

## Michael Unger Biography



Originally from Toronto, Michael Unger is a multiple award-winning performer who appears as a soloist and chamber musician in North America, Europe, Japan and South Korea. Since 2013, he is the Associate Professor of Organ and Harpsichord at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He is a First Prize and Audience Prize winner of the National Young Artists' Competition of the American Guild of Organists (NYACOP), a First Prize winner of the International Organ Competition Musashino-Tokyo, and a Second Prize and Audience Award winner of the International Schnitger Organ Competition on the historic organs of Alkmaar, the Netherlands. Recent solo recitals include performances for national conventions of the American Guild of Organists, Organ Historical Society, Historical Keyboard Society of North

America, 'Five Continents – Five Organists' Festival at Seoul's Sejong Center, Internationale Orgelwoche Nürnberg – Musica Sacra, and numerous international and regional recital series. Recent harpsichord collaborations include Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Opera, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Collegium Cincinnati, Catacoustic Consort, and Publick Musick. He received favorable international reviews for his debut solo organ recordings under the Naxos and Pro Organo labels, and his performances have been broadcast on North American and European radio, including syndicated programs *Pipedreams* and *With Heart and Voice*. In addition to teaching masterclasses at several North American universities and conservatories, he was a guest faculty at the 2015 and 2016 Smarano International Academies in Trentino, Italy, and the 2019 Colorado State University Organ Week.

Unger holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts with Performers' Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, where he was a student and teaching assistant of David Higgs and William Porter, and was a recipient of the school's Jerald C. Graue Musicology Fellowship. He is a Gold Medal graduate of the University of Western Ontario, where he studied with Larry Cortner and Sandra Mangsen, and has pursued post-graduate coaching in Cincinnati with Roberta Gary. Formerly the Director of Music at the Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word in Rochester, New York, he currently serves as organist of Cincinnati's historic Isaac M. Wise – Plum Street Temple.