

Draganov Philip A. - Violin



Philip A. Draganov – Artistic Director Swiss International Music Academy
SIMA - violin masterclass

Philip A. Draganov was appointed violin professor at the Bern University of Arts (HKB). In addition, he is the only violin faculty with a fixed position at the pre-college division of the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) and works with an exclusive small class of highly talented young violinists at the Zurich Conservatory.

The Hamburg born violinist and conductor has enthralled audiences in Europe, Asia, and the USA with his ... „impulsive virtuosity... and exuberant musical power” (Hamburger Abendblatt). He had his debut as soloist at the age of only twelve with the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra in the Laeiszhalle in Hamburg and has since enjoyed a multifarious international career.

Draganov is a prizewinner of numerous competitions and has performed in many renowned concert halls such as the Carnegie Hall/New York, the Tonhalle Zürich, the National Centre for Performing Arts in Beijing, Kölner Philharmonie, Laeiszhalle Hamburg, Festspielhaus Baden- Baden and Alte Oper in Frankfurt.

He has performed at important music festivals such as Aspen Music Festival/USA and Schleswig-Holstein-Musik-Festival.

In addition to solo performances, recitals and chamber music concerts, Draganov was invited by major orchestras to perform as concertmaster or section leader. He has worked with conductors such as Günter Wand, Herbert Blomstedt, Bernard Haitink, Christoph von Dohnány, Michael Tilson Thomas, Christoph Eschenbach, Alan Gilbert, Sir Roger Norrington and Kent Nagano in various orchestras such as the NDR Symphony Orchestra/Hamburg, the Zurich Chamber Orchestra or the Saarländisches Staatstheater Saarbrücken (Opera).

Philip A. Draganov has received high acclaim for his recordings and CDs which are distributed by SONY Music in Europe and by Naxos worldwide. In addition, his edition of the Tchaikovsky violin concerto was published by the Gilgenreiner Verlag.

For almost 20 years, Draganov has devoted himself intensively to the training and education of talented young violinists.

Draganov teaches students from around 10 years of age up to Master students at the University. As a guest professor, he has been invited to teach at various music universities

and festivals in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Russia, South Korea and the USA. Moreover, Philip Draganov is a member of the European String Teachers Association and jury member for international competitions.

Many of his current and former students are prizewinners of international violin competitions such as "International Fritz Kreisler Competition" in Vienna, Austria, "International Marschner Competition", Germany, "Concorso Violinistico Internazionale Andrea Postacchini", Italy, "International Berliner Musikwettbewerb", "International Louis Spohr Competition", Germany, "Concorso Internazionale Giovani Musicisti Premio Antonio Salieri", Italy, "Manhattan International Music Competition", USA, Verbier Festival "Prix Rotary", Switzerland, "Michael Hill International Violin Competition", New Zealand, "Barlassina International YOUNG ARTIST Competition", Italy, "Arthur Grumiaux Competition for Young Violinists", Belgium, "European Music Competition Città di Moncalieri", Italy, "INTERNATIONAL EDITION OF "PREMIO VIRTUOSITÀ" in Padova, Italy, "International Violin competition Berlingske Tidende", Denmark, "István Kertész Wettbewerb", Switzerland, "Valsesia Violin Competition", Italy, "Rising Stars", Germany, "Stockholm International Competition", Sweden or Josef Mická Violin Competition, Czech Republic.

At the Swiss Youth Music Competition (SJMW), Draganov can look back on a long history of success. Since 2007, students of his violin class have won first prizes every year. From 2012 to 2022, various students received 1st prizes with distinction every year (exception 2020 - no competition due to the corona pandemic). In the last three solo evaluations in 2016, 2018 and 2022, Philip A. Draganov's violin class was the class with the most first prizes and most prizes of all classes and instruments in Switzerland.

Philip A. Draganov studied as a pre-college student with Uwe-Martin Haiberg at the Berlin University of the Arts and then, at the age of 16 at the Juilliard School in New York. Back in Europe, he continued his education with Hermann Krebbers (Amsterdam), Ida Bieler (Düsseldorf) and Jens Ellermann in Hannover, where he also took chamber music lessons with Hatto Beyerle of the Alban Berg Quartet.

He completed his violin studies at the Zurich University of Music and Theater (today: Zurich University of the Arts) with Nora Chastain.

He also received important artistic impulses from master classes with Ana Chumachenco, Thomas Brandis, Rosa Fain and Marina Yashvili.

Parallel to his violin studies, Draganov received his diploma in conducting from the Zurich University of the Arts.

In recent years, Philip A. Draganov has made the decision to significantly reduce his intensive concert activities as a violinist in order to be able to devote himself to the responsible task of teaching with the greatest possible professionalism. He also regularly conducts various orchestras.

Philip A. Draganov plays a violin made by Stradivarius student Tomaso Balestrieri (1769), and also enjoys playing modern instruments made by violin makers Stephan von Baehr (Paris/Hamburg) and Stefan-Peter Greiner (London/Zurich).

He lives near Zurich with his wife, a pianist, and their two children.
More information at www.Draganov.ch.