

THE SOLTÍ FOUNDATION

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Award Winners 2012

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Rebeka Bobanj *Serbia / Hungary, soprano*

A grant to this young Serbian-Hungarian soprano will contribute to the costs of attending the 2012 International Vocal Competition in the Netherlands. See Rebeka's website at <http://www.bobanjrebeka.com/en>



Jessica Cambio *Italy / USA, soprano*

American-Italian soprano, Jessica Cambio, currently studying with Mirella Freni in Italy, was awarded funding to contribute to the costs of attending auditions in Europe in the autumn of 2012. Writing to accept the award, Jessica expressed her thanks to the Solti Foundation "I am so happy and grateful for your help..." See her website at www.jessicarosecambio.com



Eugene Chan *USA, baritone*

American baritone, Eugene Chan, received a contribution to the costs of attending masterclasses with Giuseppe Sabbatini in Italy in the summer of 2012. On receiving the grant, Eugene wrote: "This is absolutely wonderful news. I am honored to be one of this year's grant awardees..." His website is at www.eugenechan.org



Telalit Charsky *Israel, cello*

Young Israeli cellist, Telalit Charsky, was awarded assistance with the costs of attending the 2012 summer masterclasses at the Accademia Musicana Chigiana in Siena, Italy. See her website at www.telalit.com



Flex Ensemble

Assistance with travel costs to attend the 2012 Savollinna Music Academy Chamber Music Masterclasses in Finland was granted to this young international chamber music ensemble. The group's members are:

- Martha Bijlsma, *Netherlands, cello*
- Endri Nini, *Albania, piano*
- Kana Sugimura, *Japan, violin*
- Anna Szulc-Kapala, *Poland, viola*

On hearing of the award, they wrote: "we are incredibly thankful to the Solti Foundation for making this possible..." See the group's website at www.flexensemble.com



Balazs Fulei *Hungary, piano*

Hungarian pianist, Balazs Fulei, a graduate of the Liszt Academy in Budapest, received a grant to help with the costs of attending the 2012 Géza Anda International Piano Competition in Zurich. See his website at www.balazsfulei.com



Ivana Gavric *Great Britain, piano*

Funding was awarded to British pianist, Ivana Gavric, for two projects: a series of extra piano lessons, and a contribution to the cost of repairing her piano. Writing to express her thanks for the award, Ivana said: "Thank you very much... I am absolutely delighted to receive this award, and am very grateful to the Solti Foundation for its support." Ivana's website is at www.ivanagavric.com



Marta Herman *Poland / Canada, mezzo-soprano*

Polish-Canadian mezzo-soprano, Marta Herman, received an award to contribute to the cost of attending masterclasses at the 2012 Mozarteum International Summer Academy in Salzburg. She writes: "I am thrilled to be given this opportunity from the Solti Foundation..." See Marta's website at www.martaherman.com



Gianluca Imperato *Italy, piano*

This young Italian pianist received a contribution to the costs of attending the 2012 Santa Cecilia summer masterclasses in Portogruaro, Venice. Gianluca writes: "I am enormously grateful for the support of the Solti Foundation, it is an honour for me to receive this grant, and an honour to be among the artists who deserve your trust." See his website at www.gianlucaimperato.com



Mercedes Juan *Argentina, répétiteur*

Argentinian piano-accompanist and répétiteur, Mercedes Juan, was awarded assistance towards the costs of attending the 2012 Accademia Europea dell'Opera summer programme in Milan. A graduate of the Teatro Colon Theatre Arts School in Buenos Aires, Mercedes currently works as an opera coach and rehearsal pianist with the Argentine Theatre of La Plata. She writes to express her thanks for the grant: "It is a great honour for me, and I am very grateful to have been considered for this award."



Gamal Khamis *Great Britain, piano*

A grant was awarded to this young British pianist to attend the 2012 Oxford Philomusica Piano Festival and Summer Academy. For more information about Gamal, see <http://ulso.co.uk/about/soloists/gamal>



Eva Kovacs *Hungary, soprano*

Hungarian soprano, Eva Kovacs, who sings with the National Theatre of Szeged, was awarded a grant to help with the costs of attending the 2012 Crescendo Summer Institute Voice Course in Sarospatak, Hungary.



