JS Fest!

8.-19.11.2018
Jean Sibelius: «Music begins where the possibilities of language end»

The International Culture Association in Turku in collaboration with Finnish company SEM Consulting as well as The Union of Russian Composers invites singers and musicians from all over to celebrate a festival of music JSFest. Come and join us in Turku and celebrate with us this international festival of choral, vocal and instrumental music! Every year in November we welcome again the participants from all over the world for the International Competition, dedicated to Jean Sibelius. The JSFest concept includes the Competition as the main part of the event but also allows concerts and manifold encounters between the participants. Participants from around the globe will again have the chance to discover the beauty of the Northern country, combined with an international music event, dedicated to Sibelius. All concert and competition venues as well as accommodations and other event locations in Turku are situated within walking distance. Here participants will meet, celebrate, play music and sing together and get to know other nations and their traditions.

One of the most important things for the artist and his heirs: keeping up the musical spirit. Following this intension, I would like to warmly welcome you to our festival JSFest. With all my heart, I wish all participants a beautiful, inspiring and successful time in Turku! Take a chance on the opportunity to get to know new people and continue together with us the musical tradition of Jean Sibelius! Good luck at the competition! I hope and I wish that you can show your best performance. I wish all competitors, organizers and supporters but above all the audience an exciting competition!

President of the International Culture Association in Turku, Finland
Svetlana Myhkyrä
Jean Sibelius is one of those composers who express the character of the Finnish people by their music truthfully and effortlessly», wrote the critic K. Flodin about the remarkable Finnish composer in 1891. The creativity of Sibelius is not only a bright page in the history of the music culture of Finland, but his popularity as a composer has reached far beyond his native land. His most prosperous creative period was between the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century — a time of growing national liberation and revolutionary movements in Finland. At the time, the small state was a part of the Russian Empire and tested by the moods of an epoch of social changes preceding a storm. It is remarkable that in Finland, as well as in Russia, this period created a significant rise in the growth of nationalistic art. Sibelius composed in various genres. He wrote seven symphonies, symphonic poems, three orchestral suites, a concert for a violin with an orchestra, two string quartets, piano quintets and trios, chamber vocal and instrumental works, music and drama performances, but his greatest talent lay in symphonic music. In Finland Sibelius played and plays an important role: he is recognized as the quintessential national composer, a symbol of greatness of the country. During his lifetime Sibelius received honours rendered to few artists. There are streets, parks and an annual music festival named after him, and the music institute he studied in was renamed as the Sibelius Academy. It is because of this that the City of Turku, which houses the Sibelius Museum, is a perfect place to organize this international competition of choruses, instrumental music and academic vocal.
The Sixth International JSFest Vocal Competition

9.-12.11.2018
NOMEDA KAZLAUS, international opera diva, one of the most outstanding Lithuanian opera sopranos of the contemporary generation of singers; laureate of four international singing competitions; TV host; vocal professor; jury chair and member of many international competitions, winner of the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture Young Artist 2007 award. She is the author and host of the „Skambantys pasauliai su Nomeda Kazlaus” (The Ringing Worlds with Nomeda Kazlaus) talk show series at the Lithuanian National TV where she interviews world-famous music personalities like Montserrat Caballe, Christoph Eschenbach, Sarah Brightman, Dmitri Hvorostovsky, Sasha Walz etc. N.Kazlaus is a chair of Eurovision National Jury in Lithuania (2016); chair of Lithuanian national singers’ competition named after V. Jonuskaite-Zauniene; chair of „Music Talent League” (2016); jury member of the „Golden Voice“. She is a founder of the international annual vocal and stage acting masterclasses in Lithuania Nomeda Kazlaus’ Summer Academy of Vocal and Acting Techniques (the project started as PALANGA SUMMER ACADEMY - ‘PALANGOS VASAROS AKADEMIJA’); author of singing master classes at the Lithuanian Music and Theater Academy (2014).

N.Kazlaus is as frequent a guest on some of the most prestigious European theatre and concert stages, international festivals as she stars in international productions. She has been performing along a 20th century opera legend Montserrat Caballe since 2000. International reviewers describe the singer as being gifted with an impressive and powerful voice of rich and vibrant color, vast range, exceptional musicality, perfect pitch on every register, emotional precision, enchanting acting and personal charm.

