

LAURA SCHLAPPA - ORGANIST

Laura Schlappa, born in 2000 in Cuxhaven (Germany), is an aspiring young organist. She won several awards at various national and international organ competitions. In 2018, she received the First Prize at the *Jugend musiziert* competition in Germany and at the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition in the Intermediate Category. This was followed by First Prizes at the London Organ Competition in 2019 and the Northern Ireland International Organ Competition in the Senior Category in 2020. She won the First Prize and the Public Prize at the 8. *Concours International d'Orgue Dudelange* in Luxembourg in 2021. In 2022, she was awarded the Third Prize at the International Organ Competition Korschenbroich in Germany, as well as the First Prize at the 21. International Petr Eben Competition in the Czech Republic. In 2023, she received the First Prize at the *Kulturkreis Gasteig Musikpreis* Competition in Munich and the Third Prize along with a Special Prize at the IX. International M.K. Čiurlionis Competition in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Due to her performance, she was awarded the *Förderpreis* of the *Hans und Eugenia Jütting-Stiftung* and receives a scholarship from the *Cusanuswerk* foundation.

Across Germany, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, Ireland, Belgium, Poland, Austria and Switzerland she has given concerts on many organs in various venues such as Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, Southwark Cathedral London, St. Anne's Cathedral Belfast, St. Martin's church Dudelange, St. Bavo's Cathedral Ghent, Salzburg Cathedral, Paderborn Cathedral, St. Michael Munich, Stiftskirche Stuttgart, St. Marien Lübeck as well as in Philharmonie Essen, ORF Radiokulturhaus Vienna and NOSPR Concert Hall Katowice. She has performed at Festivals including the Davos Festival, the *Weserfestspiele*, the *MareMusikFestival* and took part in a live audio sample from *Deutschlandradio Kultur* and *ORF RadioKulturhaus*.

Laura Schlappa is currently studying in the class of Prof. Dr. Martin Sander at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Munich.

The young musician's education was complemented by taking part in various master classes and academies. She received musical impulses through Christophe Mantoux, Olivier Latry, Thierry Escaich, Ben van Oosten, Hans-Ola Ericsson, Bine Bryndorf, Martin Schmeding, Wolfgang Zerer, Lorenzo Ghielmi as well as Kay Johannsen.

Laura Schlappa started her musical education at the age of four on the piano. From 2008, she took piano lessons with Prof. Karl-Heinz Kämmerling at the University of Music, Drama and Media in Hanover. In 2010, she was accepted as a pre-student at the *Institut zur Früh-Förderung musikalisch Hochbegabter* at the same University. She completed her studies under the guidance of the pianist Vassilia Efstathiadou in 2018. During that time, she took organ lessons with Prof. Dr. Martin Sander. In addition, she attended masterclasses for piano and won several prizes at piano competitions. Since 2018, she got taught by Prof. Jacob Leuschner and Prof. Olaf Dreßler.