

Yulia Draginda

International concert organist

Music Technology researcher

Music degrees:

D. Mus (McGill Montreal)

MA with honors (FHWB Basel)

M. Mus. (MH Stuttgart)

Dipl. with honors in Organ performance
(Moscow State Tchaikovsky Conservatory)

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Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/DragindaOrganmusic>

Personal page:

<https://www.draginda.org/>



Yulia Draginda is an international concert organist and music technology researcher working as a Collaborative member at CIRMMT (Montreal, Canada).

Education history

Yulia Draginda graduated in 2010 from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory with a Diploma cum laude (Organ, Prof. A. Semionov) and from the Gnessin Music Academy (Piano, Prof. Oleg Boschniakovich, then Prof. Juri Smirnov-Tverskoj).

In 2013 she completed her music education with Prof. A. Semionov at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory on the 3-years post-graduate course (Research topic “Organ music of Max Reger and the late Romantic German organ school,” scientific supervisor Prof. I. Kozhenova).

As KAAD-Scholar, she studied at the Stuttgart State University of Music and Performing Arts with famous Prof. Ludger Lohmann (organ), where she worked on her project “Study of the German Romantic spiritual organ music” and completed in 2012 the Master of Music degree. In 2012-2014 she practiced there at the further educational course for the organ improvisation (class of David Franke).

Yulia Draginda is a very versatile person. Simultaneously with her musical education, she studied at the Lomonosov Moscow State University and obtained in 2008 the Diploma

cum laude in Physics. In 2013 she received a Ph.D. degree in Physics and Mathematics (ICRAS, Moscow).

After the last qualifying exam in 2013, she had quitted Moscow and studied with Prof. Martin Sander at the City of Basel Music Academy in Switzerland. There she excellently fulfilled in 2015 the final exam as a Concert Organist (MA degree) and received the prestigious Hans-Balmer prize for the best Organ recital.

She crowned her education in 2021 with a Doctorate in organ performance at McGill University in Montreal (Canada) under supervision of Prof. Hans-Ola Ericsson (organ), and Prof. Ichiro Fujinaga (music technology).

In 2005-2015 she has attended the master-classes of G. Rost, J. Trummer (Austria), L. van Dusselaar, J. van Oortmerssen (Netherlands), R. Perucki (Poland), O. Portan and K. Jussila (Finland), A. Gast, B. Haas (Germany), E. Kardi (Italy), F. Houbart, O. Latry (France), H.-O. Ericsson (Sweden/Canada), G. Bovet (Switzerland).

Work experience

Since 1997 she has received many prizes and awards at the international piano and organ competitions, performed at renowned festivals. Her concert activity led her through the Russian cities, then to Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Poland, the USA and Canada.

Among others, she worked together with Basel symphony orchestra (Switzerland), symphony orchestra and choir of the "Helicon"-Theatre (Moscow, Russia), brass player's ensemble under the direction of Wolfgang Bauer (Stuttgart, Germany), jazz orchestra "VolgaOrchestra" (Volgograd, Russia), and baroque ensemble "Alta Capella" (Moscow, Russia).

Yulia Draginda has an extensive concert repertoire, from Renaissance till Avantgarde, with the main focus on the German late Romantic organ music. She made several TV- and radio recordings.

In the years 2012-2022, she has been working as the leading organist at the St. Peter Lutheran church in Murr-an-den-Murr (Germany), Lutheran Christ church in Stuttgart (Germany), Catholic Christ the King church in Turgi (Switzerland), Titular Organist at the Saint-Lawrence catholic church in Montreal (Canada) and St. St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church in London (Canada), as well as a freelance concert artist.

Prizes

Yulia Draginda is winner and laureate of the following **competitions**:

- International European Manuel Oltra Piano competition, Berga (Spain), May 1997: **1. Prize (absolute)**
- XII. European Competition in Moncalieri (Italy), October 1997: **1. Prize (absolute)**
- International Irineu Segarra Competition (Spain), May 1998: **2. Prize and Special Prize.**
- IV International Competition «Prize of the Andorra' principate », December 1998: **Special Diploma.**
- International Competition of the cultural Geminiani - Association in Pietra Ligure (Italy), May 2000: **1. Prize (Piano– solo)** and **3. Prize** (Piano - duo with I. Tikhomirov)
- International Competition in the Festival «Music without limits » in Druskininkai (Lithuania), August 2005: **2. Prize**
- I. International Competition of the young organists «Soli Deo Gloria», Moscow, 2007: **Concert prize.**
- Organ competition in the II. N. L. Bidloo Festivals in Moscow, June 2009: **2. Prize**
- International A. Gödicke Organ competition, Moscow, 2011: **Honored Diploma (Finalist)**
- International V. Kikta Organ Competition, Krasnogorsk, 2012: **Special Prize**
- V. International Franz Schmidt Organ Competition, Kitzbühel, Österreich, 2014: **Honored Diploma (Finalist)**
- **Concert Prize** of the Hans-Balmer-Foundation, Basel Organists' Association, Switzerland, 2015

Festivals

Yulia Draginda successfully participated at the following **festivals**:

- International Festival - Competition “Europe - Asia” in Orsk (Russia), 2002

- J. G. Rheinberger Organ festival, Moscow, Russia, 2009
- XXXI, XXXIII, XXXV and XXXI International festivals of the organ and chamber music, Gizycko, Poland, 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2016.
- I. International Congress “Mikrotonalität” in Stuttgart, Germany, 2011
- Music & Art in Münster. Project “Musik der Zeiten. John Cage & Heute,” Esslingen, Germany, 2012
- Concerts de la Collégiale, Neuchâtel, Switzerland, 2014
- Internationale Orgelkonzerte in St. Jacobi, Göttingen, Germany, 2014
- IX - XXII Marbacher Orgelsommer, Marbach, Germany, 2013-2016
- Orgelkonzerte in Basel Münster, Basel, Switzerland, 2016
- International Recital Series at The Most Holy Rosary church, Syracuse, USA, 2019
- CIOC Virtual Organ Festival, Montreal, Canada, 2021

Scholarships and research awards

- ✓ KAAD Scholarship for the realization of the project "Study of the German romantic spiritual organ music", Stuttgart, Germany, 2011
- ✓ Rotary-club Scholarship, Stuttgart, Germany, 2012
- ✓ Scholarship of the City of Basel Music Academy, Switzerland, 2013-2015
- ✓ Schulich Scholarship and Graduate Excellence Award, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, 2017-2020
- ✓ CIRMMT Student Award, CIRMMT (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Music Media and Technology), Montreal, Canada, 2019
- ✓ FRQSC grant for the project “Temporal elasticity as the most important tool for expressive performance of German late Romantic organ music”, Montreal, Canada, 2019-2021