

# Maya Irgalina

London-based Maya Irgalina is a Belarusian pianist of Tatar origin.

Maya has won prizes in such international piano competitions as Dudley (UK), Sydney (Australia), Maria Yudina (Russia), Scriabin (France) etc., and had her Wigmore Hall debut as prize-winner of the Worshipful Company of Musicians. Her playing was broadcast by ABC (Australia), BBC Radio 3 and Belarusian Radio, and in 2015 Belarusian TV made a documentary about her.

Maya's festival appearances have taken her to:

- Oxford Festival of Arts, UK
- Fragments Festival in London, UK
- Batumi Music Festival, Georgia
- Malta International Arts Festival
- Cheltenham Jazz Festival, UK
- Machynlleth Festival, Wales
- Enniskillen Wilde Weekend Festival, Northern Ireland
- Zürichi Piano Express Festival, Switzerland
- Rye Arts Festival, UK



She has collaborated with such musicians as mezzo-soprano Fleur Barron and cellist Abel Selaoe. As a guest pianist, she has played with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Manchester Camerata and Belarusian Opera House Orchestra, to name just a few.

The highlights include the invitation by the President of the Republic of Tatarstan to play Chopin's First Piano Concerto in Kazan, and her appearance in Semyon Bychkov's Beloved Friend Tchaikovsky project with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, for which she played both as a soloist and a chamber musician.

Maya is a frequent guest in Piano Week Festival as a performer and educator, in 2023 she became a PH pianos ambassador, recording the videos on the Danish design pianos.

As a collaborative pianist, Maya has received The Paul Hamburger Prize from Graham Johnson and became a Britten-Pears Young Artist, which took her into work with Christoph Pregardien, Julius Drake, Roger Vignoles, Mathew Rose and others. She is an alumna of the Franz Schubert Institute in Baden bei Wien, Austria.

Her first steps on the concert platform were made under the tutelage of Lilia Terminasian at the Belarusian Academy of Music. Then at the Royal Northern College

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of Music under Graham Scott, she completed the International Artist Diploma and crowned it with RNCM's highest solo performance accolade, The Gold Medal.

She continued her education at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, gaining her Master of Music degree under the piano professorship of Ronan O'Hora and leading British lieder artiste, Julius Drake.

Maya's numerous study scholarships included Leverhulme Trust, Yamaha Foundation, and BelSwissBank. The Polish Ministry of Culture awarded her with their Gaude Polonia scholarship.