

Renate Rohlfing, collaborative pianist

"... much more than supportive, a true collaborator."

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

"... masterfully blending colors and crafting lyrical, breathing phrases. With sensitivity and glittering touch, Rohlfing has all the makings of a truly exceptional lieder accompanist."

New York Classical Review



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Pianist **Renate Rohlfing** has quickly established herself as one of her generation's most versatile and sought-after collaborative pianists. Winner of the "Sonderpreis Klavier" (Special Pianists' Prize) at the 2016 Hugo Wolf International Art Song Competition in Stuttgart, Ms. Rohlfing is active as a vocal accompanist, chamber musician, and orchestral pianist. She has performed with many of the world's leading artists, including James Conlon, Anna Netrebko, Frederica von Stade, Alan Gilbert, and John Adams, and her performances have taken her to the most prestigious venues around the world, including Carnegie Hall, the Ravinia Festival, Amsterdam's Musiekgebouw, London's Royal Albert Hall, and the David Koch Theater at Lincoln Center.

Ms. Rohlfing kicks off her busy 2017/18 season with the release of her trio Longleash's debut album, *Passage*, on October 1st at Le Poisson Rouge in New York. She resumes her recital tour with Samuel Hasselhorn, including performances in Barcelona (Schubertiade Villabertran), Boston (Isabella Gardner Museum), New York (Morgan Library), Washington DC (Cosmo Club), and a return engagement at Bavaria's Schloss Elmau. Other highlights with Longleash include concerts at Open Musik Austria in Graz, Vienna, and New York, as well as hosting the third iteration of the trio's own festival, The Loretto Project, in Kentucky. Ms. Rohlfing also returns to Opera Philadelphia's music staff for the world premiere of "The Wake World" and Mozart's "Die Zauberfloete," where she performs Mozart's Fantasias as part of the performances.

Highlights of the 2016/17 season included a recital tour with Samuel Hasselhorn, featuring performances across the US and in Germany, as well as performances with Longleash in Boston, Nebraska, New Hampshire, and Kentucky, including a live concert on WUOL radio in Louisville. Ms. Rohlfing returned to the Spoleto Festival USA, where she has enjoyed a close affiliation over the past 5 years including numerous chamber music performances and repetiteur assignments, for their "Music in Time" series and as Assistant Conductor for Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin." Collaborations with vocalists included a live performance on WQXR with mezzo-soprano Daniela Mack, as well as recitals with soprano Katharine Dain throughout the American Northeast, mezzo-soprano Brenda Patterson, and tenor Will Ferguson.

Ms. Rohlfing's work as a vocal accompanist, particularly in the Lied repertoire, has garnered awards and recognition for her around the globe. The jury of the 2016 Hugo Wolf International Art Song Competition created the "Sonderpreis Klavier" prize for her playing, while singers have partnered with her to win 1st Prize at competitions including "Das Lied", Naumburg, and Young Concert Artists, as well as 2nd Prize at Wigmore Hall. She has performed in recital at many of the most prestigious venues with some of the world's most exciting young talents including Samuel Hasselhorn, Julia Bullock, Janai Brugger, Daniela Mack, John Brancy, and Cecilia Hall. Residencies and fellowships include the Ravinia

Festival's Steans Music Institute, "Songfest" in California, and Marilyn Horne's "The Song Continues..." series at Carnegie Hall.

Equally accomplished as a chamber musician, Ms. Rohlfing is a founding member of Longleash, an "expert young trio" rapidly garnering attention for its devotion to commissioning and premiering new works and its "subtle and meticulous musicianship" (The Strad). She is also a co-creator of The Loretto Project, an annual festival hosted by Longleash and devoted to creating new works for piano trio. Rohlfing's past chamber music appearances include performances under the auspices of New World Symphony, Toronto Summer Music Festival, numerous radio stations including WUOL, WFMT, and KHPR, Trondheim Chamber Music Festival, Ecstatic Music Festival at Merkin Hall, San Francisco Center for New Music, Kunstuniversität Graz (Austria), as an artist-in-residence with PianoSonoma at The Green Music Center in California, and with cellist Joshua Roman and violinist Bella Hristova at Bay Chamber Festival in Maine. She also performs regularly as an orchestral pianist, including past performances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Cincinnati May Festival under the baton of James Conlon, as well as concerts with Alan Gilbert, Robert Spano, John Adams, and Jeffrey Milarsky in venues including Avery Fisher Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and Royal Albert Hall.

Beyond performing, Ms. Rohlfing puts her extensive knowledge of vocal and contemporary music to use as a frequent and sought-after répétiteur for opera productions. She has served on the music staffs of Los Angeles Opera, Opera Philadelphia, Spoleto Festival USA, Dallas Opera, and Juilliard Opera, including her work on several world premiere workshops. Passionate also as a teacher and vocal coach, Ms. Rohlfing has served on the faculties of Bard College and the Manchester Music Festival, and has taught classes as a guest instructor at the Juilliard School and Westminster Choir College. She retains a vocal coaching studio in New York City.

Ms. Rohlfing began piano studies at the age of 4 in her native Honolulu, Hawaii. As 1st Prize Winner of the New Orleans International Concerto competition (age 15) and the American Music Teacher's Association Competition (age 17), she subsequently performed Tchaikovsky's Concerto No. 1 with the New Orleans Symphony, toured Japan on a solo concert tour, and debuted at Carnegie Hall. She is an alumna of the Manhattan School of Music and the Juilliard School.

Photo Credit: Leonna Rohlfing