BIOGRAPHY

Ilya Shmukler

“Shmukler is a volcano” and “Ilya Shmukler is a name to remember”: this is how the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung described the pianist after his triumph at the 2024 Concours Géza Anda in Zurich, where he won four other major awards in addition to First Prize.

Since then Ilya has given solo recitals in Europe and North America and performed with artists such as Mikhail Pletnev, Paavo Järvi, Gábor Takács-Nagy, Marin Alsop, Nicholas McGegan, Junichi Hirokami, Anne-Marie McDermott, Victor Julien-Laferrière, Anton Nel and David Radzynski. His orchestral partners include the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, the Musikkollegium Winterthur, the Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra, the Mariinsky Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, the Sendai Philharmonic Orchestra, the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra, the Bayer Symphony Orchestra and New Music Orchestras.

Becoming a finalist at the Cliburn Competition and receiving its prize for the Best Performance of a Mozart Concerto was a major milestone in his career. In the same year, 2022, he made his New York debut as winner of the Carnegie Weill Recital Hall Debut Audition. As a Steinway Prize winner he made his debut at the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg in January 2026, and in December 2025 the Aargauer Zeitung named his debut album The Winner’s Recital one of the ten best albums of 2025.

A graduate of the Tchaikovsky Moscow State Conservatory, he has lived in Kansas City (USA) and Madrid (Spain) since 2019.