

SOPHIA SHUYA LIU

Canada – 2008

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Biography

Sophia Shuya Liu was born in Shanghai on October 10, 2008. She moved to Japan with her parents when she was 2 years old, and now lives in Montreal, Canada. She is currently studying with Professor Dang Thai Son.

Sophia began to learn piano at the age of 4, and began to participate in international competitions at the age of 5. She has won numerous prizes in competitions such as the Kobe Piano Competition in Japan, the International Piano Competition of Chinese Compositions in Hangzhou, China, the Canada Music Competition, and the McGill University Concerto Competition in Canada, the Chopin International Competition in Hartford, USA and the Philadelphia International Piano Competition. In 2020, she advanced to the semi-final round of the Gina Bachauer International Junior Piano Competition in the United States as the youngest participant. In August 2022, she won the First Prize in Category A of the 18th Ettlingen International Piano Competition in Germany. One year later, she won the First Prize at the 2023 Thomas & Evon Cooper International Competition and performed with the Cleveland Orchestra conducted by Maestro David Robertson.

Sophia has given many recitals and concerts all over the world, including North and South Americas, Asia and Europe. She has shared the stage with famous pianists and collaborated with symphony orchestras multiple times. She has also participated in several high-level music festivals, such as the Philadelphia Young Pianists' Academy (PYPA) Festival where she also gave recitals, as well as the Tolima International Piano Festival in Colombia. At the opening ceremony of the latter, she performed Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No. 2 with the local symphony orchestra, followed by a solo recital.

Sophia has participated in many masterclasses and has received guidance from Gary Graffman, Lydia Artymiw, Meng-Chieh Liu and many more renowned masters. She has been featured on several media including NBC and ABC News, Colombian National Television and Polish newspapers.

Sophia enjoys performing, especially works by Chopin and Liszt. Her playing displays skillful technique, well-mastered styles, enchanting charisma, and rich colors. In addition to playing the piano, Sophia also enjoys composition. In recent years, she has composed dozens of piano works.

Program

First round

F. Chopin	Etude op. 10 no. 2
	Etude op. 25 no. 4
	Nocturne in B major, op. 9 no. 3
	<i>Trois Écossaises</i> , op. 72
F. Liszt	<i>Mephisto Waltz</i> no. 1, S .514

Second round

L. van Beethoven	Sonata no. 16 in G Major, op. 31 no. 1
	Allegro vivace
	Adagio grazioso
	Rondo – Allegretto
F. Chopin	Variations on “Là ci darem la mano” from Mozart’s <i>Don Giovanni</i> in B-flat Major, op. 2
F. Liszt	<i>Sonetto 123 del Petrarca</i> , S. 161/6

C. Debussy *Voiles*, Prelude no. 2, L. 125/2

Semifinal round

M. Ravel *Alborada del gracioso*, from *Miroirs*, M. 43

F. Chopin Four Mazurkas, op. 33
 No. 1 in G-sharp minor
 No. 2 in D Major
 No. 3 in C Major
 No. 4 in B minor

Sonata no. 2 in B-flat minor, op. 35
Grave – Doppio movimento
Scherzo
Marche funèbre: Lento
Finale: Presto

J. S. Bach French Suite no. 5 in G Major, BWV 816
 Allemande
 Courante
 Sarabande
 Gavotte
 Bourrée
 Loure
 Gigue

D. Scarlatti Sonata in A Major, K. 24

Final round with orchestra

GROUP A

L. van Beethoven Piano Concerto no. 1 in C Major, op. 15
 Allegro con brio
 Largo
 Rondo. Allegro scherzando

GROUP B

F. Chopin Piano Concerto no. 1 in E minor, op. 11
 Allegro maestoso
 Romanze – Larghetto
 Rondo – Vivace