

# DR. SVETLANA BELSKY, PIANIST

---

## HIGHLIGHTS

2019-2020 Winner, The American Prize (solo piano division), 3<sup>rd</sup> prize, The American Prize (chamber music)  
2019 *Ferruccio Busoni: The Late Works* CD (Ravello Records, 2019) is selected by Spotify for its Recommended New Releases List; and Global Music Awards for its Ten Best Albums List for Spring 2019. Rave reviews by American Record Guide, Fanfare Magazine, Music Web International, The Whole Note, and more.  
2019 Receptient of the Distinguished Women and Music and Drama Award (Clerk of Cook County District Court)  
2018-2020 Selected Performances: *Chopin in the City Festival* (opening night gala concert, Polish Consulate, Chicago); *Terre d'Arezzo Piano Festival* (Italy); *Piano Sicily Festival* (Italy); Texas State University; University of Southern Mississippi; German Society of Pennsylvania; Miami University of Ohio

## EDUCATION

1994 Doctor of Musical Arts, Piano Performance, Manhattan School of Music, Student of Mme. Nina Svetlanova  
Thesis: Grigory Kogan's *Busoni as Pianist* (annotated translation from the Russian)  
1987 Master of Music Degree, Piano Performance, Peabody Conservatory of Music, Student of Ann Schein  
1986 Bachelor of Music Degree, Piano Performance, Summa cum laude, Peabody Conservatory, Student of Ann Schein  
1986 Aspen Summer Festival (Selected to perform at the Wheeler Opera)  
1985 Ravinia Festival Piano Masterclass Series (Four performances at the Martin Theater)  
1979-1983 Music Center of the North Shore, Student of Emilio Del Rosario, Selected to perform with the MCNS orchestra  
Other teachers: Leon Fleisher, Menahem Pressler, Dmitry Paperno, Mischa Dichter, Daniel Pollock, Phil Levin (harpichord)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2019-present Artistic Director, Belsky Studio  
2004 – 2019 Director of the Piano Program, The University of Chicago  
1993 – present Private Studio, Northbrook, IL

Students of all levels include winners of the Chicago Amateur Piano Competition, the Skokie Valley Orchestra concerto competition, ISMTA competition, the Farwell Award, Seattle International Amateur competition and the University of Chicago concerto competition.

## GUEST ARTIST TEACHER

2022 Piano Sicily International Festival, Italy  
2018 Terre d'Arezzo Piano Festival, Italy  
2016 Peking University, Beijing, China  
2011 Beijing Conservatory Highschool for the Arts, Beijing, China  
2010 Musical Bridges Festival, St. Petersburg, Russia

## JUDGING (selected international competitions)

2024 Michigan State MTA collegiate Competition  
2022 Singapore International Piano Competition  
2022 Odin International Music Competition  
2022 Sicily International Piano Competition (jury chair)  
2020-2 The American Prize  
2019 Berliner International Piano Competition  
2015 George Gershwin International Competition, NY  
2012 Taiwan-Asia Piano Open Competition, Taiwan  
2010 and 2012 Chicago Amateur Piano Competition  
2009 Konkurs Pianistyczny im. Ludwika Stafanskiego (L. Stefanski International Piano Competition), Poland

# DR. SVETLANA BELSKY, PIANIST

---

## RECORDINGS (recent)

***Into Darkness: Piano Music 1910-1920*** (Sheridan Studios, 2021). Spotify's Recommended new Albums List. "Some of the best pianism to come my way over the past few years." (American Record Guide). "Few albums have thrust us into this turbulent milieu as imaginatively as Belsky does here. ... Belsky gives shimmering, evocative readings." (Fanfare Magazine)

***Ferruccio Busoni: The Late Works*** (Ravello Records, 2019). Winner of Global Music Awards, Spotify's Recommended new Albums List, Global Music's Top Ten Albums list. "Belsky offers a totally winning reading, as replete with technical ability and musical sympathy as the composer could wish for." (Fanfare); "A fine single-disc alternative to Marc-André Hamelin's three-disc set." (Music Web International); "It is plain she is an excellent artist and Busoni enthusiasts should not hesitate to get this." (American Record Guide).