Tatyana Rudneva (soprano) was graduated from Kurmangazy Alma-Ata State Conservatory on class of solo singing in 1985. She got the second higher education on specialty “Psychology” in 2007. She graduated from fellowship of Magnitogorsk State Conservatory (Academy) named after M.I. Glinka (Russia) on specialty “Academic Singing”. Term of pedagogical employment is more than thirty years. At the present time she is docent of department “Vocal Art and Conducting” of the Kazakh National University of Arts (Astana, Kazakhstan).

T.N. Rudneva works with all singing voices, conducts class of solo singing and chamber class, reads lecture courses on methods and history of vocal art. Students of T.N. Rudneva class a lot of times were laureates of international and republican contests. Alumni of her class successfully continue professional activity as soloists of opera theatres, philharmonias in the Republic of Kazakhstan, Russia, Germany, and also as pedagogues of academic and variety vocal in musical colleges and higher educational institutions. Scientific and pedagogic activity of T.N. Rudneva is represented by writing of scientific articles and monographs on issues of history of establishment and development of Kazakhstan’s vocal art. Concert and performance activity of T.N. Rudneva is represented by solo concerts, creative contests, master classes, recordings on television. She sang solemn “Mass” during the official visit of head of the Roman-Catholic Church Pope John Paul the II in Kazakhstan in 2001. She sang solo concert “Ave Maria” dedicated to victims of terror of the XX century for religious confessions of the CIS countries and abroad in 2002. Ten musical and thematic programs were recorded on the republican television: “A.S. Pushkin and Music”, “A. Akhmatova in Music”, “Musical Heritage of Abai Kunanbayev”, “Romances of P.I. Tchaikovsky”, “Russian Romance of the XVIII-XIX Centuries”, “Evening of Classical Operetta” and others. Foundation recordings “Russian Folk Songs” and “Kazakh Folk Songs” were executed on all-Union radio. Tatyana Rudneva is laureate of international contests, Honoured Worker of Education of the RK.
Galina Boyko
Russia

Russian soprano Galina Boyko was born in Moscow in the family of musicians. Galina was a student of Moscow Academy of Music named after Gnessyns (vocal singing – class professor Sheveliova) when she began to sing in opera. At present Galina Boyko was a soloist of the MOSCOW MUSICAL THEATRE named after STANISLAVSKY and NEMIROVICH-DANCHENKO from 1987 to 2009. She performed in this theatre all leading parts for coloratura soprano. Rosina (IL Barbiere di Siviglia), Iolanta (Iolanta), Ludmila (Ruslan and Ludmila), Arsena (Zigeunerbaron), Konstanza (Die Entfuhrung aus dem Serail).

From 1997-1999 Galina Boyko worked with Moscow Academic Satz’s Children Musical Theatre. She performed KONIGEN DER NACHT (Zauberflote).

Galina Boyko had a contract with BOLSHOI THEATRE in Moscow from 1994 to 2005. She performed ROSINA (IL Barbiere di Siviglia), QUEEN OF SHEMAKHA (Golden Cockerel), ANTONIDA (Ivan Susanin). She released solo CD with Music Director and Chief Conductor Bolshoi Theatre Alexander Vedernikov.


In January 2005 Galina Boyko with delegation from Russia with Vladimir Putin (President of Russia) at the head took part in Days of Russian Culture in Kazakhstan. She sang 2 parts in Opera Theater in Alma-Ata: Rosina (“Il Barbiere di Siviglia”) and Gilda (“Rigoletto”). After these performances she took part in concert in Days of Russian and Byelorussian Culture in Moscow. Vladimir Putin (President of Russia) and Alexander Lukashenko (President of Belarus) were on this concert.

