

Nariaki Sugiura

International concert pianist Nariaki Sugiura frequently gives solo, lecture, and chamber recitals and master classes in the major cities of the U.S. as well as in Europe and Asia. Reviews of his concerts in Italy applaud Sugiura's "most sensitive touch to the piano," and the "rigueur, passion and discipline of an old samurai." Since 2002, performances with cellist Emilio Colón have been received with great acclaim on their recital tours in Hungary, Italy, Japan, Malta, Puerto Rico, and South Korea. In a 2008 European concert tour, they were called "A formidable performing duo." Dedicated to promoting new music, he has premiered many compositions including Robin Macheel's Piano Concerto (2005).

Sugiura is a featured artist on several CD recordings, including a solo album released by T.K. Music Productions, which showcases his performance of Barber's Piano Sonata. In 2006, Klavier Music Productions released "Esencia," an album of music for cello and piano from South America and the Caribbean created by Sugiura and Colón. His collaboration with cellist Joseph Kaizer is featured in several Eroica Classical Recordings. He is also a chamber music editor for Master's Music Publications.

Numerous national and international competitions have awarded Sugiura prizes, including the 1999 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition Grand Prize and the 2000 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Competition Graduate Piano Prize. He was laureate of the 1993 National Music Competition in Tokyo and of the Annual Competition of Music from Spain and Latin America in 1999.

Born in Hakodate, Japan in 1975, Sugiura began piano study with his mother at age five, later entering the Tokyo College of Music High School. Under the tutelage of Michel Block and Shigeo Neriki, he received a Bachelor and Master of Music in Piano Performance. He will be completing his doctoral studies at Indiana University in 2009.

Sugiura has held the positions of Adjunct Lecturer and Associate Instructor, Studio Pianist of Professor of Janos Starker, and Accompanist / Chamber music coach for the String Academy at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Currently he is an assistant professor / staff accompanist for DePauw University School of Music. He teaches, gives master classes, and coaches chamber music in the U.S., Europe and Asia.