



32 bright clouds

BEETHOVEN CONVERSATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Yael Weiss, PIANIST

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32 BRIGHT CLOUDS: BEETHOVEN CONVERSATIONS AROUND THE WORLD is a global music-commissioning, performing and recording project, born from a need to respond to current social and political environments in the U.S. and worldwide with a personally meaningful and purposeful musical endeavor.

Curated and performed by pianist **Yael Weiss**, the project combines the **32** Beethoven Piano sonatas with **32** newly commissioned short piano compositions from **32** composers in **32** different countries spanning the globe.

32 BRIGHT CLOUDS engages composers hailing from countries where conflict and instability create challenges and obstacles for artists, and countries where classical music is not a widespread form of artistic expression. New works are currently being written by composers representing countries including Jordan, Iran, Syria, the Philippines, Indonesia and even the secluded country of Bhutan.

Each of the new compositions references musical “seeds” from Beethoven: motifs from one of the Piano Sonatas, and a single unifying motif from his *Missa Solemnis*. This motif was selected because of Beethoven’s compelling inscription “**A CALL FOR INWARD AND OUTWARD PEACE**” above the notes. Beethoven’s dedication expresses the overall essence, purpose, and character of **32 BRIGHT CLOUDS**.

The project aims to harness music’s great power for unity and peace, cherishing and enjoying the differences of diverse peoples and cultures and presenting their works on the concert stage.

Yael Weiss is offering three types of performances: Concerts devoted entirely to the new compositions, concerts juxtaposing the new works with their related Beethoven Sonatas, and presentations called “Concert Conversations” that combine live musical performances with spoken elements and video projections telling the stories of the composers and their countries.

32 BRIGHT CLOUDS performances and presentations are being offered starting with the 2018-19 season, with the complete cycle of new compositions and Sonatas available in 2020 in celebration of the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth.

FURTHER INFORMATION & BOOKINGS
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32 BEETHOVEN PIANO SONATAS
32 NEW COMMISSIONED COMPOSITIONS
32 CONTEMPORARY COMPOSERS
32 COLLABORATIVE COUNTRIES
32BRIGHTCLOUDS.COM



Yael Weiss

“A pianist who delves deeply and tellingly into that cloudy area where fantasy morphs into improvisation, inventiveness being common to both.” — *The Washington Post*

An award-winning pianist of “consummate artistry” (*The Washington Post*), Yael Weiss has given recital and concerto performances across the United States, Europe, Asia and South America, from Carnegie Hall to London’s Wigmore Hall and Moscow’s Bolshoi Theater.

Her New York recital debut, presented by the Metropolitan Museum, was acclaimed by *The New York Times* as “remarkably powerful and intense... fine technique and musicianship in the service of an arresting array of music” and in a recent appearance at the Kennedy Center, *The Washington Post* cited her “liquid tone and unfailingly wise phrasing”.

Weiss’s discography of solo and chamber works on Koch International and Bridge Records includes world premieres by Lera Auerbach, Chen Yi, Paul Chihara, Fred Lerdahl and Paul Schoenfield. With the Weiss-Kaplan-Stumpf-Trio she is currently recording the complete Beethoven Piano Trio cycle for Bridge.

More about Yael Weiss at www.yaelweiss.com

“A Call for Inward and Outward Peace” — LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN