

BIOGRAPHY

A native of Tennessee, pianist Melvin Chen is recognized as an important artist, having received acclaim for performances throughout the U.S. and abroad. As a soloist and chamber musician Mr. Chen has performed at major venues, including Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Weill Recital Hall, the Frick Collection, Kennedy Center and Boston's Jordan Hall, in addition to other appearances throughout the U.S., Canada, and Asia. Solo recordings include Beethoven's *Diabelli* Variations on the Bridge label, praised as “a classic” by the American Record Guide, a recording of Joan Tower's piano music on the Naxos label, as well as recordings of the Shostakovich piano sonatas and Gordon's *Orpheus and Euridice*. An enthusiastic chamber musician, Melvin has collaborated with such artists as Ida Kavafian, Steven Tenenbom, David Shifrin, and Peter Wiley, and with the Shanghai, Tokyo, Miami, and Miro quartets. Mr. Chen is an alumnus of Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center: Chamber Music Society Two, where he appeared with members of the Chamber Music Society in performance and educational programs for two seasons. He is a regular performer in numerous music festivals, including the Vail Valley Music Festival, Music Mountain, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Bard Music Festival, and Music from Angel Fire, among others. Mr. Chen completed a doctorate in chemistry from Harvard University, and also holds a double master's degree from The Juilliard School in piano and violin. Previously, he attended Yale University, receiving a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and physics. Mr. Chen is associate professor of piano and deputy dean at the Yale School of Music. Previously, he was on the piano faculty of the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where he was also associate director.