

Cellists' Corner

Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

prepared by David Johnstone from public information

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ANASTASIA KOBEKINA

Anastasia Kobekina was born in Yekaterinburg, Russia, in 1994. She was given her first cello lesson at the age of four. In 2006 she was admitted to Olga Galochkina's class at the Moscow Conservatory. In her home country the young cellist attracted attention through first prizes in international competitions such as the "Nutcracker" television competition (2007) and the "New Names" competition in Moscow (2008).

In 2008 she was a finalist in the Eurovision Young Musicians Competition in Vienna. In 2010 she was awarded the Landgrave of Hesse Prize following a masterclass with David Geringas in Kronberg. In 2012 she was awarded the two-year Boris Pergamenschikow Scholarship at Kronberg Academy's Cello Masterclasses. She receives a scholarship by the "Freunde Junger Musiker Berlin". In 2019, she won third prize at the 16th International Tchaikovsky Competition., and second prize winner in the Enescu competition.

She has performed in the leading concert halls in Moscow, Berlin, Vienna and Brussels as well as in Tel Aviv, where she was Russia's musical representative at the opening of the Russian Cultural Centre. As a soloist she has played with orchestras such as the Moscow Virtuosi, the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra of Moscow, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, the Lithuanian National Symphony Orchestra and the Sinfonia Varsovia. Anastasia Kobekina has participated in festivals such as Moscow Meets Friends, Rising Stars in Kremlin and the Alzenau music festival.

Kobekina made clear on her social media that she opposes the attacks in Ukraine. *"There cannot be any goodwill or adequate reason to justify the sacrifice of human lives, to justify the war,"* she wrote. *"I can't and won't accept that this war is going on my behalf as a Russian citizen. I am devastated. This tragedy should be stopped as soon as possible. Peace should be restored."*



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