

Clavier®

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co-founded the Taubman Institute and was its artistic director for 26 years. In 2003 she and several others founded the Golandsky Institute to further the Taubman approach to piano technique.

Each D.V.D. begins with a short lecture, followed by demonstrations in which Golandsky illustrates her points playing excerpts from the standard repertoire, including Chopin, Schubert impromptu, and Mozart Sonata in F Major, K. 332. She also presents a masterclass on the Schubert Sonata in A Minor, Op. 143.

Golandsky says the foundation of artistic playing is the pulse, likening it to the human heartbeat; she discusses the characteristic differences between beats of the bar and how they shape musical phrases. Rhythmic expression, she says, depends on a pianist's technique and understanding of sound production and shaping. In most of the presentation Golandsky plays short excerpts and analyzes the components that make the music come alive. The idea that all musical aspects are interconnected recurs throughout the D.V.D.s.

Golandsky often repeats phrases using incorrect movements that contribute to making rhythm static and lifeless. The

screen of shows four camera angles with views of the keyboard and hands from above and each side as well as a view of Golandsky from the audience. We found this helpful for seeing a three-dimensional view of her movements. The demonstrations are liberally filled with nuggets of wisdom, such as "Music timing goes beyond counting; counting is only the beginning" and "What we try to express has to go through the body."

We liked Golandsky's choice of repertoire, although it would have been useful to hear her thoughts on rhythmic expression from other style periods. Perhaps that will be forthcoming in the future. Some of the video editing is abrupt and occasionally startling, but this does not detract from the quality of her message.

The Art of Rhythmic Expression is an informative and inspiring tool, presented in a convincing manner by an excellent teacher. It forced us to reexamine one of the most fundamental and often neglected aspects of artistic expression, the beat. We highly recommend it for teachers of all levels as well as advanced students. (The Golandsky Institute Discovery Series, www.golandskyinstitute.org, \$99)

– Susan Hlasny and Peter Jancewicz

The Art of Rhythmic Expression is a three-D.V.D. set that features the inspired teaching of Edna Golandsky, a New York teacher and pianist who