

## Michael Delfin

Praised for “beautiful performances of great warmth” (Classical Voice of North Carolina), Michael Delfin is a versatile performer on piano and harpsichord and an advocate of the composer, both past and present. Specializing in historical performance, new music, and diverse collaborations, Michael immerses audiences into the sound world of the composer through a co-creative process of contextual knowledge and adventurous programming.

As a pianist, Michael has soloed for the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage and the Aspen, Eastern, and Chautauqua Music Festivals. He has performed as a soloist with the CCM Philharmonia and the Eastern Music Festival Young Artists Orchestra and has captured prizes in the International Crescendo Music Awards, Baltimore Music Club Competition, Chautauqua Piano Competition, EMF Piano Competition, and two CCM Concerto Competitions.

An avid chamber musician, Michael has appeared in recital with violinists Madeleine Mitchell and Mark O’Connor, violist Michael Hall, and members of the EMF faculty. He co-founded the award-winning Trio INUENDI and was the recipient of the Sidney Friedberg Prize in Chamber Music from the Peabody Conservatory. His advocacy for new music has led to numerous world premieres, rave reviews by composers, and recordings with the Peabody Wind Ensemble for Naxos Records. He is presently collaborating with the Queen City Composers Collective (QC3) on an album of works for solo piano and is the pianist for the Cincinnati-based Merge Ensemble.

Michael is the recipient of the 2018 Historical Keyboard Society of North America Bechtel/Clinkscale scholarship and 2017 Catacoustic Consort Early Music Grant. He is the artistic director of Seven Hills Baroque, a newly-formed Cincinnati-based historical ensemble. He has soloed for the Historical Keyboard Society of North America and the Central California Baroque Festival and attended the 2018 American Bach Soloists Academy. Michael has given lectures on historical performance topics for Early Music America, HKSNA, and the Case Western Reserve University Music Department. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he performed a clavichord recital for the 5pm Series to raise funds for performing artists. He is the harpsichordist for the Cincinnati-based Bach Ensemble of St. Thomas and has performed with members of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

A dedicated teacher, Mr. Delfin taught at CCM as a graduate assistant instructor of secondary piano and also as an adjunct instructor of Figured Bass & Improvisation. He recently gave master classes in Idaho and Maryland as part of residencies at the Brigham Young University-Idaho and the Intermuse International Music Institute and Festival.

Raised in Fresno, California, Michael came to study music at the age of 9. He is now pursuing doctoral studies in both piano and harpsichord at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He holds degrees in piano from the San Francisco Conservatory and the Peabody Conservatory and also in history from the Johns Hopkins University. His mentors include Awadagin Pratt, Yoshikazu Nagai, Boris Slutsky, Michael Unger, and Carol Oaks. In his spare time, Mr. Delfin enjoys literature, cooking, biking, collecting fine teas, and stoking his paronomasia, for which there is no known cure.