



Deborah Sobol

December 19, 1950 - January 25, 2014

Deborah Rose Sobol, 63, of Chicago, IL. Born Dec. 19, 1950 in Larksville, PA. Beloved wife of Rowland W. Chang; loving mother of Benjamin and Sarah; sister of Suzanne Sobol Hagmeyer; daughter of Rosemarie and John (1987) Sobol; and friend and mentor to many. Deborah Sobol's impressive 40+-year career in the arts world included concert performance, arts advocacy, education, and community building. She enjoyed both a solo and chamber music career as a concert pianist, partnering in international venues as well as recording projects with renowned artists such as Larry Combs, Mathieu Dufour, Nobuko Imai, and Hila Plitmann. She conceived and consulted on the establishment of numerous civic organizations and community residency models. As a Founder, Artistic and Executive Director of The Chicago Chamber Musicians, Deborah established herself as a visionary by developing innovative programming that included an element of audience education. Most recently, Deborah served proudly as Founder and Artistic Director of Rush Hour Concerts, through which she transformed the way people experience classical music in Chicago. Under her 14 year leadership, Rush Hour Concerts grew from serving a summer audience over thirteen weeks to a year-round arts organization with three dynamic programs of world-class music-making and innovative community engagement residencies, serving more than 560,000 people across Chicago annually. An educator devoted to preparing students and young professionals for careers in music in the 21st century, Deborah was an artist faculty member of the

Chicago College of the Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, and previously held faculty posts at the Longy School of Music and Northwestern University. She was also Principal of Studio 1301, which offers private instruction and coaching, arts organization consulting services, and career development and mentoring for young artists. She graduated magna cum laude from Smith College, received her Diplom in Klavier Konzertfach from the Hochschule fuer Musik in Vienna, and her pedagogy degree from London's Royal College of Music. A public memorial service will be held at St. James Cathedral, 65 E. Huron, on Friday, January 31, at 11am. A live memorial concert will air on WFMT 98.7 FM Friday, Jan. 31, from 5-7pm. In lieu of flowers, donations to Rush Hour Concerts, 650 N. Dearborn, #500, Chicago, IL 60654, are appreciated.

Tribute Wall



“ *Deborah Sobol*

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