

Biography—Gabrielle Chou

Gabrielle Chou is a New York-based pianist and violinist seeking to defy genres and break barriers in music education and performance tradition. On both instruments she performs solo, chamber music, and in large ensembles, teaches and lectures, coaches chamber music, improvises, collaborates with composers, dancers, and actors, premieres new works, and is active in community engagement and activism. Gabrielle plays everything and is particularly passionate about chamber music, contemporary music, and collaborating with composers and artists. She is a founding member of the contemporary chamber collective Away From Keyboard (www.areyouafk.com), an open-instrumentation ensemble specializing in contemporary interactive pieces and multidisciplinary collaborations. She plays with the New York-based Metropolis Ensemble and the Miami-based Nu Deco Ensemble and is on the roster of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Teaching Artists, the Center for Musical Excellence, After Arts's Featured Artists, Concerts for Compassion, activist collective Protestra, and Sound Off: Music for Bail.

A South Florida native, Gabrielle moved to Los Angeles as a teenager to attend the Colburn Young Artists Academy, where she was their first student to be admitted to The Juilliard School. She holds a B.M. and M.M. from Juilliard, where she was accepted on both piano and violin, participated in the Juilliard-Barnard-Columbia Exchange Program, and completed the Accelerated Bachelors/Masters Program; additionally she holds a D.M.A from the City University of New York's Graduate Center, where she wrote her dissertation on play elements and game mechanics within musical works. During her studies she worked with Jerome Lowenthal and Richard Goode on piano, and Lewis Kaplan on violin, as well as Emanuel Ax, Timothy Eddy, Alan Gilbert, Joel Krosnick, and Sylvia Rosenberg for chamber music. Additionally, she has played in masterclasses by Martha Argerich, Jeremy Denk, Leon Fleisher, Lang Lang, Robert McDuffie, Elmar Oliveira, Murray Perahia, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

Gabrielle has performed as a piano and violin soloist with orchestras in the US, Europe, and Asia, and has performed in halls from Vienna to Paris to Taipei. She is the recipient of the Center

for Musical Excellence's 2018 International Performing Arts Grant; other prizes of note include those at Yamaha International Senior Piano Competition, the Schimmel International Piano Competition, YoungArts, the Chopin Foundation Scholarship in two consecutive years, the Ettlingen International Competition for Young Pianists, the National Composition Competition by the National Federation of Music Clubs, the Manchester International Piano Concerto Competition, the American Prize, the Korea International Competition for Young Pianists, and the Concorso Internazionale per Pianoforte e Orchestra Citta Di Cantu.

Gabrielle's recent summer residencies include serving as Associate Piano Faculty Artist at the Sarasota Music Festival 2024, Artist in Residence at pianoSonoma 2024, Fellowship Artist at Mostly Modern Festival 2024 | The Netherlands, piano faculty at the 2022 and 2023 Sphinx Performance Academy at The Juilliard School, and as part of the Center for Musical Excellence, piano and violin artist-in-residence at CME Vienna 2021, residing at the Altenburger Musik Akademie, where she performed chamber music and solo with the Vienna International Orchestra. In 2019 Gabrielle completed a residency at the Avaloch Music Institute as part of her contemporary ensemble Conduit, and in 2016 she was a solo piano fellow at the Music Academy of the West, where she also served in its MERIT (Music Education Reinforces Intellect and Talent) program. Additionally, Gabrielle was the first student to attend the Aspen Music Festival as a pianist and violinist, the latter as a two-year fellowship student receiving the National Federation of Music Clubs Summer Music Center Award.

Gabrielle is an Assistant Professor of Music at the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences at Baruch College, chamber music coach at the New York Youth Symphony's Chamber Music Program, and staff pianist and substitute teacher and chamber music coach at Juilliard's Preparatory Division. She has also taught and held residencies at Para Los Niños, Opportunity Music Project, the MERIT at Music Academy of the West, and at Juilliard as a Teaching Fellow in Keyboard Studies as well as a Teaching Assistant in Piano Literature. Additionally, she plays for the GMHC in collaboration with the Omomuki Foundation, and participates in programming by Sound Off: Music for Bail and the activist orchestra Protestra, raising funds and awareness for issues such as climate change and the bail system.

Gabrielle is an avid proponent of new music and contemporary collaborations, having premiered new works at Juilliard, the Yale School of Music, National Sawdust, and the Adrienne Arsht

Center for the Performing Arts. Recently, she participated in Biophony as a member of the Metropolis Ensemble, premiering works for open ensemble at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. At Juilliard Gabrielle was part of contemporary music group AXIOM, and for the 2019-2020 season was also a member of the contemporary ensemble Conduit consisting of piano, percussion, bass clarinet, and electric guitar, which commissioned and premiered a program of new works in Miami. Her current project is Away From Keyboard, which she co-founded alongside Aidan Gold following their collaboration for Gabrielle's dissertation. Comprising of multi-instrumentalists and composer-performers, AFK presents contemporary and multidisciplinary works that utilize elements of theatre, performance art, electroacoustic composition and performance practice, and game design and mechanics.

Gabrielle currently lives in New York and in her free time enjoys frequenting art museums and aquariums, playing board and video games, birding, and reading science fiction.