Galina has many performances and spectacles at Opera Theatres and Festivals in Russia and abroad. Festival of Modern Music in FRANKFURT, International Music Festival in ST. PETERSBURG, FESTIVAL RADIO FRANCE, “31st MAY OPERA EVENINGS” (Macedonia), “EL JEM” (Tunis), “Larnaca Festival of Classical Music” (Cyprus), “OCHRID SUMMER FESTIVAL” (Macedonia) and other different International Music Festivals. She performed leading parts: ROSINA (IL Barbiere di Siviglia), VIOLETTA (Traviata), GILDA (Rigoletto), MICAELA (Carmen) and others.


G. Boyko worked with B. POKROVSKY, K. MULLER

Elena Ryazantseva
Russia

Elena Ryazantseva (Russia) is the classical singer, the actress, the teacher of the highest qualification category. She graduated from the graduate school of the Russian University of theatre arts (GITIS), also she was teaching there. Elena worked as the editor of the popular and music programs on TV. Now she is the teacher of vocal and the head of the theatre of singing "The Stars", giving the lessons and master classes according to her own complex system of training of academic vocal, she has also methodological works and publications of scientific materials. Elena is a member of jury of various vocal competitions in Russia and abroad.
Sergejs Jegers was born in 1979, in Jelgava, Latvia. After attending the Riga Music Boarding School, he entered the Jazeps Vitols Latvian Academy of Music, where he received a bachelor’s degree in 2003 and a master’s degree in 2005, (professor Karlis Zarins). Sergejs has also enriched his mastership by studying in Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Switzerland (professor Andreas Sholl) and in master classes (professor Robert Expert) in France. In 2005, the singer performed solo concerts in the Mezzanine Hall of the Latvian National Opera. In 2007 he had his solo concert on the Main Hall stage at the Latvian National Opera and in 2006 at the Blackheads House in Riga. Sergejs Jeger’s opera debut took place in the role of the Angel in Rubinstein’s opera Demon at the Latvian National Opera in 2004. With this role he also delighted the audience in Opera Festival in Savonlinn, Finland in 2004. Sergejs has performed in many operas: as Orpheus in Gluck’s opera Orpheus and Euridice at the Cesis Cultural Centre in 2004; in the role of Ruggiero in Handel’s Alcina in 2004 at the Latvian National Opera; in the title role in Handel’s opera Rinaldo at the Rundale castle in 2004. Jegers has also taken part in the performances which includes Handel’s Messiah, Vivaldi’s cantatas Gloria, Stabat Mater, Cessate, o mai cessate, o mie porpore piu belle, Nisi Dominus, Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater, Bah’s Mark’s passion, Purcell’s Ode for St Cecilia’s Day and other works. Jegers has also participated as the only countertenor contestant in the finals of the prestigious vocal competition BBC Cardiff Singer of the World 2005 and has achieved significant 6th place among 25 finalists. In September 2008 the singer got into semi final at Luciano Pavarotti’s Tenor Contest in St Petersburgh, Russia.

Maria Aria is a well-known chamber music singer. She has an amazingly beautiful voice with a silvery timbre and sonority. At the famous opera stages of Moscow, the singer sang Tatiana's parts (P. I. Tchaikovsky "Eugene Onegin"), Rosina (G. Rossini "The Barber of Seville"), Mimi (G. Puccini "Bohemia"). She toured with a great success in the leading opera houses (incl. Staatsoper in Berlin) and festivals in Latvia, Germany, Belgium, France, Austria, Spain; successfully collaborates with famous conductors and chamber orchestras from Russia and Europe (Justus Franz, Harry Curtis). The singer was awarded several prestigious awards and diplomas at international competitions. In 1986 at the contest of authentic music in Ireland (Cork) she was awarded with a diploma of the Laureate of the II degree with the awarding of the title "Silver soprano". In 1993 she became the laureate of the II degree of the International Competition in France (Dinan). In 2008, Maria Aria, along with organist Alexei Shmitov, had recorded her first solo disc with spiritual works of Russian and French masters. In 2015, Maria Aria successfully performed in St. Paul's Basilica of San-Paolo-fuori-le-Mura (Vatican) with the orchestra and the Philharmonic of Nations choir (conductor Justus Franz, 2nd symphony by H. Mahler). Alongside with her concert activity, Maria Aria is an Associate Professor of the academic vocal department at the Institute of Contemporary Art (Moscow).
Aigerim Altynbek was born in Kazakhstan, the city of Baikonur. I graduated from the faculty of “Singing” from Kyzylorda musical college. In 2016 I entered the Kazakh National university of Art in Astana, to the group of assistant professor T.N.Rudneva. I am a laureate of international and Republic musical festivals: 2015 - 36th Republic competition of young singers (Kazakhstan, Astana); 2016 - 5th international competition after B.Shtokolova (Russia, St.Petersburg); 2016 - the 1st international competition after Rakhmadiev; 2017 - international competition Salva Regina - 1st place; 2018 - international competition after B.Chachaeva - 2nd place.

