



Pianist Jura Margulis has been internationally recognized for his compellingly communicative performances, as well as for the range of his tonal palette and his consummate virtuosity. Reviewers have praised the “absolute authority” of his interpretations and the sense of “controlled obsession” he transmits at the keyboard (*Fono Forum*). The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* noted that his aesthetic is both “impulsive and contemplative.” The *Los Angeles Times* praised his “excellent pianism” and called him “highly musical”. The *Washington Post* applauded his “titanic reserves of sheer power” and his “effortless spontaneity.” The *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* called his performance “... the perfect Beethoven for the audience of our time ... sweeping lyricism ... imagination, originality, and good taste pervaded every phrase.” In August of 2011 *Drehpunkt Kultur* in Salzburg writes: “After the performance one fleetingly thinks of the pianists that became legends, but comparisons are impermissible. Margulis is a master sui generis (of his own kind).”

His orchestral appearances include performances with the *Russian National Orchestra* at the *Hollywood Bowl*, the *Montreal Symphony Orchestra* under Charles Dutoit, the *Südwestrundfunk Orchestra*, the *Memphis Symphony Orchestra*, the *National Orchestra of Venezuela*, the *Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra*, the *Prague Symphony Orchestra*. He has played in numerous festivals, including the *Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival*, the *Berliner Festwochen* at *Berlin Philharmonic Hall*, the *Verbier*, the *BSI*, and the *Sommets du Classique* Festivals in Switzerland, the *Argerich-Beppu Music Festival* in Japan, and the *Salzburger Festspiele* in Austria. Margulis won prizes in more than a dozen international competitions, including *Busoni* in Italy and *Guardian* in Ireland. He is also a recipient of the esteemed *Pro Europa* prize awarded by the European Foundation for Culture.

Active as a chamber musician, Margulis is a founding member of the Margulis Family Trio and performed with, among others, Dmitry Sitkovetsky, Lilya Zilberstein, Alissa Margulis, Arnold Bezuyen, the soloists of the Moscow Virtuosi, members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and the Moscow String Quartet. He has also concertized with Martha Argerich on two pianos in Germany, Japan, and the USA. Recent years have brought him to New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Dallas, Cincinnati, Salt Lake City, Little Rock, Tulsa, Carmel, Austin, Phoenix, San Jose, Minneapolis, Memphis, and New Orleans in the US, as well as abroad to Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Freiburg, Elmau, Berlin, Bologna, Bruxelles, Bayreuth, Budapest, Bangkok, Barcelona, Madrid, Yerevan, Warsaw, Aix-en-Provence, Lugano, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Tbilisi, Tokyo, Sapporo, Seoul, Vienna, Salzburg, Moscow, and St. Petersburg.

Margulis has recorded ten CDs for *Sony*, *Ars Musici*, and *Oehms Classics*, covering a wide spectrum of repertoire. These recordings have attracted substantial attention, including selection as a “reference recording” by *Fono Forum*, and inclusion on the “Bestenliste” of the *Deutschen Schallplattenkritik* (German Recording Review). His CD featuring piano transcriptions of music from Bach to Caplet (2007), received 10 out of 10 for “artistic quality” from *KlassikHeute*. The accompanying review stated: “not since Horowitz’s old RCA recording have I encountered a performance of Saint-Saens’ *Danse Macabre* that so grippingly leaps from the stage, as here in Jura Margulis’ own transcription.” The review also noted that Margulis’ own transcription of a little-known piece by André Caplet “should, like Ravel’s own transcription of his *La Valse*, claim a place in the repertoire of young pianists.” *Klassik.com*, also giving the CD its highest rating, raved that Margulis “cannot be praised enough.” Margulis’ Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Berg solo CD was released in fall of 2009; *All Music Guide* writes: “This CD is one of the best played, best interpreted, best programmed recitals of piano music of the year”. In 2011 Margulis released a CD with the complete Liszt violin and piano duo repertoire with his sister Alissa Margulis; in 2012 a CD with Schumann’s *Dichterliebe* in original version and Berg’s *Seven Early Songs* with tenor Arnold Bezuyen. In 2014 Margulis released an all Schubert CD on a MSP Steingraeber D-232 prototype. From the MSP website, www.MargulisSordinoPedal.com: “The Margulis Sordino Pedal is a quantum leap for the dynamic (sound volume) and spectral (sound color) expressive palette of the modern concert grand piano.” Over 50 titles of from his CDs can be found on iTunes.

Jura Margulis’s father and grandfather were pianists and pedagogues and methodical piano pedagogy is an integral part of his artistic vision. He developed a pedagogical concept named “*The Unified Piano School, A synthesis of piano pedagogy and performance traditions*”, which bridges the Russian School’s concentration on sound, imagination, and physical technique, and the German School’s focus on structure, rhythmic coherence, and style, and holds master classes in the US, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Hungary, Slovenia, Armenia, Israel, Russia, Korea, and Japan. Since 2010 he is the host of www.PianisttoPianist.com; a weblog of thoughts, observations, research, methodology, rules, exceptions, aphorisms, concerns, and secrets from pianist to pianist. Margulis is the artistic director of the *Fulbright Concerto Competition*, an international contest for pianists in the US, and the executive director of the “*International Piano Academy Freiburg*”, a summer master class and piano festival in Germany. Jura Margulis is regularly invited as a judge in international piano competitions, most recently in the ARD Music Competition in Munich.

