

SHUANG YU

Harpsichordist · Fortepianist · Pedagogue

Historically Informed Performance · Early Keyboard Studies · Conservatory Pedagogy

New York, U.S.A.

Official Website · YouTube

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Shuang Yu is a harpsichordist, fortepianist, and pedagogue specializing in historically informed performance, early keyboard studies, and source-based interpretive practice. Her work integrates performance, pedagogy, and historical inquiry across conservatory and public-facing artistic contexts.

Her artistic approach is rooted in close engagement with historical notation, manuscripts, rhetoric, and improvisatory traditions, treating early music as a living expressive language shaped through articulation, timing, gesture, and textual awareness. Through both performance and teaching, she emphasizes score literacy, stylistic awareness, and historically informed musical communication.

Yu has appeared as a soloist and continuo player throughout North America and Asia, and maintains an active independent studio centered on long-term artistic development, performance mentorship, and historically informed musicianship. Her teaching emphasizes the cultivation of individual artistic voice through historically grounded performance practice.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Source-Based Interpretation and Historical Performance Practice
- Historically Informed Performance and Early Keyboard Practice
- Rhetoric, Improvisation, and Stylistic Articulation
- Basso Continuo and Collaborative Musicianship
- Conservatory Pedagogy and Artistic Mentorship
- Public Engagement and Cross-Cultural Early Music Initiatives

EDUCATION

Stony Brook University , Stony Brook, New York Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA), Harpsichord Performance Primary Teacher: Arthur Haas	Current
McGill University, Schulich School of Music , Montreal, Canada Master of Music, Harpsichord Performance Primary Teacher: Hank Knox	2021
Mannes School of Music – The New School , New York Professional Studies Diploma, Music Theory Primary Teacher: Robert Cuckson	2018

Master of Music, Piano Performance and Music Theory 2016
Primary Teachers: Thomas Sauer (Piano), Robert Cuckson (Music Theory)

Bachelor of Music, Piano Performance 2014
Primary Teacher: Thomas Sauer

Additional Studies and Artistic Mentorship

Fortepiano studies with Malcolm Bilson and Audrey Axinn

SELECTED PERFORMANCE & COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

Historically informed solo, chamber, and continuo performance activities throughout North America and Asia.

- Shanghai Concert Hall, Shanghai, China
- Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, Toronto, Canada
- Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall, New York

Ensemble and Collaborative Performance

- McGill Baroque Orchestra
- Stony Brook Baroque Chamber Ensemble
- Collaborative chamber and continuo performances throughout North America and Asia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fudan University, Shanghai, China Current
Faculty Advisor, Piano Association

Instruction in:

- Piano performance and musicianship
- Score literacy and stylistic interpretation
- Artistic mentorship and long-term development

Students under her instruction have received awards in the Steinway Competition, including First Prize distinctions in the China National Division.

Founder of the China University Piano Alliance, an initiative connecting student musicians through collaborative performance and educational exchange.

Mannes School of Music – The New School, New York 2015–2016
Teaching Fellow

Worked with undergraduate students in keyboard skills, score study, and conservatory musicianship.

Mannes Prep Chorus, New York 2015–2017
Teaching Assistant

Collaborated in rehearsal preparation, accompaniment, and ensemble coordination for pre-college vocal students.

Recipient of the Mannes Pre-College Teaching Award.

Roosevelt Island Youth Program (PS/IS 217), New York 2015
Teaching Artist

Designed and led collaborative music-learning activities for New York public school students.

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts – P.L.A.Y. Music Program 2015–2016
Teaching Assistant

Collaborated with Mannes faculty artists in ensemble-based summer music programs.

Independent Piano Studio 2010–Present
Director and Instructor

Areas of instruction:

- Piano performance and score-based musicianship
- Competition preparation and performance mentorship
- Long-term artistic and stylistic development

Students from the studio have received awards in national and international competitions, including national distinctions in the Steinway and Kawai Piano Competitions.

Steinway Educational Partner (since 2014)

SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

“The Hidden Secrets: Robert Cuckson’s *Arcana*”

Analytical research on cyclical form, inversional symmetry, Sufi aesthetics, and structural return in contemporary keyboard composition. Research integrates score analysis, historical keyboard practice, pitch organization, and philosophical inquiry.

“Compositional Techniques in Stravinsky’s *Three Pieces for String Quartet*”

Analytical study of motivic recall, intervallic design, metric structure, and cross-movement relationships in Stravinsky’s early chamber music.

INVITED LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

Shanghai Theatre Academy, Shanghai, China May 28, 2025
Guest Lecture: Score-Based Musicianship and Keyboard Interpretation

Lecture presentation addressing score-based musicianship, historical interpretation, and performative communication in keyboard pedagogy.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP

Founder, China University Piano Alliance

Developed an educational platform connecting student musicians and keyboard communities from leading universities throughout China through collaborative concerts, teaching exchange, and public engagement. Invited to present lectures and educational activities related to keyboard performance and musicianship at the Shanghai Theatre Academy.

Cross-Cultural Early Music Initiatives

Developing educational and artistic initiatives supporting the visibility of early keyboard and historically informed performance practices within Chinese conservatory and university contexts.

Cross-Sector Artistic Collaborations

Invited pianist and artistic collaborator for interdisciplinary events and collaborations with Porsche, Tiffany & Co., BMW, Steinway & Sons, and other cultural partners.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Mannes Pre-College Teaching Award, New York
- Early Music America Scholarship, United States
- Gian Lyman Memorial Scholarship, Canada
- Yamaha Asia Music Scholarship, Japan
- First Prize, International Piano Competition for Young Musicians, Netherlands

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Shanghai Musicians Association
- Sichuan Piano Society
- Steinway Educational Partner, since 2014