Aigerim Altynbek is accompanied by an orchestra of folk instruments in international and Republic stages (Italy, United Arabic Emirates, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Jordan).

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Alena Aksenova
Nizhny Novgorod
Russia

Born in Nizhny Novgorod (Russia), Alena Aksenova studied at the Glinka Nizhny Novgorod State Conservatoire, where she was taught by Ludmila Rubinskaya. Alena Aksenova took part in masterclasses given by Andrea Router, Gabriella Ravazzi, Mauro Trombetta, Roberta Invernizzi. During her studies Alena Aksenova performed Euridica ("Orfei and Euridica" by Gluk), Antonia ("The tales of Hoffman" by Offenbach) in Nizhny Novgorod (Russia) and Fanny ("The cambiale of marriage" by G.Rossini ) in Orvieto (Italy).

Maxim Krylov
Moscow
Russia

Maxim Krylov – musician, singer (tenor). Born in Moscow, studied in Russia and Italy. He graduated from the vocal Department of the Moscow State University of Humanities. Laureate and winner of international competitions and festivals in Russia and Europe. Founder of the Moscow club of classical music admirers "Orpheus".

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Alice Margaret Duffy was born in London on 7th July 2003 of international parentage: Irish father and Russian mother. When Alice was one year old the family moved to Russia. At 7 years of age she joined the vocal studio “Solveig”, Moscow under the leadership and tutelage of the honoured cultural worker Radomira Krasavina at the Moscow House Union of composers. From there she took her first serious steps in the field of music. In the beginning Alice performed pop and jazz music. During her training she participated in concerts at different venues in Moscow and also took part in tours as a vocalist in Slovakia, Slovenia and Belarus. She won various competitions in the categories of pop-jazz vocals. At the start of 2017 she decided to engage in academic singing. She continued her studies at the “Solveig” vocal studios, this time under the close supervision and tutelage of the much honoured artist of Russia - Galina Boyko. In spring 2018 she won the song contest “Merry Wind” - named after Isaac Dunaevsky in the academic vocal nomination. Alice dreams of becoming an opera singer. She is hardworking, attentive, determined and responsible but at the same time she’s cheerful, outgoing and personable. She likes animals - especially husky breed dogs. In addition to singing she is also actively engaged in sports ballroom dancing and playing the piano.

Born on November 8, 2002 in the city of Stavropol. Since childhood she has been fond of music and academic vocal. Her repertoire includes works of classical composers. She is a laureate of many children's international festivals in Russia and Europe. In 2018, Diana became the owner of the Grand Prix of the Vocal Competition "Shining Stars" in Istanbul (Turkey). This year, Diana's solo concert "Charming Classics" was also held, which was a great success for the audience. Diana is often invited to radio and television studios. Diana dreams of a great stage career. Vocal teacher Elena Ryazantseva.
Ekaterina Ivanova
Moscow
Russia

Currently, Ekaterina is a 4th year student of The music State pedagogical Institute named after M. M. Ippolitov-Ivanov. She is a student of the honored artist of Russia Vera Nebolsina. In 2017, she became a diploma of the IV national vocal competition for students of music and theater Universities. She actively takes part in concert activities. Childhood dream was to sing on the same stage with the great Anna Netrebko!

Inna Gudina
Saint-Petersburg
Russia

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Since 2014 till now is assistant-Intern in St. Petersburg State Conservatory named after Rimsky-Korsakov (of People’s artist of the USSR Irina Bogacheva class).
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In 2015, performed the music for the film ‘Pieces’ composer Eugene Grigorovich.

