

READ GAINSFORD BIO

Pianist **Read Gainsford** has been described as possessing “finger-numbing virtuosity and delicately chiseled precision”. Known for his insightful introductions from the stage, he has collaborated with oceanographers in presenting Crumb’s “Voice of the Whale”, consulted with art historians and living artists to create a series of images to accompany performances of Messiaen, and reenacted the famous piano duel between Liszt and Thalberg.

Born in New Zealand, he has performed widely in the USA, Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, as solo recitalist, concerto soloist and chamber musician, making successful solo debuts in Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall and London’s Wigmore Hall, as well as playing in the Kennedy Center, St Martin-in-the-Fields, Queen Elizabeth Hall, and others. Recent highlights include performing concertos with the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra in Olomouc, Czech Republic, the Frenz ensemble in Paris, and Orchestra da Camera in Champaign-Urbana, and tours across the USA including a fourth concert in Carnegie Hall.

Gainsford was a founding member of Trio Solis, who made their Carnegie Hall debut in 2009, he has also collaborated with the Audubon and Serafin Quartets, Pressenda Chamber Players, Aaron Berofsky, Kathryn Votapek, Richard Stoltzman, Jacques Zoon, Ricardo Morales, and many others. A keen supporter of living composers, he has premiered and recorded Ladislav Kubik’s *3rd Piano Concerto* and Marc Satterwhite’s *Five Rivers of Hades*, and recorded Ellen Taaffe Zwilich’s *Images* for two pianos and orchestra.

Highly in demand as a master-class clinician and teacher, he is Professor of Piano at Florida State University.