

Frances Shih

Bio notes

A researcher, pianist, and teacher, Frances Shih was born in Taiwan and grew up in Canada. Frances is a presently a PhD student studying with Dr. Pamela Burnard. Prior to coming to Cambridge, Frances had received a bachelor and masters degree in piano performance from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, U.S.A.

Interests and Research

For eight years, Frances has taught students of many ages and levels at the CMU Preparatory School, in her piano studio in Taiwan, and now in Cambridge. As a performer she has played in Hong Kong, Jakarta, Pittsburgh, Prague, Singapore, Sydney, Taipei, and Toronto. Frances draws on her interests as a teacher and pianist for her PhD study on how improvisers understand a tune before they improvise on it. Her other research interests include the historical practices of improvisation and creativity in music learning.



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