

## Michelle Mares

Michelle Mares began her musical life as a child prodigy in Vancouver and drew the attention of many notable musicians, including András Schiff, Ivan Moravec and Gaby Casadesus.

Ms. Mares has enjoyed the rare privilege of studying with some of the world's most eminent musicians including Canada's own Jane Coop, Leon Fleisher, Karl Heinz Kämmerling, György Kurtág, and Alfred Brendel. Her approach to music is deeply rooted in the treasured legacy of her teachers, and her own teaching is deeply influenced by it.

In her youth, she won many international and national competitions and has performed internationally as a soloist and a chamber musician for most of her adult life. She draws from a deep reservoir of professional experience.

Since 2008, Ms Mares has been based in Victoria and Vancouver and has taught regularly at both the University of Victoria and at the University of British Columbia in addition to her private piano studio. She is a popular guest adjudicator at regional competitions and festivals and is frequently invited to perform and give masterclasses.