Anna Kulik
Rostov-on-Don
Russia

I am a fifth-year student of Rostov State Rachmaninov Conservatory, Department of Solo Singing, class teacher – T. V. Shorluyan.
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Riitta Muikku-Piirainen
Tuusula
Finland

A soprano from Tuusula, Finland. She has studied vocal technique and pedagogics at Oulu and Lahti Universities of applied science. In 2017 Riitta was in the finals of International Anton Rubinstein Vocal Competition, and has attended the Concours International Leopold Bellan Paris in 2014 and 48e Concours International de Chant de Toulouse in 2010. Riitta has also participated in singing master classes of inter alia Professor Maria Tomanova, Conservatory in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia and Professor Ingrid Haubold, Hochschule für Music, Karlsruhe. Between 2007-2011 Riitta was attached to the Helsinki Philharmonic Choir in 1st soprano. Although Riitta has performed opera as well as oratorio, during the last years she has performed mostly Art Songs as a duo with pianist Tuomas Nikkanen, interpreting for example Wolf’s Mignon songs, Sibelius’, Rachmaninov’s, Tchaikovsky’s, Schumann’s and Mahler’s songs. Riitta Muikku-Piirainen has also been performing persian songs with pianist Ramin Rezaei. Riitta is a board member and founding member of Iittala music festival in Hämeenlinna, Finland.
In 2010 I entered the vocal department of the Moscow Musical and Pedagogical Institute named after M.M. Ippolitova-Ivanova (class of Honored Artist of Russia, Associate Professor V.M. Nebolsina). Diploma-holder of the V Open competition of Russian romance performers "Romansiya without Borders" (Moscow, 2010). Laureate of V Independent International Opera Competition named after M. Yareshko (Moscow, 2014). Winner of the XVI Moscow Festival of Russian Romance "Lilac Branch" in the nomination "Professional singing" (Moscow, 2017). Laureate of the 18th International Romance Competition "Romance Voice Autumn", Kineshma, Russia, 2017.

In 2007 she graduated with honors from the philological faculty of Moscow State University after M.V. Lomonosov, Candidate of Philology, graduated in 2017 with honors from the Institute of Contemporary Art in Moscow (specializing in "Artist of Musical Theater"), where she studied under N.P. Safronova. Took advice from recognized masters of the opera world, among them: G. Boyko, M. Aria. I am a graduate student of the department of analytical musicology in the RAM Gnessins. I continue to improve at the Academy of Opera Singers in Genoa (Italy) under the leadership of Gabriella Ravazzi. Lead an active concert schedule, as well as take part in opera productions (Marcellinus role in the opera "The Marriage of Figaro" by WA Mozart at the Moscow Chamber Music Theater Boris Pokrovsky, 2017; the role of Lisa in “Somnambulist” Bellini opera theater Mancinelli of the city of Orvieto (Italy), 2018, etc.)
Jekaterina Tretjakova
Vilnius
Lithuania

By the time Jekaterina was 6, she could sing, took private vocal singing lessons. In the third form she started going to Balio Dvariono music school. Once she was 12 her dream came true. She began studying classical vocal singing. By the year 2017 she took part in Mela contest where she took second place. A year later Jekaterina took part in Paris international contest, where she got the second place as well. This summer Jekaterina sang in an international contest in Druskininkai where she took the fourth place.

Kaija Takkula
Lieto
Finland

Graduated from Sibelius Academy in 2013 (Master of Music) where she studied under the guidance of Jorma Elorinne and Hannu Niemelä. Currently she is singing privately under the guidance of professor Anatoli Goussev and Kai Valtonen. Kaisa Takkula has participated in master classes of Johanna Rusanen, Camilla Nylund, Harald Bjorkoy, Marjut Hannula, Dorothy Irving and Martin Katz. Lied she has been studying with Ilmo Ranta, Ilmari Räikkönen and Eeviina Kytöma. Her opera roles include ia Giulietta in Jacques Offenbach’s Les contes d’Hoffmann, Laura in Markus Virtanen’s chamber opera Valon ääni, Wife in Seppo Pohjola’s Kaappi-chamber opera, Niiskunen in Ilka Kuusisto’s Moominopera, 1. Dame in W.A. Mozart’s Zauberflöte. She has sung as a soloist with The Finnish Navy Orchestra, Hämeenlinna City Orchestra, Opus X, HelTen Brass Ensemble and several Finnish choirs. She is also an active performer of lied and contemporary music. Currently she is working as a church musician in The Evangelical Lutheran Parish of Lieto and performing as a free-lance singer in various concerts and productions.

