



Diane ANDERSEN

**(Piano -
Belgium/Denmark)**

Diane Andersen's musical education was influenced by great pianists and musicians issued mainly from Austrian-Hungarian piano school. She graduated from the Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles with Polish pianist Stefan Askenase, a wonderful Chopin and Mozart player, had master classes with Edith Farnadi and Annie Fischer, the legendary Hungarian pianist. She had close contacts to composers like Kodaly, Tansman, Milhaud and was during years the duo partner of André Gertler, famous Hungarian violinist, friend and partner of Béla Bartok.

During her career Andersen has been playing in famous venues such as Victoria Hall (Geneva), Palais des Beaux-Arts (Brussels), Liszt Ferenc Zeneakademia (Budapest), Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), Teatro della Fenice (Venice), Carnegie Hall (New York), Rudolfinum (Prague), St.-Martin in the Fields (London) etc. She performed under the baton of Bruno Maderna, Pierre Boulez, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Geogres Prêtre, Jean Fournet, Okko Kamu, a.o. with orchestras like Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, R.A.I. Roma, O.P.L. Liège, Orchestre National Belgium, Halle Symphony Orchestra (Germany), philharmonic orchestras of the Hilversum radios (Holland).

Diane Andersen was also given the privilege to play the first performance of the Bartok "Scherzo for piano and orchestra" in Western Europe on request of Prof. Denijs Dille, founder of the Bartok Archivum in Budapest, friend and biographer of Béla Bartok and editor of the Scherzo.

Always in search for new or forgotten music Andersen enriched the repertoire with many interesting CDs (EMI, Pavane, Cypres, Fuga Libera, Talent, EMS, Supraphon, Azur classical), many in world premiere. A. o. the complete piano work by Gabriel Pierné and Joseph Jongen.

Andersen is a very active chamber music player as well and her many CDs with works by Czerny, Alexandre Tansman (two pianos four hands), Adolphe Biarent, Joseph Jongen, Ernst Toch piano quintets with the Quatuor Danel, also Toch Second Piano concerto with Halle Philharmonic Orchestra and Hans Rotman conducting, were receiving enthusiastic reviews and awards.

Andersen has premiered works by American composers Michael Slayton and Dianne Goolkasian Rahbee (the piano concerto and other pieces written specially for her).

With the "Ensemble Joseph Jongen", of which she is the founder, she has created works by Andrzej Kwiecinski, Alain Weber, as well as rediscovered pieces by René de Castéra, Albert Roussel a.o.

Honorary Professor of the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels, Andersen pursues a very intensive pedagogical activity and is currently invited to give master classes all over Europe, Argentina, Moscow (Gnessine Institut), Japan, China (Shenzen, Chengdu (Sichuan), Shanghai Conservatoire, Seoul (Korea), the US (Boston, Lipscomb and Cincinnatti Universities, Smith's College, NEC Boston, etc.). 'Artist in residence' at Queens University, Kingston, Canada, March 2010. Two pedagogical DVD's recorded for EMC Japan with works by Ravel and Milhaud. Andersen serves currently on the Jury of important international competitions such as OCI (Orléans Competition International), C.I.P.C.E. Madrid, Alexander Tansman International Competition Lodz Poland, Isidor Bajic (Serbia), International Piano Competition Enschede, "Roma" International Piano competition, International Piano competition Zagreb and Osijek Croatia, Concours International Francis Poulenc (Brive), "Brin d'Herbe" competition Orléans.

Member of the Jury and of the Artistic Committee of the Queen Elisabeth of Belgium International Music Competition.