

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PIANIST SARA DAVIS BUECHNER TO OPEN ALOHA INTERNATIONAL PIANO FESTIVAL**

***Buechner to premiere Yukiko Nishimura's "Three New Etudes" and enthralling works by Canadian composers Stephen Chatman, Dorothy Chang and Jared Miller***

HONOLULU (May 11, 2010) – World-renowned pianist and recording artist Sara Davis Buechner will open the 2010 Aloha International Piano Festival (AIPF) at the Hawaii Convention Center on Saturday, June 12. Buechner's recital will feature a world premiere, as well as newly-commissioned works from Canadian composers. Buechner will also present audience favorites including three Bach transcriptions of the Busoni School and Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." Tickets are on sale now at [www.alohapianofestival.com](http://www.alohapianofestival.com). General admission tickets are \$20 and student tickets (up to age 22) are only \$5.

Each year, AIPF features beautiful concerts, masterclasses and workshops for students and teachers, and a piano competition for pianists ranging in age from five to 25. A not-for-profit organization, AIPF strives to provide enjoyable and affordable access to arts experiences and music education for Hawaii's families and classical music lovers.

Buechner is a classical concert pianist of noteworthy accomplishment, virtuosic mastery, artistic sensitivity and extraordinary versatility. She is a major prizewinner of many of the world's most prestigious international piano competitions, including Reine Elisabeth of Belgium, Leeds, Salzburg, Sydney and Vienna. She established her career by winning the Gold Medal of the 1984 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah, and as a Bronze Medalist of the 1986 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow. Buechner is Associate Professor of Piano, Piano Literature and Chamber Music at the eminent Piano Faculty of the University of British Columbia – Vancouver, and is a former faculty member of New York University. Visit <http://www.sarabuechner.com/> for more information.

**Praise for Sara Davis Buechner**

"Buechner's performance... with its soft contours and liquid, legato phrasing... had a beauty that might have taken even Mozart's breath away." (*The Washington Post*)

Sara Davis Buechner "kept the audience spellbound... From the moment of stepping onstage, Ms. Buechner had the listener's complete attention." (**Montreal Gazette**)

"From the delicate opening chord, played oh-so-quietly with head down and body bent over the keyboard, she drew her audience in with a style that epitomized classical good taste." (*Kitchener Record*)

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## **Sara Davis Buechner Recital Program**

### **Three Bach Transcriptions of the Busoni School**

Three Minuets in G major

Egon Petri

Aria in G major from the St. Matthew Passion

Michael von Zadora

Chorale Prelude “Nun komm’ der Heiden Heiland”

Ferruccio Busoni

### **Sonata in B flat major KV. 570**

Wolfgang Mozart

(Allegro, Adagio, Allegretto)

(1756 - 1791)

### **“A Vancouver Triptych”**

Canadian Piano Pieces commissioned by Sara Davis Buechner

Mountain Spirit (2008)

Stephen Chatman (b. 1950)

Elegy for Daisy (2004)

Dorothy Chang (b. 1970)

Instincts (2009)

Jared Miller (b. 1988)

### **Three New Etudes (2009)**

Yukiko Nishimura (b. 1967)

*World Premiere*

Snowy Sky – Firebox – Windmill

### **Variations on a Theme of Poulenc (1961)**

Kouji Taku

(1904 - 1983)

### **Rhapsody in Blue**

George Gershwin

*Solo arrangement by the composer*

(1898 - 1937)

At this year’s AIPF, Buechner will also present a workshop on Friday June 18 titled “Crossover Classics of the 1920s.” The workshop will be an examination of rare yet delightful piano music by: Zez Confrey, Pauline Alpert, Dana Suesse, and George Gershwin. Attendees will also enjoy a discussion on transcribing foxtrot recordings and player piano rolls.

### **About the Aloha International Piano Festival**

Founded in 2006 by pianist Lisa Nakamichi, the Aloha International Piano Festival (AIPF) is a non-profit organization committed to educating Hawaii’s children and teachers. AIPF offers instruction with world-class pianists and competition opportunities in an affordable setting that is close to home. Each year, AIPF strives to elevate the awareness of classical music in Hawaii

while offering people of all ages the opportunity to experience music in a welcoming and educational setting. Visit [www.alohapianofestival.com](http://www.alohapianofestival.com) for more information.

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