Kateryna Panchenko
Cherkassy
Ukraine

Katerina Panchenko was born in Ukraine. She began her musical education in the school of Art at the age of seven. Then she studied in Cherkasy music college on major of singing. While her studying she took part in local and regional singing contests. At present she is a 4th year student of professor N. Safronova at Moscow Institute of Modern Art (school of the famous Ukrainian singer S. Krushelnytska). Laureate of the second All-Russian Contest of an Academic vocal performance named after A. Varlamov, laureate of regional and international competitions.

Alexandra Sidorova
Moscow
Russia

Alexandra Sidorova. Lyric Coloratura Soprano. 27 years old. Graduated from the Moscow state Conservatory after P. I. Tchaikovsky in 2015. Alexandra Sidorova is a Laureate of International Competitions in Austria, Belarus, Russia. Extensive touring experience in 15 European countries and more than 30 Russian cities. Performed as a soloist in the project "Manezh 200 years" in front of 2000 people. Collaborated with a large number of different musical groups and projects (more than 20). Soloed on the stage of the theater on Dubrovka in the show "The Mystery of the Museum of dreams". In 2017, she worked in Tatiana Navka's project "Cinderella", where she played the leading role. Participated as a guest soloist with the orchestra "Korolev Orchestra".

Kaisa Takkula
Lieto
Finland

Graduated from Sibelius Academy in 2013 (Master of Music) where she studied under the guidance of Jorma Elorinne and Hannu Niemelä. Currently she is singing privately under the guidance of professor Anatoli Goussev and Kai Valtonen. Kaisa Takkula has participated in master classes of Johanna Rusanen, Camilla Nylund, Harald Bjorkoy, Marjut Hannula, Dorothy Irving and Martin Katz. Lied she has been studying with Ilmo Ranta, Ilmari Räikkönen and Eeviina Kytöma. Her opera roles include ia Giulietta in Jacques Offenbach’s Les contes d’Hoffmann, Laura in Markus Virtanen’s chamber opera Valon ääni, Wife in Seppo Pohjola’s Kaappi-chamber opera, Niiskunen in Ilka Kuusisto’s Moominopera, 1. Dame in W.A. Mozart’s Zauberflöte. She has sung as a soloist with The Finnish Navy Orchestra, Hämeenlinna City Orchestra, Opus X, HelTen Brass Ensemble and several Finnish choirs. She is also an active performer of lied and contemporary music. Currently she is working as a church musician in The Evangelical Lutheran Parish of Lieto and performing as a free-lance singer in various concerts and productions.
Kirsti Tuominen is a singing teacher from Turku with a university degree. She prepared numerous recitals, sang as a soloist for orchestras, and performed in numerous opera, operetta and musical roles. Currently, she works as a singing teacher at the Turku Conservatory of Music, the Music Institute of Turku Region, and Puolalanmäki Music College. Kirsti Tuominen is also the founder and active member of the Bartituuri Group, specializing in children’s musical theater.

Iuliiia Pavlishcheva
Saint-Petersburg
Russia

Student of The Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, institute of music, theatre and choreography, chair of solo singing. Her class teacher is People’s Artist of Russian Federation, soloist of Mikhailovsky Theatre Nikolai Kopylov. Laureate of international competitions. Soloist of orchestra «Silver strings». Permanent concert activity in Saint-Petersburg.

Oleg Rosenberg
Russia

Oleg Rosenberg graduated from the St. Petersburg State Conservatory. From 2002 has onwards worked as an accompanist in the St. Petersburg children’s School of Arts named after m. l. Rostropovich.

