

*Modi Deng biography – 300 words*

Modi Deng is a pianist and writer from Aotearoa New Zealand. Since her concerto debut at 11, she has performed at Edinburgh Festival Fringe and Wigmore Hall, and given performances broadcast on BBC Radio 3, ABC Radio, and RNZ Concert. Her debut poetry collection was published in *AUP New Poets 8*.

In 2018, she was winner of the 2018 National Concerto Competition, performing Rachmaninov's Concerto No. 3 with Benjamin Northey. She toured the UK with her trio on the Royal Overseas-League Arts Scholarship. Other awards include a DipRAM and highest marks for a Postgraduate Recital at the Royal Academy of Music, and second prizes in the Lilian Davies Beethoven Sonata Competition (UK, 2021); Wallace National Piano Competition (NZ, 2015) and PACANZ Young Performer of the Year (2012).

Modi completed an Advanced (Artist) Diploma with Joanna MacGregor CBE at the Royal Academy of Music as a Sir Elton John Scholar. In London, Modi collaborated in a quartet with cellist Adrian Brendel, and gave the world premiere of Yuka Takechi's *Nofretete*. She directed a multimedia production with award-winning contemporary dancer Matthew Rawcliffe, combining dance with Colin McCahon's paintings and Ravel's *Miroirs*.

Modi studied with Rae de Lisle and Stephen De Pledge at Auckland University, completing her Master of Music with First Class Honours on a Marsden Research Grant, and a Bachelor of Arts in English on full scholarship. Her trio founded the Undivided Heart Project, performing for rest homes, shelters, and Starship Hospital. Prior to university, Modi was Co-Dux of Columba College and received a Goethe Institut scholarship to Germany.

She would like to express her sincere gratitude to the Patricia Pratt, Kiwi Music, Anne Bellam, and Help Musicians UK Foundations for their support in her overseas studies.

*Writing biography:*

Modi Deng is a pianist and writer from Aotearoa New Zealand. Her debut poetry collection was published in *AUP New Poets 8*. Currently based in Melbourne, her recent works have appeared in *Cordite Poetry Review*, *Starling*, *Write Together*, and on NZ Poetry Shelf. She cares deeply about literature (especially poetry, diaspora), music, psychology, and her family.