

Dr. Vivian Li

Born into a family of artists, Chinese-Canadian pianist Dr. Vivian Sui-Rong Li made her concert debut at the age of five under the tutelage of her father, renowned Chinese pianist Qi Li and supervision of her mother, renowned ballerina Xianping Su, and has now built a career as one of China's most respected pianists and pedagogues. Vivian completed her undergraduate studies on full scholarship at Oberlin Conservatory with the esteemed French pianist, Monique Duphil, herself a student of Marguerite Long. Upon graduation, she was awarded Oberlin's prestigious William R. Abate Outstanding Pianist Award given to the finest pianist of each graduating class. She proceeded to finish her studies with Master and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees at the University of Houston under the guidance of Nancy Weems and Horacio Gutierrez, while distinguished herself in numerous competitions including Canada's CMC International Stepping Stone Competition, the Grace Welsh International Piano Competition and San Antonio International Competition and in concerts including one performance of Ravel's G major piano concerto which left the revered pianist Abbey Simon exclaiming, "She played like my friends of the old generation past."

In 2005, Dr. Li returned to her childhood home of Guangzhou to join the piano faculty of Xinghai Conservatory. Her students routinely go on to study in major conservatories and take top prizes in major international competitions including Youth Gina Bachauer, Cleveland Junior, E-piano Junior, Cooper, Sendai, Aarhus, Ettlingen, Krainev, Beijing Chopin and Zhuhai Mozart. Most recently her longtime student, the 17 years old Hao Rao, became the only Chinese finalist and honorable-mention of the 18th Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition, gaining international acclaim.

As a Steinway Artist, Dr. Li maintains an active concert schedule of solo, chamber and concerto performances both in China and abroad. She is also regular guest faculty at Morningside Music Bridge, Todi International Music Masters, and Oberlin Piano Festival.