

Liya Petrides was born in St. Petersburg, Russia where she received her early musical training in piano, chorus, composition and organ at Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory College. After immigrating to the USA in 1993, she earned her *Master of Music* degree from the *Manhattan School of Music* and a doctorate from *Juilliard* in organ performance on a full scholarship. She was fortunate to study with two legendary organists of the twentieth century McNeil Robinson and Gerre Hancock. Prior to *The Parish of St. Catherine of Siena and St. Agnes*, Dr. Petrides served as the Music Director of *St. Theresa's Church* in the Bronx and the *Immaculate Conception Church* in Tuckahoe, NY. In addition to her duties as a liturgical musician, Liya has appeared at many prestigious concert venues such as the *Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception* in Washington, DC, *St. Patrick's Cathedral*, *St. Thomas Fifth Avenue Church*, *Carnegie*, *Alice Tully* and *Avery Fisher Hall*, and many others. She lives in Pelham Bay, Bronx with her husband, guitarist and composer, *Mercy College* professor Dr. Ron Petrides, and their two young children, Teddy and Sophia.