Meredith Mecum *USA, soprano*

Funding was awarded to American soprano, Meredith Mecum, to contribute to the costs of participating at the 2012 Banff Centre Opera as Theatre Programme in Canada. Meredith writes: "Thank you for this grant... I am so very honoured and appreciative!" See her website at www.meredithmecum.com



Riyad Nicolas *Syria, piano*

A contribution towards the cost of purchasing a Yamaha silent piano was made to the young Syrian pianist, Riyad Nicolas. Writing to express his thanks for this award, Riyad said: "I am immensely grateful for your help towards the purchase of this piano... it is exactly what I need at the moment..." His website is at: www.ryadnicolas.com



Daniel Palmizio *Italy, viola*

A contribution towards the costs of purchasing a new viola bow was granted to Italian viola player, Daniel Palmizio. To see Daniel in performance, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI4_mBZRWOs



Aylen Pritchkin *Russia, violin*

Russian violinist Aylen Pritchkin was awarded funding towards travel costs to attend auditions at the Kronberg Academy in Germany. Aylen, who is completing his studies at the Tchaikovsky State Conservatory in Moscow, writes to express his thanks: "I am very happy to receive this scholarship - I am sure that it will help me a lot in the future..." See Aylen in performance at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=opLAb92Wuro>



Sophie Rosa *Great Britain, violin*

Assistance with the costs of attending the International Young Concert Artist Auditions in Leipzig was granted to British violinist, Sophie Rosa. Sophie writes: "I am thrilled to have received an award from the Solti Foundation. I am sure it will make a huge difference to my career..." For more information about Sophie, see <http://www.sophierosa.com>



Joshua Stewart *USA, tenor*

American tenor, Joshua Stewart, was awarded a grant for extra lessons and coaching with Marilyn Horne in New York. Joshua is currently completing his studies at the Curtis Institute of Music - see his website at <http://www.joshuastewart.net>



Jessica Strong *Canada, soprano*

Canadian soprano, Jessica Strong, received a contribution towards the cost of attending the 2012 Music Academy of the West Summer Study Programme with Marilyn Horne in Santa Barbara, California. Jessica, who is currently with Calgary Opera's Emerging Artist Program, writes to express her thanks for the award: "Thank you so much... I am overwhelmed, honoured and thrilled to be a grant recipient!" For more information see www.calgaryopera.com/artists/participants.php



Christopher Swithinbank *Great Britain / Netherlands, composition*

This young composer, of British-Dutch nationality, was awarded funding towards the costs of attending the 2012 Harvard University Composition Institute International Summer Residency for Composers of New Music. See Chris's website at www.chrisswithinbank.net



Ugne Tiskute *Lithuania, viola*

Funding to attend the International Johannes Brahms Competition in Pörschach, Austria, was awarded to Ugne Tiskute, a young viola player from Lithuania. Ugne, who is completing her studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London, writes: "I would like to express my sincere gratitude for this amazing award... it is a vital opportunity, which I am so happy to receive. Thank you so much..."



Alexandra Vaduva *Romania, piano*

Romanian pianist, Alexandra Vaduva, was awarded a grant to assist with the costs of participating in the 2012 International Maj Lind Piano Competition in Helsinki; she also received funding towards the costs of attending the International Beethoven Piano Competition in Vienna in June 2013. Alexandra, who is completing her studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London, writes: "I am extremely grateful for this wonderful opportunity... I will always be grateful for your trust in me".



Bela Valko *Hungary, cello*

A contribution to the costs of purchasing a new cello was made to Hungarian cellist, Bela Valko. Bela, a graduate of the Liszt Academy in Budapest, writes to say that he is "honoured to be awarded this grant".



Suzanne Vinnik *USA, soprano*

Young American soprano, Suzanne Vinnik, was granted an award to assist with the costs of travel to Europe to attend competitions and auditions. Her website is at www.suzannevinnik.com



Simon Watterton *Great Britain, piano*

A grant towards the costs of attending the 2012 Banff Collaborative Piano Course in Canada was made to British pianist, Simon Watterton. See Simon's website at www.simonwatterton.co.uk

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