



The first International Stretto Piano Festival will be hosted online by musae.me and will run from 15 to 23 May 2021.

All pianists will be performing on piano keyboards with keys narrower than today's conventional keyboard with its 6.5 inch octave. This size is large by historical standards and mainly suits adult males with medium to large hands. It disadvantages most women and children and a sizable number of men as well. It is also the cause of much pain and injury among pianists.

The aims of this festival:

- Raise awareness and promote the idea of alternate piano key sizes.
- Promote and elevate the careers of the performers on these keyboards.
- Assist in energizing a community of those who are proponents of this technology.

We will see 17 performers from six countries during this exciting week – recorded from stages, universities, homes and a gallery around the globe! It is truly a unique event and the first of its kind, involving a worldwide collaboration of pianists.

USA – Anna Arazi, Peter Fancovic, Rick Hip-Flores, Jessica Johnson, Carol Leone, Barbara Lister-Sink, Artina McCain, Kathryn Mientka Farruggia, Hannah Reimann, Yusuke Seki, Eliana Yi

Canada – Linda Gould

Australia – Kathy Caruana, Amos Kurniadi

Germany –Sophia Weidemann

Austria – Annette Seiler

Brazil - Silvia Molan

Please check out the festival website and support our artists by purchasing tickets. You can view their performances at any time – when first broadcast or at a later convenient time!

For information about where you can try out or purchase one of these pianos, visit the PASK website.

Further information:

Stretto Festival website: <https://info.musae.me/stretto>

PASK (Pianists for Alternately Sized Keyboards) – a global network of pianists wanting keyboard choice. <http://paskpiano.org>

DS Standard Foundation – a non-profit established by David Steinbuhler with a mission to set a globally recognized standard for alternate keyboard sizes: <http://dsstandardfoundation.org>

Co-artistic Directors:

Hannah Reimann, New York City [Liaison to Steinway & Sons for *Stretto* pianos]:

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Carol Leone, Dallas, Texas: <http://carolleone.com>, [cleone@smu.edu](mailto:cleone@smu.edu)

Rhonda Boyle, Melbourne, Australia: <http://smallpianokeyboards.org>, [rhonda@cicadabay.com](mailto:rhonda@cicadabay.com)

*\*Stretto means 'narrow' in Italian*