***Myth and Romance: Works for Violin and Piano by Polish Composers*** (Sheridan Studios, 2019, with Marta Szlubowska). Global Music Top Ten Albums list. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, The American Music Prize. "Stunningly beautiful" (Fanfare Magazine)

***Tales from the East: Stories of Romance, Adventure and Magic by Russian Composers*** (Sheridan Studios, 2018, EStrella Piano Duo. Honorable Mention, the American Prize, 2019; Mainly Piano's Top Pick of 2018. "Superbly played" (American Record Guide). "Awesome in the truest sense of the word!" (Mainly Piano)

***The Rite of Spring*** (transcribed for solo piano by Vladimir Leyetchkiss) (Centaur Records, 2013). Winner of the American Prize for Solo Piano. "An extraordinary performance" (American Record Guide)

## SELECTED RECENT PERFORMANCES

2024-5	Concerts celebrating Ukrainian music and culture, Illinois, Michigan, Alabama, Mississippi, Minesota
2023	Harris Theater, Chicago IL Sicily International Festival, Noto
2022	Concerto with Northshore Chamber Orchestra Northwestern University Duo Festival
2020	Piano Sicily Festival, Catania, Sicily 50th anniversary performances of John Cage's <i>HPSCHD</i> (harpsichord). With <i>Non:op Open Opera Works</i> . Chicago Cultural Center
2019	<i>Chopin in the City Festival</i> (opening night gala concert, Polish Consulate, Chicago) Texas State University, TX University of Southern Mississippi Youngstown State University Illinois Wesleyan University
2018	German Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee, WI Miami University of Ohio, Oxford, OH Terre d'Arezzo Music Festival, Arezzo, Italy
2017	Heritage Hunt Concert Series, Gainesville, VA Friday Musicale Concert Series, Jacksonville, FL Dreamland Theatre, Nantucket Arts Council, Nantucket, MA With the FullScore Chamber Orchestra, Chicago, IL Hudson Chamber Music Series, Quebec, Canada
2016	Yangzhou Concert Hall, Yangzhou, China School of the Arts, Peking University, Beijing, China (with Peking University Students)

## PUBLICATIONS

- *Busoni as a Pianist* by Grigory Kogan, an annotated translation from the Russian, from the Rochester University Press on their prestigious Eastman Studies in Music series, 2010.
- Numerous CD Liner notes for *Russian Disc*, *Triton*, and *Consonance Records*.

# DR. SVETLANA BELSKY, PIANIST

---

## LECTURES, MASTERCLASSES AND RADIO INTERVIEWS (selected)

2025-6	Lecture and video series, "Shall We Dance: Teaching Bach's French Suites"
2024	Lecture, "Tchaikovsky's Children's Album: The Light of a Dark Soul", MTNA national convention, Michigan State MTA, Illinois State MTA
2020-2021	Lecture, "J.S. Bach's Little Preludes: The Gateway to Baroque Mastery", ISMTA Annual convention, local MTAs
2020	Lecture, "Psychology of Practice and Performance", Piano Sicily Festival, Catania, Sicily Masterclasses, The Piano League. Podcast Series, "Steinway Sundays with Susan and Svetlana"
2019	Masterclasses: Texas State University, University of Southern Mississippi, Illinois Wesleyan University
2018-2019	Lecture, "Decoding the Bach Inventions". ISMTA Annual convention, numerous local MTAs
2017	Lecture, "Busoni's Bach: The Birth of Modern Performance Practice". ISMTA Annual convention, local MTAs
2016	Interview, <i>BBC Radio 3 Music Matters</i> "Busoni 150"
2014	Lecture-recital, MTNA National Conference, <i>The Rite of Spring</i>
2013	Recital and Interview, WFMT, PianoForte Salon Live Series, <i>The Rite of Spring</i>
2013	Masterclass, University of Arkansas
2012	Lecture, Music Teachers Association of Tainan, Tainan Music Center, Taiwan
2012	Guest Lecturer, Mississippi Music Teachers Association annual convention
2010	Recital and Interview, WFMT, PianoForte Salon Live Series, <i>The Music of Ferruccio Busoni</i>

## ONLINE VIDEO, CONCERT AND LECTURE SERIES

Hundreds of pedagogical and performance videos on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

<b>Music Discoveries</b>	Weekly series of short videos which highlights rarely-heard or unusual repertoire: new music, women composers, neglected Baroque masterpieces and music of the early 20th century
<b>Pedagogy Fridays</b>	Weekly series of short videos which focuses on a particular technical or interpretive challenge (viewership reaches 80K per video)
<b>Full Length Films</b>	On topics of pedagogy and music history. Available on YouTube and website.