Musical Duet as a Model for the Future

Jessica Roemischer
Pianist, Educator, Consultant

For nearly three decades, Jessica Roemischer has worked with hundreds of individuals on four continents—people ranging in age from 18 months to 84 years, as well as those with developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome and autism. Using an innovative approach to piano duet improvisation, she creates a dynamic field of trust and exploration wherein every individual can flourish. Sitting side-by-side with Jessica, as each person places his or her hands on the keys, self-consciousness falls away and unique combinations of notes and rhythms arise. Individuals emerge simply and fully as themselves—authentic, creative, alive. People describe this experience as a place “of loving remembrance,” “of immense joy that washes away residues of pain,” “of doubtlessness,” “of childlike vulnerability,” “where no fear can have sway.” The piano duet becomes a paradigm that can be applied in any setting or context—it models the conditions that allow us to release our deepest human potential.

Special Presentation by the Global Dialogue Center

DIFFERENCES in Duet:
...Musical Expressions from the Heart with Jessica Roemischer
A visual self-learning exhibit and conversation with Jessica Roemischer. Includes recorded music and video.

Jessica Roemischer is a pioneering pianist, educator, and developmental thinker, whose unique methodologies, including music, are liberating the human spirit. Born into a musical family, her pedagogical lineage links directly to Frederic Chopin, Franz Liszt and Ludwig van Beethoven. Since graduating magna cum laude from Princeton University in 1982, Roemischer has taught widely, including at Middlebury College, VT where she was on the Applied Music Faculty. Her acclaimed music program at Riverbrook Residence for Women is yielding extraordinary results with women with developmental disabilities, and has been supported by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Caroline and James Taylor. Roemischer is sharing the catalytic power of her work with individuals and groups throughout the United States and internationally.

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