Anton Koval
Russia

Anton Koval lives and studies in St. Petersburg. Now a student at the Herzen University. He is a laureate of international competitions in Italy, Belgium, Russia, Serbia, Kazakhstan, Poland, Romania. Had a concert tour in Germany with a program of works by Chopin. Annually gives solo concerts and performs at concerts with the orchestra. Winner of JSFest 2017.
The Sixth International JSFest Choral Competition
8.-12.11.2018
Mikhail Slavkin
Russia
Chairperson

Artistic director of Children’s choir of the Union of composers of Russia “Preobrajhenie” («Transfiguration»), Honored worker of culture of the Russian Federation, winner of the International competitions, member of the Union of composers of Russia. Was born in 1953 in Moscow. One of the known choir-masters in Russia. The author of choral works and songs for children. Works at the State Children’s Musical Theatre named after Natalia Sats and the Musical Theatre Helikon-Opera. Took part in jury work at the Choir Competitions INTERKULTUR in 1998-1999, 2010-2016 and also at the International Competitions in Finland, Poland, Bulgaria. Artistic Director of the Children’s and Youth Choir “Preobrajhenie”, head of the Foundation of Creative Development “Preobrajhenie”, member of the Union of Composers of Russia, author of choral works and songs for children and adults, choirmaster at the Natalya Satz Musical Theatre and the Musical Theatre Helikon-Opera, juror at International Choir Competitions worldwide, chairman of the jury of the International Vocal and Choral, competition of Jean Sibelius in Turku, Finland. Since 1978 has worked in Children’s Choral studio «Preobrajjenie» as a teacher of a class of a violin, vocal ensemble, solfeggio and music basics. Since 1985 has worked as Artistic director of studio. In 1997 the studio was given the status of the Union of composers of Russia. In 2013 was invited to a position of the choir-master of Children’s opera studio of the Moscow State Academic Children’s musical theatre named after Nataly Sats.

Pekka Nebelung
Finland
Chairperson

Pekka Nebelung is a musician and conductor from Pöytyä municipality. He has studied music at the Turku Conservatory, the Turku Art Academy, the Sibelius Academy, and the University of Jyväskylä. One can hear Nebelung’s compositions and arrangements not only in Finland, but at least in Germany, Latvia, Italy, Russia, China and the United States as well.

He has been working for ten years as a choir director: for example, he has founded and conducted the KaMu choir that won the Children and Youth Choral World Championship in Russia in 2016 and 2018. Pekka was awarded at the Silver Bells Competition in Latvia in January 2015 for his significant pedagogical competence, and as the best choir director in autumn 2015 at the JS-fest competition. Pekka Nebelung has been recorded by MILS recording company as a conductor and trumpeter, and by Alba recording company as a choir director. To name a few, he has conducted Concentus Aboens, Icaalist Youth Orchestra and Collegium Musicum Turku.

At present, Pekka Nebelung works as a trumpet music teacher at the Music College Archipelago, as the conductor of the Collegium Musicum Turku Orchestra and the artistic director of KaMu Choirs.
Jan Pirner has been the choirmaster of the children’s choir Radost Praha since 2012. After graduating from grammar school, he went on to study Czech Language and Literature and Music Education at the Faculty of Education of Charles University in Prague (2002–8), and also studied musicology at the Faculty of Arts (2003–6). His first experience with organised music dates back to his childhood days as a member of the boys’ choir Pueri gaudentes; he later joined various professional choirs and chamber ensembles (Kühn Choir of Prague, the Prague Chamber Choir, the Czech National Choir, and the Prague Philharmonic Choir etc.).

As a child, he was greatly influenced by the composer and teacher Pavel Jurkovič. In the years 2010–13 he was a director of the Prague Chamber Choir, taking it on tours through most of Europe, Japan, and Lebanon, and repeatedly participating in major music festival (Rossini Opera Festival, Wexford Festival Opera, etc.). Since 2012 he has also been working at the National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture, where he acted as an expert guarantor of choirmaster workshops, administrator of the music library, and editor of the Polyhymnia Bohemica choral series; he is also engaged as an editor of the academic journal Hudební věda (Musicology) at the Department of Music History of the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences. In 2016 he received the best choirmaster award at Kaunas Cantat in Lithuania, and the Prague 7 Award for Cultural Achievements. In the same year he has received the national Choirmaster junior prize, awarded by the Czech Choirs Association.

