



Agnese Toniutti - Biography

Very Short (1088 characters)

Italian pianist Agnese Toniutti graduated with full marks from the Conservatory of Venice and discussed a thesis on Giacinto Scelsi, since then devoting herself to the exploration of contemporary and 20th Century music.

She dedicates both to performance and research on a specific piano repertoire; as a result, her solo recitals are often thematic or monographic, carefully interweaving live performance with extracts from writings and audio documents selected after musical, bibliographical and archival study. Among them the monographic “portrays” of Giacinto Scelsi, John Cage, Giancarlo Cardini, and the recitals dedicated to Fluxus movement (featuring premieres by Philip Corner e Dick Higgins) and to women’s creativity from the 50ies to nowadays (including Lucia Dlugoszewski’s “timbre” piano research project).

Her collaborations often include other artistic disciplines (acting, photography, dance, visual arts and multimedia).

She recently released the piano solo disc [*Lento trascolorare – piano music*](#), Da Vinci Classics, with music by Giancarlo Cardini (June 2020).

As a soloist and chamber music pianist she performed in several venues and international festivals in Italy, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, France, Germany and USA.
www.agnesetoniutti.com

Short Bio (1749 characters)

Agnese Toniutti, pianist specialized in contemporary and 20th Century music, graduated with full marks from the Conservatory of Venice where she studied with G. Lovato and completed a thesis on Giacinto Scelsi. She also specialized in piano and chamber music and attended masterclasses with F.-J. Thiollier, M. Damerini, L. De Barberiis and P. M. Paul.

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Long Bio

Agnese Toniutti, pianist specialized in contemporary and 20th Century music, graduated from the Conservatory of Udine and with full marks from the Conservatory of Venice, where she studied with Giorgio Lovato and discussed a thesis on Giacinto Scelsi. She also specialized in piano and chamber music and attended masterclasses with François-Joel Thiollier, Massimiliano Damerini, Lya De Barberiis and Pamela Mia Paul.

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Her interest in **Giacinto Scelsi’s** music is expressed through both performance and research, during piano recitals and seminars dedicated to the composer. On 8th January 2019 - Scelsi’s date of birth - she performed a recital at Isabella Scelsi Foundation in Rome. A tour in the USA, including lectures and [performances on Scelsi’s music](#), took place in February 2019. From 2015 to the present, she has been delivering seminars and lecture-recitals in Conservatories of music and at Universities in Italy and Germany while regularly performing Scelsi’s music. In 2019, at “Le voci dell’inchiesta Documentary Film Festival”, she introduced at the piano *The first motion of the immovable*, documentary film dedicated to Scelsi and directed by Sebastiano D’Ayala Valva, winner at Amsterdam International Documentary Film Festival and Torino Film Festival. She collaborates with the Isabella Scelsi Foundation Journal ... *i suoni, le onde* in Rome.

In 2010 she performed *Around Scelsi*, a concert-research on Scelsi and his musical environment (program edited by Luciano Martinis, vicepresident of the Scelsi Foundation in Rome). In 2013 she lectured and performed at the “Seminario Popolare sul Pensiero dell’Estremo Oriente” on the subject *On the border between East and West: Giacinto Scelsi and the Sound*. In 2014 she was the music director of “Scelsiana 2014”, an international festival and masterclass for wind instruments dedicated to the music of Giacinto Scelsi which involved performers and teachers who worked closely with the composer.

In 2016 she premiered **Giancarlo Cardini’s** *Tre momenti di sessualità infantile*, starting a close collaboration with the composer himself, who wrote and dedicated to her a new piece, *Terza Fantasia, ad Agnese Toniutti* (2018). Two monographic recitals and a new released disc, [Lento trascolorare – piano music](#), Da Vinci Classics 2020, warmly welcomed by critics, are the outcome of this collaboration.

Her repertoire includes several piano solo, [prepared piano](#) and chamber music pieces by **John Cage**, together with performance pieces as *Water Walk* and *Sounds of Venice*, performed in Venice in 2018 for the European project “Ecouter le monde”, in collaboration with Radio France ([here is the video](#) documentation).

Other research and performance projects include the one dedicated to the international artistic movement **Fluxus**, with the 2018 premiere of the graphic score by Dick Higgins [Emmet Williams’s ear](#), at the fabulous Egidio Marzona’s land art collection “Art Park Verzegnis”, and the collaboration with composer Philip Corner (here [a premiere](#) of two of his pieces).

Also to mention **Only 76 (Women composers)**, a work-in-progress project focussed on women composers’ repertoire for piano solo from 1950 to the present, especially considering artists who had a professional collaboration with the authors she mostly dedicated to (including Lucia Dlugoszewski’s [“timbre” piano](#) research project).



As a performer, Mrs. Toniutti likes to explore unconventional ways to strengthen communication between performers and audiences by putting in dialogue contemporary music with other artistic disciplines (acting, photography, dance, visual arts and multimedia).

Among her projects and collaborations: *Dialoghi cromatici*, with the jazz pianist Armando Battiston, *Qui e Oltre*, installation with music, photography, visual and land art, *A stain on silence*, performance with piano and actor, *Le boeuf sur le toit*, with painting and video art, *Hommage a John Cage*, with contemporary dancers, *Around Scelsi*, musical research on Scelsi's cultural environment, *Three trees and three sons* with actor, *Piano Twelve*, ensemble of twelve pianists.

In her collaborations as artistic director, she creates unusual situations in selected unconventional locations, in order to offer to the listeners new experiences of musical fruition. Among them since 2013 the "Salotto Musicale del Fvg", series of *Hauskonzerts 4.0* of contemporary music and contemporary art, at its 6th edition (Ud, Italy).

She took part in ensembles directed by Joelle Leandre (*Hommage à John*, project dedicated to Cage, Italian premiere, 2009) and Pauline Oliveros (*Environmental Dialogue*, Venice 2015, later on air on Wave Farm Radio, NY).

Besides 20th century compositions, her repertoire includes also pieces of contemporary composers as Azio Corghi, Salvatore Sciarrino, Carlo Boccadoro, George Crumb, Marco Stroppa, John Palmer, Silvia Colasanti, Mieko Shiomi, featuring premieres of Filippo Perocco, Caterina Venturelli, Da Jeong Choi, Colin Riley among others. Several the new pieces composed and dedicated to her.

As a soloist and chamber music pianist she performed in Italy, Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, France, Germany and Usa, as well as at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Palazzo Cavagnis and Palazzo Pisani in Venice, Strehler Theater in Milan (live RAI broadcast), Duse Theater in Bologna, Palazzo Congressi in Lugano, State University of Music and Performing Arts in Stuttgart, Pavillon Le Corbusier – Fondation Suisse in Paris, the University of North Texas (USA). She also performed for the "Komponisten Colloquium" series (Oldenburg, Germany), the "ALL FRONTIERS - Indagini sulle musiche d'arte contemporanee" festival (Gorizia, Italy), "Angelica – Centro di Ricerca Musicale" festival (Bologna, Italy), "Bari Piano Festival" (Bari), "Ossezioni Festival" (Faenza), "Gamo International Festival" (Firenze), "Italien Musiziert" festival (Stuttgart, Germany).

More info at: www.agnesetoniutti.com / www.youtube.com/user/agnesetoniutti