



Acclaimed German concert pianist Helena Buckmayer lives in Scotland where she enjoys her career as a performer being highly in demand.

As a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician, Helena has performed and toured through Germany, Switzerland, France, Britain, America, Canada and Japan with several concerts being broadcast on television and radio. She has played in venues such as Ulmer Kornhaus, Frankfurter Dom, Usher Hall, Queens Hall, Kobe Concert Hall, Matsue Concert Hall, Hamamatsu Concert Hall working and performing with conductors such as Philip Jordan, Roberto Paternoster, Kenneth Kiesler and Robert Dick joined by orchestras such as Reutlinger Philharmoniker, Augsburger Philharmoniker, Orchestra of the Canongait, Kammerorchester Ulm.

On numerous occasions, her playing has been described as “lyrical and poetic”. Her mentor, Béla Ski, who himself was the assistant of the great Dinu Lipatti, described her as having rare sensitivity.

Born in Tajikistan, then part of the Soviet Union, Helena moved to Germany where she started piano lessons at the age of six. As a very young student, Helena was accepted at the *Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst* in Stuttgart, Germany.

Her talent was noticed from an early age; she was just ten years old when she won her first piano competition. Following the first prize in the Yamaha Piano Competition and a special prize in the biggest German national competition, *Jugend musiziert* she received numerous awards and scholarships including substantial awards from the German Magazine *Hörzu*, Cultural Institute for the Arts in Baden-Württemberg and the City of Ulm (both in Germany), the Johanneson International School of the Arts in Victoria (Canada) and the Manchester Music Festival in Vermont (USA). With Schumann’s piano concerto, she won the International Festival Competition in Seawannee, USA where the jury praised her highly lyrical and natural feeling for Schumann’s music.

Throughout that time, she has performed regularly within various concert series for young musicians. As a scholar she played and taught in both Canada and the USA. She finished her studying at the Royal College of Music in London being categorised as Advanced Performance.

In 2010, she will dedicate herself mainly to her two most favourite composers, Chopin and Robert Schumann celebrating their bicentenary. Apart from their piano concertos, she will give various Schumann recitals throughout Scotland. She is the founder and musical director of the Schumann festival in Edinburgh which will be launched in October.

Helena has been privileged to have been taught by some of the finest teachers, Bernard Roberts (London), Béla Siki (Seattle), Leonard Hokanson and Gyorgy Sebok (both Bloomington, USA).