

Michael Unger, organist and harpsichordist

Associate Professor of Organ and Harpsichord,
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Solo Performances (*selected recent highlights*)

St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Paul Fritts & Co., Opus 43 Organ)	Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, 2024
Christ Church Cathedral Episcopal (Richards, Fowkes & Co., Opus 24 Organ)	Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, 2023
St. Joseph Cathedral (Paul Fritts & Co., Opus 25 Organ)	Columbus, Ohio, USA, 2023
OHS National Convention (Isaac M. Wise - Plum Street Temple; Koehnken 1866 Organ)	Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, 2022
Bazylika Mariacka ('45. Międzynarodowy Festiwal Muzyki Organowej Chóralnej i Kameralnej')	Gdańsk, Poland, 2022
St. George's Hanover Square (Richards, Fowkes & Co., Opus 18 Organ)	London, England, 2022
University of North Carolina School of the Arts (C.B. Fisk Inc., Opus 75 Organ)	Winston-Salem, North Carolina, USA, 2021
Christ Church Cathedral Episcopal Centennial Chapel (C.B. Fisk Inc., Opus 148 Organ)	Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, 2020
Covenant Presbyterian Church (C.B. Fisk Inc., Opus 134 Organ)	Nashville, Tennessee, USA, 2019
OHS National Convention (Taylor & Boody Opus 57 Organ)	Rochester, New York, USA, 2018
Duke University Chapel (Flentrop Orgelbouw Organ)	Durham, North Carolina, USA, 2018
University of Washington (Paul Fritts & Co., Opus 9 Organ)	Seattle, Washington, USA, 2018
HKSNA National Conference (Wilhelm Opus 97 Organ)	Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, 2018
Cornell University, Anabel Taylor Chapel (GOArt Schnitger-inspired Organ)	Ithaca, New York, USA, 2018
AGO National Convention (<i>World Premiere</i> : Henry Martin, Two Preludes and Fugues)	Kansas City, Missouri, USA, 2018
Magdeburger Dom (Schuke Organ)	Magdeburg, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany, 2018
Westminster Presbyterian Church (Taylor & Boody Opus 3 Organ)	Charlottesville, Virginia, USA, 2017
Evangelisch-Reformierten Kirche Zernez (Joseph Lochner 1741 Organ)	Zernez, Graubünden, Switzerland, 2016
Sejong Center for the Performing Arts ('Five Continents – Five Organists')	Seoul, South Korea, 2016
Keimyung University (Karl Schuke Organ)	Daegu, South Korea, 2016
Conservatorio di Musica Niccolò Paganini ('I Concerti di San Torpete')	Genoa, Liguria, Italy, 2016
St. Stephanuskirche (Scherer Organ)	Tangermünde, Sachsen-Anhalt, Germany, 2015
Evangelisches Kreuzkirche Suhl ('Suhler Orgelsommer'; Eilert Köhler 1740 Organ)	Suhl, Thüringen, Germany, 2014
St. Cyprian und Cornelius Kirche (Arp Schnitger 1699 Organ)	Ganderkesee, Niedersachsen, Germany, 2011
Toyota City Concert Hall (John Brombaugh & Associates Opus 37 Organ)	Toyota, Aichi, Japan, 2011
Musashino Shimin Bunka Kaikan (Marcussen & Søn Organ)	Tokyo-Musashino, Japan, 2011
Tokorozawa Civic Cultural Centre MUSE (Rieger Organ)	Tokorozawa, Saitama, Japan, 2011
Pacific Lutheran University, Lagerquist Concert Hall (Paul Fritts & Co., Opus 18 Organ)	Tacoma, Washington, USA, 2011
Frauenkirche ('59th ION, International Orgelwoche – Musica Sacra')	Nürnberg, Bayern, Germany, 2010
AGO National Convention (Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church; Rieger Organ)	Washington DC, USA, 2010
Chiesa Cattedrale di San Michele Arcangelo (Serassi 1840 Organ)	Albenga, Savona, Italy, 2008

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Competitions

- First Prize *and* Yoshida Minoru Memorial Award Tokyo-Musashino, Japan, 2008
Sixth International Organ Competition Musashino-Tokyo
- First Prize (Lilian Murtagh Memorial Prize) *and* Audience Award Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, 2008
American Guild of Organists National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP)
- Second Prize (Flentrop Orgelbouw Prize) *and* Audience Award (Izaak Kingma Prize) Alkmaar, Netherlands, 2009
Eighth Schnitger International Organ Competition

Degrees

- Doctor of Musical Arts with Performers' Certificate, Organ Performance and Literature Rochester, New York, USA, 2013
Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester
- Master of Music, Harpsichord Performance and Literature Rochester, New York, USA, 2007
Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester
- Bachelor of Music, Organ Performance (with Church Music Concentration) London, Ontario, Canada, 2002
University of Western Ontario

Selected Reviews

"...Unger's playing was seamless, providing both subtlety of color and thunderous power... At its conclusion, the audience stood in extended ovations for many minutes."

- *Cincinnati Business Courier*, May 2023,

Review of Camille Saint-Saëns, Symphony No. 3 "*Organ*", with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

"All three [finalists] respond with individual musicality to the challenge of the final round, but there's a clear winner of this round, whose interpretation, technical ability and strength of communication are unequivocal. Canadian Michael Unger delivers by far the most convincing performance of the evening and wins [2nd prize and] the audience prize."

- *Choir and Organ Magazine*, September/October 2009,

Review of Final Round of 2009 Schnitger International Organ Competition (Alkmaar, the Netherlands)

"...broad musicianship and superb technical mastery... Unger's performances are distinguished for their clarity, stylistic awareness, meticulous attention to phrasing and articulation, disciplined rhythmic control that allows for appropriate ebb and flow, and transparency..."

- *The American Organist*, December 2017, Review of *Michael Unger: Organ Recital* (Naxos)

"As one would expect of such a prize winner, the performance is stellar."

- *The Tracker*, Spring 2010, Review of *Michael Unger: Organ Recital* (Naxos)

"Unger exploits the organ's potential for colouristic effect and presents Messiaen with unreserved energy and brightness."

- *The WholeNote Magazine*, January 2010, Review of *Michael Unger: Organ Recital* (Naxos)

"...provides highly intelligent performances of the wide variety of repertoire on his disc."

- *Choir and Organ Magazine*, July/August 2010, Review of *Universe of Poetry* (Pro Organo)

"In the entire program, Unger demonstrates his complete command and sensitivity."

- *The American Record Guide*, July/August 2010, Review of *Universe of Poetry* (Pro Organo)