

JORDAN A. COOK

Rebuilder of WWII Victory Vertical pianos. Internationally exhibited watercolor artist.

michelleandjordancook.com / arukahpiano.com

Biography

LONG

Jordan A. Cook is a piano rebuilder, pianist, and watercolor artist whose work is rooted in the belief that beauty and meaning often emerge from what has been broken. She specializes in the restoration of WWII-era Steinway Victory Verticals, the compact pianos air-dropped by B-17 bombers into active war zones to boost troop morale, and is regarded as the foremost expert on the instrument.

Jordan sees these rare instruments as living archives, each carrying a story that deserves to be told to preserve and perpetuate its legacy. One such restoration was Colonel George Boucher's Victory Vertical, a piano he had begun repairing but never finished. In a collaboration across time, Jordan completed his unfinished work, honoring both the man and the music he left behind.

Jordan's journey into restoration began during a period of profound hearing loss, when she encountered a fire and water damaged 1925 Steinway L needing to regain its voice. Pressing a soot-covered key, she felt the piano's silent story, and her calling. That piano, named Arukah (Hebrew for restored to a better, though different, condition), became the namesake of her business, Arukah Piano.

In addition to restoration work, Jordan composes music and is an internationally exhibited artist working in gouache, watercolor, and mixed media made from her own foraged pigments, paint, and ink. Her paintings have been shown in historical and contemporary galleries around the world, including the Children's Holocaust Museum at Terezin, the Matterhorn in Switzerland, and at Maidan Nezalezhnosti in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Whether restoring a war-torn piano or painting with pigments made from earth and ash, Jordan engages in a quiet dialogue with time, creating works that bridge generations.

MEDIUM (175 WORDS)

Jordan A. Cook is a piano rebuilder who specializes in the restoration of pianos with extraordinary histories. She is regarded as the foremost expert on WWII-era Steinway Victory Verticals, the compact pianos dropped into war zones to uplift troops. Among her most meaningful projects is the completion of Colonel George Boucher's unfinished Victory Vertical, a restoration that honored both the man and the music he left behind.

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SHORT (28 WORDS)

Jordan A. Cook is a piano rebuilder who specializes in WWII Steinway Victory Verticals. She is also an internationally exhibited artist who crafts pigments from natural materials. Learn more at arukahpiano.com.

For media use. Press inquiries: us@michelleandjordancook.com