

Alla Elana Cohen

Composition, Music Theory



photo by Eric Antoniou

Alla Elana Cohen is a distinguished composer, pianist, music theorist, and teacher, who came to the United States in 1989. She teaches composition, harmony, counterpoint, and ear-training, using her own unique methodology. Cohen also teaches composition, piano, and ear-training at her private studio in Boston's Back Bay. As a composer, she works in all genres of orchestral, chamber, and operatic music, and has an extensive repertoire and catalogue of music. Her unique compositions have been performed with much success both in Russia and in the United States. In Russia, Cohen was a prize winner of the National Young Composers' Competition, and also a participant at the National Young Composers Festivals. In the United States, she has further been recognized by ASCAP, having been annually awarded ASCAP PLUS Awards during all her years of membership. She has, in addition, received a number of commissions from The Music Teachers National Association. As a teacher, Cohen has received a special award from ASCAP for "inspiring, educating, and mentoring young musicians to become composers of tomorrow." She has also been the recipient of awards from the MTNA Young Composers' Competition.

Many composition students of Cohen have also been prize-winners of numerous prestigious state, national, and international composers competitions. These include the Queen Elisabeth Composers' Competition in Brussels, Belgium, The International Composers' Competition in Haifa, Israel, The Lepo Sumera International Composers' Competition in Tallin, Estonia, The Robert Helps International Prize, The Beethoven Club Composers' Competition, The Brazilian National Composers' Competitions, The ASCAP Morton Gould Award Competition, The International Young Artists' Competition in Connecticut, The Pikes Peak National Young Composers' Competition, The New York Art Ensemble National Composers' Competition, and The National Level of MTNA Competition.

Cohen is the author of a noteworthy book on ear-training entitled *Perfect Pitch for You*, published in 2007 by Len Rhodes Music Publishing (ASCAP), and also, two books dedicated to various aspects of harmony: *The Art of Modulation* and *In the Vertical Realm*. Cohen is also the author of numerous poems, both in Russian and English.

Cohen's latest 2008 CD, entitled *Dedications*, contains two of her string quartets, as well as compositions for cello and piano, violin and piano, for solo cello, for trio, featuring violin, cello and piano. A second CD, *Jupiter Duo*, recorded in NEC's Jordan Hall, is currently in production, and will be released in 2009. This recording will contain pieces for cello and piano, and piano solo.

B.M., with highest honors, Music College at Moscow State Conservatory, M.M., with highest honors, Moscow State Conservatory. Also faculty of Berklee College of Music.

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