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Media release
27.09.2016

Historic achievement for *Butterflying: piano music by Elena Kats-Chernin* (ABC Classics/UMA): first album of contemporary classical music by an Australian woman composer to reach no. 1 on ARIA Classical Charts.

Performed by 2015 ARIA Award-winner **Tamara-Anna Cislowska** and the composer herself, *Butterflying* is the first major survey of the piano music of Elena Kats-Chernin. Opening at no.2 on the ARIA Core Classical Charts, this double disc of piano music solo and four hands has enjoyed 13 weeks in the top 10 (8 of those at no.2) until this week's breakthrough to the prized no.1 position.

Featuring **14 world premiere recordings**, this double-disc collaboration between these two leading Australian artists was described by *Limelight* magazine as "a true dream team" and accorded 'Editor's Choice' in its August 2016 issue. Says Kats-Chernin: "This is my largest collection of music so far. I write with the idea of talking to someone one-to-one and *Butterflying* includes a lot of different conversations. I'm so happy that people are listening in such numbers!"

Born in Uzbekistan, Kats-Chernin is now regarded as one of the world's foremost contemporary composers, writing music for the leading opera, ballet, and theatre companies and festivals. Her music has a rare ability to touch millions, with her music featuring at the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games and the 2003 Rugby World Cup. She has received many prizes (such as 'Best Original Score' and 'Best composition') from the **Helpmann, Limelight, Sounds Australian, Sydney Theatre Awards** and an **Individual Sidney Myer Performing Arts Award**. *Eliza Aria* - from her score for Meryl Tankard's ballet *Wild Swans*, commissioned by the Australian Ballet - was famously used in British bank, Lloyds TSB's celebrated ad campaign 'For The Journey' and in 2015 she wrote with librettist Joanna Murray-Smith the first-ever opera for television, *The Divorce*, broadcast on-screen and online by ABC TV.

This week the **Australian World Orchestra** gives the world premiere of its first-ever commissioned work, from Elena Kats-Chernin, for the world's first concerto for 8 double basses, at the Sydney Opera House [Sydney Morning Herald feature [here](#)].

Tamara-Anna Cislowska is one of Australia's most acclaimed pianists, and winner of the 2015 ARIA Award for 'Best Classical Album'. *Butterflying* is her second CD to reach no.1 on the Charts. She adds: "*Butterflying* is a 2-hour-plus collection of pure creativity and escapism. It is so heart-warming to see the Aussie public embracing the world of Elena Kats-Chernin - surely one of the most human, likeable and dynamic composers we've ever had."

Album available here: [ABC Music page](#) | 2CD digi | ABC 481 2625

For further information and upcoming 2016/2017 performances by the artists, please contact:
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SUGGESTED TRACKS

CD 1:

1. Butterflyling (4'10)
4. Russian Rag (3'12)
5. For Richard (7'05)
7. Eliza Aria (4'47)

9. Vocalise (10'05)

CD 2:

2. Scherzino (5'41)
11. The Rain Puzzle: Many Hands Remix (4'48')

Listen on Youtube [here](#).

Tamara-Anna Cislowska website www.tamara-annacislowska.com.au

Elena Kats-Chernin on [Boosey & Hawkes page](#)

Butterflying featured in [Limelight Magazine](#) May 2016

Critical praise for *Butterflying*:

“a true dream team... a dazzling collection... lushly recorded and extremely accessible... Fasten your seatbelts and hold on.” – **Limelight Magazine**, August 2016 (Editor’s Choice)

“Detailed clarity and vibrant energy makes every note a winner. Cislowska’s robust delivery of Schubert Blues, drawing on Schubert’s Death and The Maiden, encompasses the piano’s full expressive range. Other musical treasures include Dance of the Paper Umbrellas and Russian Rag. The composer touches depths of human emotion and sorrow in special creations such as Vocalise...” - **Courier Mail** (5 stars), 2016

“Whatever Tamara-Anna Cislowska does rewards attention and listening time... Many of the pieces here are most emotively taken by Cislowska... This is chimingly liquid and memorably melodic music.” – **Musicweb International**, 2016

“Colourful ... as far as the piano can paint when cajoled by the seductive hands of Tamara Anne [sic] Cislowska and the composer... Everyone dance like no one is watching” – **Loud Mouth**, 2016