

Dr. Kumiko Shimizu is Professor of Music and Collaborative Pianist at Delta State University. She completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Oregon, where she had been a piano student of Victor Steinhardt and studied collaborative piano and opera coaching with Gregory Mason. As a collaborative pianist, she has played for several competitions (including National Opera Association, District Metropolitan, National Association of Teachers of Singing, Mississippi Music Teachers Association, and Music Teachers National Association) and opera companies and has been invited to perform at conferences/conventions for the College Music Society including its international conferences in Korea and Finland and national conferences in Oregon and New Mexico, the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association of Teachers of Singing Southern Region, the Mid-South Flute Society, Southeast Regional Tuba Euphonium Conference, and William Bennett Summer Flute Academy, among others. She also has been on the National Opera Association Pianists and Conductors Committee.

Her current performing interests are to perform art songs that are rarely heard in the USA and to present world premieres. She has performed Japanese, Swedish, and Korean art songs at various venues such as the CMS National Conference, the NATS Southern Region Conference, and DSU Guest Artist Recital (with the Public Project Grant from the American-Scandinavian Foundation: Thord-Gray Memorial Fund). The most recent world premieres include Sy Brandon's *Phantasie on Singaporean Folk Songs* (for piano) and Bruce Trinkley's *The Sylvan Cycle* (for voice and piano).

In teaching, her primary interests are in collaborative piano and vocal coaching. Understanding the value of these fields, she has been learning and teaching the art whenever there are opportunities. She was selected to receive further training in vocal collaborative piano/coaching from Graham Johnson and Martin Katz (SongFest, U.S.A.), Malcolm Martineau (Malcolm Martineau Masterclass, Scotland), Hartmut Höll (German Lied Masterclass, Finland), and Matteo Dalle Fratte (Veneto Opera Summer School, Italy). To share the art gained from her learning and performing experiences, she teaches collaborative piano, directs and provides vocal coaching for the DSU opera/musical theater workshop, has team-taught in the voice area at DSU, and has presented seminars and master classes at various venues, including at Sungkyul University in South Korea during the SU-DSU Piano Exchange Program in May 2017.

Her recording of Sy Brandon's piano music, *Phantasie on Singaporean Folk Songs*, has been released on the Emeritus Recordings label and available at CDBaby (<http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/kumikoshimizu>). She is the co-editor of *Japanese Art Song Anthology* Volumes 1 & 2 (High Voice, Medium/Low Voice) published by Classical Vocal Reprints.

She is grateful for the recognitions given to her as a collaborative pianist, a vocal coach, and/or a teacher. She has received these awards: James Ronald Brothers Distinguished Achievement in Collaborative Piano Award (National Association of Teachers of Singing Southern Region), Favorite Professor Award (Mu Phi Epsilon-Gamma Zeta Chapter), and Second Place – Instrumental Performance, Professional Division (American Prize).



“wonderful dramatic sense and color, absolutely wedded to the soloist. First rate.”

“rich tone, symphonic, but sensitive to balance with voice.”

“crystalline, very sensitively played. Elegant, very fine. Exceptional collaborative music-making across the audition.”