

MISHA GALANT

Born into a family of musicians, Misha Galant began piano lessons at the age of six with his mother, Olya Katsman. After studying with other teachers throughout high school and at Weber State University, he went on to graduate from Columbia University, where he studied piano with Joseph Kalichstein through the Columbia-Juilliard Exchange. At Columbia he earned degrees in Data Science and Russian Literature. In 2023, he earned a Master's degree in Piano Performance under Dr. Viktor Valkov at the University of Utah. He later completed a second Master's in Atmospheric Sciences in 2025, also at the University of Utah. His thesis focused on evaporation dynamics in the regions surrounding the Great Salt Lake.

Misha gave his first full solo recital at age 12 and made his orchestral debut at 13, performing Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Oakland East Bay Symphony and has since performed with numerous American orchestras. He is a prizewinner of the inaugural Van Cliburn Junior Competition and the Eastman Piano Competition (2015), as well as the Gina Bachauer and New Orleans International Piano Competitions (2024). From 2015 to 2020, he performed extensively across California as a member of the MTAC's prestigious Young Artist Guild and was named one of two Gilmore Young Artists in the U.S. in 2020. Most recently, he was named the 2025 winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) Young Artist Competition, receiving a \$20,000 award and a two-year performance contract at venues across the United States. Additionally, Misha is an avid chamber musician and enjoys performing benefit concerts for retirement communities and charitable causes. In 2021, he raised over \$1,000 through performances for Haiti earthquake relief, and in 2022, he raised more than \$8,500 for Ukraine war relief. Outside of his musical and academic pursuits, Misha enjoys hiking, trail running, and skiing, and was a member of Columbia University's Division I swim team.

Catch recordings of Misha Galant on his Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@mishagalant1043>