

ALAN FRASER (CANADA/SERBIA)

Academy of Arts (Novi Sad)



Contact Presenter

Email: pianofraser@gmail.com

www.alanfraserinstitute.com

Facebook

Phone: +381 60 4840-228

[View Presentation](#)

Alan Fraser studied piano with Phil Cohen in Montreal and later with Kemal Gekic in Yugoslavia/Serbia. In 1992 he completed a Feldenkrais training with the aim of developing a new approach to piano technique based on the Feldenkrais understanding of skeletal mechanics and the neurological underpinnings of learning. His work with Cohen, "the Moshe Feldenkrais of the piano world," and Gekic, whose assistant he was from 1991-1999, prepared him well for this challenge. His approach has been presented in numerous journal articles and conference presentations, and in his books: *The Craft of Piano Playing* (2003), *Honing the Pianistic Self-Image* (2010), *All Thumbs: Well-Coordinated Piano Technique* (2012), *Play the Piano with Your Whole Self* (in preparation), *Transforming the Pianistic Self-Image* (in preparation), and most recently, *Pianimals* - a children's method to be published in the near future. He has appeared with orchestra and solo in Yugoslavia, China, Hungary, Germany, the UK, Canada and the USA. He directs the Alan Fraser Institute of Piano Somatics in various European and North American cities, and in its most recent online incarnation. More on Alan Fraser at www.alanfraserinstitute.com.

The Craft of Piano Playing Today: Questions & Answers on "Skeletal-Based Piano Technique"

Alan Fraser's books are often used as texts in university piano pedagogy courses. The *Optimal Performance & Biomechanics* Graduate Seminar in piano technique at the University of Wisconsin, Madison took *The Craft of Piano Playing* as a principle text for the entire year. Course presenter Jess Johnson took advantage of the Covid-19 restrictions to invite Alan to give a lecture to the group - online. This presentation gives an update on how the ideas of Fraser's seminal work have developed in the years following publication, answers students' questions and gives spot check mini-lessons on some thorny problems in works such as the Chopin C major etude, Op. 10 #1.