

Biography Julia Kuhn

German violinist Julia Kuhn is an internationally sought after chamber musician, soloist, concertmaster, and violin pedagogue, and is praised by the international press as a “musician well-versed in different styles”, who “enchants her audience with her beautiful playing”. She is co-leader of The Hanover Band, principal 2nd violin with the Academy of Ancient Music, and guest principal 2nd violin for the Austrian chamber orchestra Camerata Salzburg. She has appeared as leader and soloist with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE), The English Concert, the Irish Baroque Orchestra, The Mozartists, the Orquestra Barroca Casa da Música Porto, among others, with highlights including leading the OAE for 5-star performances of Gilbert&Sullivan’s “Princes Ida” under John Wilson, and for performances of Donizetti’s “Don Pasquale” under Ben Glassberg at Glyndebourne Opera Festival, leading performances at Wigmore Hall for The Mozartists, and The English Concert under Kristian Bezuidenhout, and leading the Olivier Award winning production of Vivaldi’s “Bajazet” at the Royal Ballet and Opera London with the Irish Baroque Orchestra under Peter Whelan. With Camerata Salzburg she has toured Europe and Asia, with highlights including performances alongside Alexander Sitkowetski, Gernot Süssmuth, and Richard Galliano. Most recently Julia has recorded the Bach double violin concerto with the Academy of Ancient Music, and was invited by renowned conductor Nicholas McGegan to perform with him for his 75th birthday concert 2025 at the International Handel Festival Göttingen, Germany. With chamber music being a main focus in her musical life, Julia is 1st violinist with the Hanover Band String Quartet, focusing on repertoire of the classical and romantic period as well as the early 20th century, and violinist of Trio Follia, specialising in 18th century chamber music and formed in 2024, with Sebastian Comberti, cello, and David Wright, harpsichord. The trio has since played concerts to great acclaim in Germany and the UK. Julia also performs regularly with renowned pianist and duo partner Caroline Oltmanns, focusing on the music of the 1st Viennese School, playing concerts in the USA and Germany. Julia researches music of underrepresented composers of the 20th century, such as politically persecuted, ostracised and forbidden composers in authoritarian regimes, and aims to bring this music to a wider audience, and students. She enjoys devising chamber music programmes that show contrasts and similarities between different musical styles and periods.

Julia is an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music London (ARAM), an award given to former students who contribute significantly to the music profession. Kuhn is artistic director for the St Blasius Early Music Summer Concert Series in Kaufbeuren, Germany, and was curator for the OAE’s Night Shift concert series for the 23/24 season. Julia was adjudicator for the 2022 Mica Comberti Prize competition for the performance of works by J.S. Bach at the Royal Academy of Music, London, was a panel member for the 2025 Help Musicians Postgraduate Awards auditions, as well as panel member for the OAE Rising Star auditions

As a violin pedagogue Julia has taught masterclasses and workshops on both modern and baroque violin at, among others, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, USA, the Royal Academy of Music, UK, Youngstown and Akron Universities, USA, and Chichester University. She taught at festivals such as the 2023 Musicus Festival Hong Kong, the Oficina de Música de Curitiba, Brazil, and the annual Kaufbeuren Masterclasses for Young Musicians, Germany. She was Teaching Assistant for the violin studio of the music faculty at Stony Brook University, USA.

Future projects include a complete Beethoven violin sonata concert cycle with duo partner Carolin Oltmanns, solo and chamber music recitals in Germany, the UK, and Italy, CD recordings with The Hanover Band and Academy of Ancient Music, and teaching and performing at the Lake District Music Summer Festival.

Kuhn holds an MA with distinction in baroque violin from the Royal Academy of Music, London, and a BA with distinction in Violin Performance from the Mozarteum University, Salzburg. Further, she studied violin at Stony Brook University, USA, with a focus on research of the music of politically persecuted composers of the 20th century. Her teachers included, among others, Simon Standage, Prof. Harald Herzl and Prof. Philip Setzer (Emerson String Quartet).