

## **KATHRYN SELBY – PIANO**

Hailed by the Australian press as a 'formidable talent' and winner of the prestigious Australia Council Fellowship for 2007-8, Kathryn Selby began her piano studies at the age of seven with Nancy Salas at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and then with Mr. Bela Siki at the University of Washington in Seattle. At the age of 14 she was awarded the Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship, During the same year she travelled with Dame Joan Sutherland and Maestro Richard Bonyngue to perform at the United Nations General Assembly in an Australian Government sponsored concert in aid of UNICEF.

Ms Selby graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia with the school's Gold Medal and the prestigious Rachmaninoff prize. She was graduated Cum Laude with the Horace Alwyn prize for music from Bryn Mawr College in 1985 having studied with Claude Frank. Kathryn received her Masters of Music from Juilliard where she studied with Rudolf Firkusny entering the Doctoral Program in Performance there in 1987.

Kathy has won prizes at the Van Cliburn Competitions, the William Kapell Competition, the Bruce Hungerford Memorial award in New York the Young Concert Artists Competition in New York as well as the Ferruccio Busoni Competition giving her a debut at the Carnegie Recital Hall. She spent the summer of 1982 at the Marlboro Music Festival, participating at the special invitation of Rudolf Serkin. During the same year she won the Astral Foundation of New York career development grant. In 1987 she was appointed by Affiliate Artists as Xerox Artist for the 1988-89 season.

Kathryn Selby has performed with the American Chamber Orchestra and was a founding member of the Philadelphia Orchestra Chamber Group. Those she has been guest artist with include the Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Pops Orchestra, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, Saint Louis, San Francisco Philharmonic, Hartford Chamber Orchestra, the ACO, and the Sydney, Melbourne and West Australian Symphony Orchestras. She has performed at the Athens, Spoleto, Caramoor, Aspen, Marlboro, Sydney Mozart and Sydney Festivals.

She made her debut in London at Wigmore Hall to rave reviews and at Carnegie Hall, prompting legendary New York Times critic Harold C. Schonberg to claim that "She is a natural".

Kathryn began the successful series "Selby & Friends" when she returned to Australia in 1988. Miss Selby has recorded extensively including an all-Gershwin disc for the NAXOS label, a solo piano recital disc for ABC Classics label, a chamber CD with Canberra Wind Soloists and with artists from the Australian Festival of Music, and with Macquarie Trio Australia, discs of Beethoven and Piazzolla piano trios and the complete piano trios of Schubert, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Dvořák.

From 1993 – 2006 she was the founding member and manager of Macquarie Trio Australia, which presented subscription seasons in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane and Adelaide including concerts for children and the aged. The ABC Classics label has recorded seven Macquarie Trio Australia CDs, two of which have been honoured on separate occasions with nominations in the Classical Music category of the ARIA Awards. Miss Selby has been a presenter of her own program on 2MBS-FM in Sydney and a presenter for ABC Classic FM.

2007 saw Ms Selby recreating her Selby & Friends series for a national touring season to Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Adelaide, performing at the Australian Festival of Chamber Music in Townsville, at the Camden Haven Music Festival, and as a guest of the new Utzon Room Series at the Sydney Opera House. She has formed a new piano trio named *TrioZ* with violinist Niki Vasilakis and cellist Emma-Jane Murphy. Ms Selby was Artist-In-Residence at St Andrews Cathedral School in 2007. Her Selby & Friends series continues its national touring in 2008, adding the city of Bowral to the season for each tour.