

English

I started studying the organ at the age of 17 in Warsaw, Poland. I am a graduate of the Józef Elsner Public School of Music in Warsaw in the organ class of Dr. Roman Szlauzys and organ improvisation in the class of Prof. Marian Sawa. I had been studying organ performance as part of an artistic internship at the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw in Prof. Andrzej Chorościński's class, as well as organ improvisation at the Pontificio Istituto Ambrosiano di Musica Sacra in Milan (Italy) in Maestro Davide Paleari's class. I participated in master classes on the subject matter of organ works (Ulrich Böhme, Andrew Dewar, Pieter van Dijk, François Espinasse, Bernhard Gfrerer, François-Henri Houbart, Oliver Penin, Louis Robilliard, Daniel Roth, Jean-Claude Zehnder and others), organ improvisation (Frédéric Blanc, Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin, Thierry Escaich, Gaétan Jarry, Samuel Liégeon, Baptiste-Florian Marle-Ouvrard, Wolfgang Seifen, Sietze de Vries and others) and liturgical music (Roman Catholic and Anglican).

In February 2019, I obtained an academic degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in the field of 'Instrumental Studies' in the discipline of 'Organ Performance' based on the dissertation of "Organ, as a source of inspiration in the art of improvisation and performance practice" written under the direction of prof. Andrzej Chorościński and defended at the Białystok faculty of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw.

I am an international concert organist and I have the pleasure to perform regular solo recitals in countries of Europe, North America, South America, Asia, and Africa: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine, and the USA.

I conduct international (Nigeria, Poland, Ukraine) didactic activities in the field of organ improvisation and practice of interpretation of organ literature from different periods, among others in cooperation with The Royal School of Church Music. I participate in international academic conferences on organ and sacred music (Belgium, Nigeria, Poland). My organological publications are issued regularly by prestigious organ magazines: British "The Organ", Canadian "Organ Canada", as well as American "The Diapason" and "The Vox Humana".

Since 2013 I have been a member of The Royal College of Organists, based in London, and since 2014 (as the first Pole) I have had a certificate (certRCO) from this organization. Since 2017 I have been a member of The American Guild of Organists, based in New York City, USA and since 2018 I have been a member of The Organ Historical Society based in the USA.

In the years 2002-2011, I was an organist at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes in Warsaw; I wrote a monograph on the history of the organ (J.G. Meinert, 1782) of this church, and I recorded a CD (organ literature and improvisations), which is the only record of the sound of this instrument which no longer exists. At that time I co-authored a series of broadcasts on "Radio Warszawa 106.2" about organs in the Warsaw-Prague Diocese.

In the years 2011-2018, I held the position of Music Director and the Leading Organist at the Sanctuary of the Virgin Mary in Lichen Stary, where I played the largest organ in Poland (Zych, 157, 6M+P) located in the Basilica in Licheń Stary (the largest church in Poland). In 2017, I wrote the book "The Lichen Organ in relation to the Largest Instruments in Poland, Europe and the World" and recorded a compact disc, "Ave Regina Caelorum" with improvisations on the biggest organ in Poland (in the Basilica in Licheń Stary - can be bought on eBay). In 2018 I recorded a second compact disc in the Basilica in Licheń Stary, Poland with French literature and improvisations, "French Inspirations: 2nd half of the 19th century" (eBay).

In addition, I have completed Master's and Ph.D. studies in the area of economics at the Leon Kozłowski Academy in Warsaw. Since 2019, as an Associate Professor, I work at the University of Social Sciences in Warsaw, where I conduct interdisciplinary scientific and research work at the interface between management and art, as well as didactic activities for English-language BA, MA, and MBA programs and at the Polish campus of the Clark University, Worcester, USA, in the area of international finance, corporate finance, financial analysis, financial and managerial accounting, self-presentation, business presentations, marketing of visual arts, business ethics, and CSR. I am a Deputy Dean for international student affairs of the Faculty of Management and Security. Since 2021, as an Assistant Professor, I work at the Collegium Civitas in Warsaw.

I am also the founder and president of the Jan Drzewoski Foundation dealing with a wide range of organ themes.

For more detailed information, please visit www.michalszostak.org/cv



Passacaglia and Fuge in C minor, J.S. Bach, BWV 582, Saint Eustache, Paris, France, Van den Heuvel organ (101/5M+P)



Organ Symphony: Prélude, Fugue, Réverie, Scherzo, Final - improvisation, Poland, Lichen Basilica, Zych organ (157/6M+P)

