Aida Kalcher

Pianist · Organist · Piano Teacher, Vienna

Aida Kalcher is a pianist, organist and piano teacher with international experience as both a performer and an educator. She lives and works in Vienna.

As a soloist she has appeared on stages including the Vienna Konzerthaus, Carnegie Hall in New York, the concert hall of the Moscow Conservatory and the Astana Opera. She is a prize-winner at international competitions in Kazakhstan, Russia, Italy and Austria.

EDUCATION

Born in 1994 in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, she began her piano studies with Nataliya Dmitrieva and, at the age of seven, was admitted to the Kazakh National University of Arts in Astana, where she studied with Erlan Mansurov and Prof. Vyacheslav Uzbekov. At the same age she made her debut as a soloist performing Haydn's Piano Concerto Hob. XVIII:11 in D major with the university's chamber orchestra.

From 2010 to 2014 she attended the Republican Specialized Music Boarding School for Gifted Children named after Kulyash Baiseitova in Almaty.

In 2015 she moved to Austria to study at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (mdw). There she completed her performance degree in piano with Prof. Konstantin Semilakovs, specialising in historical keyboard instruments. She studied organ with Mag. Ines Schüttengruber, harpsichord and early music with Prof. Ingomar Rainer and Prof. Johannes Weiss, and chamber music with Prof. Stefan Mendl and Mag. Christoph Eggner.

In parallel she completed a second degree in piano pedagogy at the mdw with Prof. Konstantin Semilakovs, guided in her teaching work by Prof. Elisabeth Aigner-Monarth and Mag. Marcell Ivony.

She has taken masterclasses with Michail Voskresensky (Russia), Gabriele Kupfernagel (Germany), Aquiles Delle Vigne (Argentina), Zhania Aubakirova (Kazakhstan), Amir Tebinikhin (Germany) and Elena Lapizkaja (Germany).

PRIZES

- **1st Prize** – International Competition "Astana-Merei" (Kazakhstan, 2006)
- **2nd Prize** – International Piano Competition "Siberia – West – East" (Russia, 2008)
- **Special Prize for the Best Interpretation of Polyphony** – International Piano Competition "Siberia – West – East" (Russia, 2008)
- **2nd Prize** – International Competition "Giovani Talenti" (Italy, 2011)
- **2nd Prize** – International Competition "Rosario Marciano" (Austria, 2012)
- **Diploma** – International Competition "Rovere d'Oro" (Italy, 2013)
- **1st Prize** – International Competition "Piano Forum" (Kazakhstan, 2013)

ORGAN AND CHURCH MUSIC

From 2017 to 2019 she worked regularly as an organist for Catholic masses in Vienna and Lower Austria, including the Jesuit Church, the Franciscan Church and St. Anne's Church in Vienna – home to the city's oldest organ – as well as the main church of Wiener Neustadt.

In October 2017 she worked as a rehearsal pianist on a two-month project with the Vienna Men's Choral Society.

ARTISTIC DIRECTION AND ARTS MANAGEMENT

From 2017 to 2025 she was artistic director of the Golden Key Music Festival in Vienna and New York. Over those nine years she directed and organised concerts, festivals, competitions and masterclasses in Austria and the United States, working with venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Ehrbar Saal and the Bösendorfer Hall at the Mozarthaus Vienna. She coordinated international participant groups of up to 800 people per season, along with tours and cultural excursions, and built and led international teams of photographers, designers and web developers.

Today she develops and runs her own concert and cultural projects.

TEACHING

For more than ten years she has taught children, teenagers and adults – in German, English and Russian. Her teaching combines the precision and discipline of the Russian piano school with the playful approach of European music pedagogy. At its heart is the joy of music, from which technique, musicality and confidence grow of their own accord. Her students have already won prizes at competitions in Austria and the United States.

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