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Jura Margulis was raised in Germany, where he studied with his father, Dr. Vitaly Margulis, at the *Musikhochschule Freiburg*. He was also a student at the prestigious *Fondazione per il Pianoforte* in Cadenabbia at Lake Como in Italy. He moved to the United States to study with Leon Fleisher at the *Peabody Conservatory* in Baltimore, and made the US his home. Since 2008 Margulis is the inaugural holder of the *Emily J. McAllister Endowed Professorship in Piano* at the J.W. Fulbright College of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

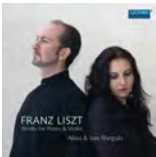
Discography



CD, Piano Solo
World premier of the Margulis Sordino Pedal Steingraeber D-232
OEHMS Classics Label, in collaboration with Steingraeber & Söhne
Bayreuth/Munich, Germany
Schubert 6 piano pieces from op. 90, 94, and posthumous; Wanderer Fantasie



Piano and Voice Duo with Arnold Bezuyen
OEHMS Classics Label, in collaboration with Steingraeber, Bayreuth
Bayreuth/Munich, Germany
Robert Schumann's Dichterliebe op.48 in Original Version (20 songs) and
Alban Berg's 7 Frühe Lieder (premier recording with male voice)



Piano and Violin Duo with Alissa Margulis
OEHMS Classics Label, in collaboration with TELDEX Berlin
Berlin/Munich, Germany
Works by Franz Liszt



CD, Piano Solo
OEHMS Classics Label, in collaboration with HR (Hessischer Rundfunk)
Frankfurt/Munich, Germany
Works by Berg, Brahms, Beethoven, Bach

"One of the best played, best interpreted, best programmed recitals of piano music of the year."
All Music Guide



"The Symphonic Steinway"
Steinway & Sons, Limited Special Edition Promotion CD
Hamburg, Germany.
Other artists featured on the CD: Yefim Bronfman, Arcadi Volodos,
Evgeny Kissin, Michael Pletnev, Emanuel Ax, and Martha Argerich.



Piano Solo
OEHMS Classics Label, in collaboration with BR (Bayrischer Rundfunk)
Munich, Germany
Works by Caplet-Margulis, Bach-Busoni, Wagner-Liszt, Schubert-Liszt,
Saint-Saens-Liszt-Margulis, and others

"Margulis cannot be praised enough."
Klassic.com

"Margulis' ability to structure the Bach Chaconne, to build momentum and at the right moment to gently abate ... not since Horowitz's old RCA recording have I encountered a performance of Saint-Saens' Danse Macabre that so grippingly leaps from the stage, as here in Jura Margulis' own transcription."

KlassikHeute

"To take but one example, it's a famously formidable test for a solo singer to differentiate the four characters represented in the narrative text of Schubert's Erlkönig—much less for a solo pianist in the Liszt transcription. It's hard to imagine this challenge being brought off more successfully than it is here. ... Recommended!"

Fanfare Magazine



Piano Solo, Re-release of the Horowitz Steinway CD
 ARS MUSICI label, in collaboration with SWR (Südwest Rundfunk)
 Freiburg, Germany
 Works by F. Liszt, S. Rachmaninoff, A. Scriabin, J.S. Bach, and M. Moszkovsky

„I can't tell you what a great pleasure it is for me to listen to your excellent playing on Horowitz 314 503. What a wonderful program too. When I listen to all those pieces Vladimir Horowitz played I see him still sitting at this his beloved Steinway.“
Franz Mohr, legendary piano tuner of V. Horowitz



Piano Solo
 ARS MUSICI label, in collaboration with Bayerischer Rundfunk (BR)
 Munich/Freiburg, Germany
 Works by Medtner, Stravinsky, Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, and Scriabin

“Margulis’ powerful spotlighting turns this Sonata (Prokofiev's Seventh) into a piece of ongoing screaming and hesitation that brings light into the depths of the human soul.”
PianoNews

"The opening of the CD, the Corelli-Variations by Rachmaninoff are exemplary, subtle and transparent. Overall one of the most remarkable piano CDs of the last months."
FonoForum



Piano Solo
 HH M&M Label, in collaboration with SWR (Südwest Rundfunk)
 Staufen/Freiburg, Germany
 Works by F.Liszt, R.Schumann, and C.Debussy

“An overall magnificent CD!”
Piano News

“Controlled Obsession” (5 out of 5 Stars, “Reference Recording”)
Fono Forum



CD, Piano Solo, “Live on the Horowitz Steinway”
 HH M&M Label, in collaboration with SWR (Südwest Rundfunk)
 Freiburg/Staufen, Germany
 Works by F. Liszt, S. Rachmaninoff, A. Scriabin, J.S. Bach, and M. Moszkovsky

“Absolute Authority”
Fono Forum



CD, Piano Solo,
 HH M&M Label, in collaboration with SWF (SüdwestFunk)
 Stuttgart/Staufen, Germany
 Works by M. Ravel and S. Prokofiev

"... this interpretation puts Jura Margulis in the company of the greatest performers of the music of Ravel and Prokofiev."
Universitätsblätter Freiburg



CD, Piano Solo, SONY Music Label
 Hamburg, Germany
 Works by R. Schumann, F. Chopin, S. Rachmaninoff and C. Saint-Saens