestra in Alice Tully Hall.

With the CBC Vancouver Orchestra, she and Maestro Mario Bernardi presented the world premiere of a piano concerto written especially for her by Canadian composer Andrew MacDonald. She is the first-prize winner of the San Antonio International Competition, the Mozart International Competition, and the Juilliard Concerto Competition. She toured Canada, performing extensively as the winner of the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, and has recorded for Summit Records, Albany Records, Capstone, CRI, New Dynamic Records, Innova, AUR, CBC Radio, and NPR's "Performance Today". Her recording, "The Great Square of Pegasus" (music by Andrew MacDonald with violinist Jasper Wood on the Centrediscs label), won the 2004 East Coast Music Award for Best Classical Album of the Year. Her 2011 disc, "Gumbo" with clarinetist Rob Patterson, won the Washington Area Music Award for Best Classical CD of the Year.

A truly versatile and adventurous musician, Ms. Andrist has performed and recorded music for synthesizer, harmonium and harpsichord, and has served as orchestral pianist in both Canada and the United States. An ardent exponent of new music, Ms. Andrist has over 30 world premieres to her credit, and has had many works composed for her and the ensembles with which she plays.

She is a member of the Stern/Andrist Duo with her husband, violinist James Stern, and Strata, a trio with Stern and clarinetist Nathan Williams (on the web at www.stratamusic.org), recipients of a major grant from the Rausch Foundation. She and Stern recently joined longtime collaborator, cellist Steve Honigberg, to form the Andrist-Stern-Honigberg Trio. This Trio's debut CD will be released in 2021.

She has performed on such prestigious series as the Phillips Collection in Washington, Rising Stars at Ravinia in Chicago, and the People's Symphony Concerts in New York. Ms. Andrist is the recipient of grants from the Canada Council and the Saskatchewan Arts Board, and has spent several summers as a resident artist at the Banff Center in Alberta. Her many engagements include a concert tour of China, performances in Japan, concerto appearances in California, and an extensive tour of Quebec for Jeunesses Musicales. She currently resides in the Washington, DC area. In Washington, Ms. Andrist has performed at the Kennedy Center, Library of Congress, Corcoran Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian Museums. She serves on the faculties of the University of Maryland-Baltimore County and the Washington Conservatory, and was a Visiting Artist at the University of Maryland-College Park in 2020. Her solo CD of major works by Robert Schumann was released on Centaur Records. Visit her website at www.audreyandrist.com.