



# 32 bright clouds

BEETHOVEN CONVERSATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

## The Women of “32 Bright Clouds”

“32 Bright Clouds: Beethoven Conversations Around the World” is a global music-commissioning, performing and recording project curated by pianist Yael Weiss. The project commissions a diverse group of composers from countries of conflict and unrest around the world, with all new works unified by a single “Peace motif” from Beethoven, above which he added the inscription “A Call for Inward and Outward Peace” in the manuscript. Each new composition is connected to one of Beethoven’s Piano Sonatas. “32 Bright Clouds” aims to harness music’s great power for unity and peace.

The following programs highlight the unique voices of women composers from Latin America, the Middle East, and beyond, in response to Beethoven’s peace motif.

### Program I

#### Peace works from Latin America

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 25 in G Major, Op. 79

**Wilma Alba Cal (Cuba, b. 1988):** Hand in Hand Sonata (2023) World Premiere

*(In response to the Sonata No. 28. Dedicated to the memory of Ernesto Lecuona, who through his work manifested the creative power of the independent artist to free our minds and be who we are)*

**Carolina Noguera-Palau (Colombia, b. 1978):** De Adoración y Espanto (Of Adoration and Fear) (2020)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 31. Dedicated to the hundreds of community leaders in Colombia, who are being subjected to widespread and systematic intimidation and assassination)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 31 in A-flat Major, Op.110

I Moderato cantabile molto espressivo

II Allegro molto

III Adagio ma non troppo – Allegro ma non troppo

*Intermission*

**Adina Izarra (Venezuela, b. 1959):** Arietta for the 150 (2018)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 32. Dedicated to the 150 young people whose lives were taken during the 2017 Peace demonstrations in Venezuela.)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 32 in c minor, Op. 111

I Maestoso – Allegro con brio ed appassionato

II Arietta: Adagio molto semplice e cantabile

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## Program II

### Peace Works from the Middle East

**Aida Shirazi (Iran, b. 1987):** *Après...* (2018)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 26. Après... is written after Beethoven's Les Adieux Sonata. It borrows its essential musical ideas from the sonata, and the desire for a peaceful and united world from the beautiful mind and soul of its creator.)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 26 in E-flat Major, Op. 81a, "Les Adieux"

- I. Das Lebewohl: Adagio-Allegro
- II. Abwesenheit: Andante espressivo
- III. Das Wiedersehen: Vivacissimamente

**Talia Amar (Israel, b. 1989):** *Into the Maelstrom* (2020)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 17. Dedicated to the people affected by the ongoing struggle around the Gaza Strip and southern Israel, two peoples who share a deep love for the same land)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 17 in D minor, Op. 31 no. 2 "Tempest"

- I Largo; Allegro
- II Adagio
- III Allegretto

*Intermission*

**Aslihan Keçebasoglu (Turkey, b. 1994):** *Ninni* (2019)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 28. Dedicated to the victims of the 2013 Gezi Park Protests in Turkey)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 28 in A Major, Op. 101

- I Etwas Lebhaft und mit der Innigsten Empfindung
- II Lebhaft, Marschmäßig
- III Landsam und sehnsuchtsvoll
- IV Geschwinde, doch nicht zu sehr, und mit Entschlossenheit

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## Program III

### All Peace, from East to West

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 11 in B flat Major, Op. 22, I: Allegro Con Brio

**Bosba (Cambodia, b. 1997):** *Sovannaphum: Kosal's Lament* (2020)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 11. Dedicated to the Memory of the Sovannaphum Theater, Phnom Penh, 1994-2020)*

**Bohdana Frolyak (Ukraine, b. 1968):** *Beethoven's Second Cloud* (2023) World Premiere

*(In response to the Sonata No. 2)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 2 in A Major, Op. 2 No. 2, II: Largo Appassionato

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 17 in D minor, Op. 31 no. 2 "Tempest", I Largo; Allegro

**Talia Amar (Israel, b. 1989):** *Into the Maelstrom* (2020)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 17. Dedicated to the people affected by the ongoing tensions around the Gaza Strip and southern Israel, two peoples who share a deep love for the same land)*

*Intermission*

**Adina Izarra (Venezuela, b. 1959):** Arietta for the 150 (2018)

*(In response to the Sonata No. 32. Dedicated to the 150 young people whose lives were taken during the 2017 Peace demonstrations in Venezuela.)*

**Beethoven:** Sonata No. 32 in c minor, Op. 111

I Maestoso – Allegro con brio ed appassionato

II Arietta: Adagio molto semplice e cantabile

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**Program IV**

The Women of “32 Bright Clouds” (1-hr program of all new music)

**Bohdana Frolyak (Ukraine, b. 1968):** Beethoven’s Second Cloud (2023) World Premiere

**Bosba (Cambodia, b. 1997):** Sovannaphum: Kosal’s Lament (2020)

**Aida Shirazi (Iran, b. 1987):** Après... (2018)

**Talia Amar (Israel, b. 1989):** Into the Maelstrom (2020)

**Adina Izarra (Venezuela, b. 1959):** Arietta for the 150 (2018)

**Wilma Alba Cal (Cuba, b. 1988):** Hand in Hand Sonata (2023) World Premiere