

WEST VALLEY SYMPHONY
APRIL 7, 2024
ALL GERSHWIN – BY GEORGE!
WALTER COSAND, SOLOIST

Walter Cosand is a pianist and a member of the emeritus faculty at Arizona State University. He has degrees and a Performer's Certificate from Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. There he studied with Cecile Genhart and Barry Snyder. He also studied with Brooks Smith at Aspen Music School and with Joerg Demus in Stuttgart. His awards include the Eastman Concerto Competition, the grand prize from the International Piano Recording Competition and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts.

He has been favorably reviewed in the New York Times, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Arizona Republic, Fanfare and many music periodicals. An experienced recitalist and chamber music performer, he has also performed more than thirty different concertos. In addition to playing throughout the United States he has performed in Australia, Korea, China, Thailand, Russia, Canada, Central America, South America, and Europe. His performances have been broadcast by KBAQ-FM, National Public Radio, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Bayerischer Rundfunk, Korean Cable Television, AMD-TV Beijing and Sverdlovsk Radio. He twice played in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York City. He taught at Mississippi Piano Showcase in Starkville, Mississippi. In Korea he taught master classes at Sunhwa Arts School, Sungshin Women's University and Chugye University for the Arts. He has performed and taught at Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, Northwestern University, the Royal Conservatory in Ghent, and at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras. He also played a recital for the first Steinway Festival in Dalian, China, and taught classes at the Escola Superior de Artes Aplicadas at the Instituto Politecnico, Castelo Branco, Portugal. In addition to a tour of five cities in Belgium he presented four successful concerts at the Festival Virtuosi in Brazil. In recent years he has performed solos with orchestras in thirteen cities in China.

He has commissioned new music from William Albright, William Bolcom, David Diamond, Matthew Hodge, Rodney Rogers and Walter Saul. He participated in the world premiere of the Pongryu Piano Symphony by Soonmee Kang. Other composers with whom he has worked include Walter Aschaffenburg, Milton Babbitt, Jason Bahr, Richard Boulanger, David Cohen, James DeMars, Jacob Druckman,

Grant Fletcher, Lukas Foss, Pablo Furman, Philippe Gantchoula, Erica Glenn, James Greeson, Charles B. Griffith, Glenn Hackbarth, Karel Husa, William Karlins, John Anthony Lennon, Holon Matthews, Javan Mesnard, Marc Parella, Akmal Parwez, George Perle, Cary Ratcliff, Ned Rorem, Joseph Schwantner, Robert T. Smith, Glenn Stallcop, and James Woodward.

Cosand's personal website, waltercosand.com is a well-recognized resource for public domain sheet music and for many recordings of Cosand's live performances, at times receiving 1,000,000 hits per month.

Cosand can be heard on ACA Digital, Advance, ARF, Canyon, Centaur, DPS, JIGU, Koch, Summit, and TimeGrabber recordings. In summer he is on the faculty of MasterWorks Festival. Many of his former students are now successful concert artists, teachers or composers. He is married to violist Patricia Cosand, and they have four children: David, Michael, Steven and Miriam. Cosand is an International Steinway Artist.