

Penelope Crawford

Lectures, Workshops, and Masterclasses

LECTURES

The Three R's of 18th-Century Music: Rhythm, Rhetoric and R-ticulation

Changes in the performing style of 18th-century music have paralleled changes in the piano over the past two centuries. Playing on a copy of Mozart's own piano, Ms. Crawford discusses 18th-century aesthetic ideals, and gives suggestions for livelier and more stylistic performance of the music of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven.

The Piano: Its First Three Hundred Years

Using slides and taped musical examples, Ms. Crawford traces the 300-year history of the piano. She will discuss mechanical details of the keyboard action, case construction and decoration, and most important, the specific qualities of sound that made each instrument the ideal musical medium for the composer who wrote for it.

18th-Century Keyboard Playing: Elements of Style and Expression

A lecture/demonstration in which Ms. Crawford discusses the expressive vocabulary of the harpsichord and fortepiano, using musical examples of Bach, Mozart, Beethoven and others to examine articulation, ornamentation, rhythmic nuance, dynamic shape and phrasing, and conventions of notation.

PERFORMANCE CLASSES

18th-Century Style and Technique Class for Pianists

An introductory class offering a systematic approach to the basics of 18th-century keyboard touch, articulation, and tone production. An important goal in this class will be to discover a musically satisfying application of some of these concepts to the performance of 18th-century music on the modern piano.

Masterclasses

Performance classes on harpsichord, fortepiano or modern piano of solo literature from the 17th, 18th centuries, and early 19th centuries.

Continuo Playing

Transforming a figured bass line into a rich and imaginative keyboard accompaniment can be a difficult task, even for experienced players. Ms. Crawford supplies guidelines and practical aids toward the development of skills necessary for lively and expressive continuo playing.

Chamber Music Coaching

A performance class for ensembles playing of baroque, classical, and early romantic chamber music.