

LOREN HIEBERT

Loren Hiebert grew up in rural Saskatchewan, Kansas, and Manitoba. His early musical influences were hymn-singing and southern gospel music. His piano teachers have included Glenn Loewen, Donald Henry, Jenny Regehr, and Joan Passey. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in music, and A.R.C.T. diplomas in Piano Performance and Piano Teaching.

Since 1980, Loren has been a music teacher in the Altona/Morden/Winkler area, with a studio of approximately sixty students. His students have excelled at local festivals, and have been awarded numerous scholarships at the provincial level. Loren has adjudicated in music festivals across the province.

Loren has been the accompanist for various individuals and groups, including the Faith and Life Male Choir and the Southern Manitoba Choral Society. He sang with the a cappella vocal ensemble "An Even Seven" and as a chamber musician performs with the piano ensemble "Ivory Five," the Agassiz Beach Trio, and in other classical and jazz combinations.

Loren has made three recordings with violinist Rosemary Siemens: one of hymn improvisations titled "Take My Hand," and the second a recording of Christmas music "All is Calm, All is Bright." In November of 2009, Loren and Rosemary performed in several concerts to release their brand-new CD "Gospel" as well as to raise funds for and promote the cause of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Rosemary and Loren have joined with Vancouver soprano Robyn Driedger-Klassen to form the improv gospel trio "Faspa." Their first CD, "Faspa's Gospel Songs" was released in late 2007. Also released in November of 2009 was a CD of German Hymns sung by the acclaimed choral ensemble "Canzona" with Loren at the piano.

Loren and his wife Lori live in Altona and have two grown-up kids, Amy and Paul, and also a slightly insane black and white cat named Miles.