



Nina Schumann was born into a musical family and received her early music tuition from Rona Rupert and Lamar Crowson. Her first appearance with an orchestra was at the age of 15, and her talent captured the attention of the public when she won the Fifth National Music Competition for high school pupils in 1988. She went on to win the Oude Meester Music Prize (1989), the Forte Competition (1990), and during 1991 both the Wooltru Scholarship and the Adcock-Ingram Music Prize. She has over 140 concerto performances with orchestras in South Africa, Germany, Sweden, Poland, Portugal, Scotland, Armenia and the USA to her credit, and some 40 concertos in her repertoire.

In 1993 Nina won the SAMRO Overseas Scholarship Competition and was awarded the

Jules Kramer and Harry Crossley Bursaries for Overseas Study by the University of Cape Town. She crowned these prizes by winning the sought-after SABC Music Prize as well as the Oude Meester National Chamber Music Competition. International prizes followed: she won the prizes for the Best South African Pianist in the 1993 UNISA International Piano Competition, Finalist and Special Prize Winner at the Shreveport Concerto Competition (1996) and Third Prize in the Casablanca International Piano Competition (1997).

After completing her MMus at UCLA, Nina enrolled for the Doctorate of Music at the University of North Texas under the tutelage of Van Cliburn-winner, Vladimir Viardo. She received several academic prizes: Dean's Medal (UCT), Best Performer (UCLA), Best Performer (UNT), Best Pianist (UNT) and Best Doctoral Student (UNT).

Following her appointment as Associate Professor and Head of Piano at the University of Stellenbosch in 1999, Nina transferred her Doctorate to UCT from which she graduated in 2005. In 2009 she was awarded the UCT Rector's Award for Excellence in recognition of her contribution to the music field.

Solo-career and academic life aside, Nina formed an internationally recognized duo with Luis Magalhaes. Their CDs have received rave reviews from international publications such as Diapason, International Record Review, Allmusic.com and American Record Guide. Their own record label, TwoPianists, is distributed worldwide by Naxos. She has been nominated twice for both a SAMA and a Fiesta Award. A dedicated teacher, Nina gave masterclasses at institutions such as the Juilliard School of Music and has performed in Wigmore Hall and the Zurich Tonhalle.