Tatyana Rudneva (soprano) was graduated from Kurmangazy Alma-Ata State Conservatory on class of solo singing in 1985. She got the second higher education on specialty “Psychology” in 2007. She graduated from fellowship of Magnitogorsk State Conservatory (Academy) named after M.I. Glinka (Russia) on specialty “Academic Singing”. Term of pedagogical employment is more than thirty years. At the present time she is docent of department “Vocal Art and Conducting” of the Kazakh National University of Arts (Astana, Kazakhstan).

T.N. Rudneva works with all singing voices, conducts class of solo singing and chamber class, reads lecture courses on methods and history of vocal art. Students of T.N. Rudneva class a lot of times were laureates of international and republican contests. Alumni of her class successfully continue professional activity as soloists of opera theatres, philharmonias in the Republic of Kazakhstan, Russia, Germany, and also as pedagogs of academic and variety vocal in musical colleges and higher educational institutions. Scientific and pedagogic activity of T.N. Rudneva is represented by writing of scientific articles and monographs on issues of history of establishment and development of Kazakhstan’s vocal art. Concert and performance activity of T.N. Rudneva is represented by solo concerts, creative contests, master classes, recordings on television. She sang solemn “Mass” during the official visit of head of the Roman-Catholic Church Pope John Paul the II in Kazakhstan in 2001. She sang solo concert “Ave Maria” dedicated to victims of terror of the XX century for religious confessions of the CIS countries and abroad in 2002. Ten musical and thematic programs were recorded on the republican television: “A.S. Pushkin and Music”, “A. Akhmatova in Music”, “Musical Heritage of Abai Kunanbayev”, “Romances of P.I. Tchaikovsky”, “Russian Romance of the XVIII-XIX Centuries”, “Evening of Classical Operetta” and others. Foundation recordings “Russian Folk Songs” and “Kazakh Folk Songs” were executed on all-Union radio. Tatyana Rudneva is laureate of international contests, Honoured Worker of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
Tamara Fedoseeva was born in Moscow in 1948. She was engaged in Children’s choral studio «Young Leninists» from which she graduated in 1965. She returned there as a teacher in 1971 after having graduated from the Moscow musical college named after the October revolution. Her pedagogical and creative activity doesn’t stop. In Children’s choral studio «Preobrazhenie», Tamara Fedoseyeva heads the chorus «Crane». The chorus participated in the anniversary concerts in the State Kremlin Palace devoted to the 100 anniversary of I.Dunayevsky, M.Blanter, V.Solovyov-Sedoy, B.Mokrousov, A.Ostrovsky; in the Big Hall of the Moscow State conservatory of Tchaikovsky (premiere of compositions of Vladimir Ryabov and Victor Semyonov), in Evgeny Krylatov, Alexander Kulygin, Igor Kadomtsev, Mikhail Slavkin’s concerts, etc. In 2013 Tamara Fedoseyeva got the position of a teacher of vocal of Children’s opera studio of the Moscow State Academic Children’s musical theatre named after N. I. Sats.

Tamara Fedoseyeva in 1999 was awarded an honorary title the Honoured worker of culture of the Russian Federation. Her pedagogical credo is «Each child is talented and has to open the talents».

- Chief choir-master of the Children’s and Youth Choir «Preobrazhenie»
- Choir-master at the Natalya Satz Musical Theatre and the Musical Theatre Helikon-Opera
- Juror at International Choir Competitions worldwide
KaMu is founded in 2010 by Mr. Pekka Nebelung. In these years KaMu has been very active. KaMu Girls Choir won the Grand Prix of JS-Fest in 2015. In 2016 KaMu made the first CD of the Choir for the honored recording label Alba. In the same Year KaMu was singing for the President of Finland in Kultaranta, Naantali, by his invitation. 2017-2018 KaMu was elected to be the Youth Choir of the year for the Finish Broadcasting company YLE. In February 2018 KaMu Girls Choir won the Youth- and Children's Choirs World Championship in St. Petersburg, Russia. The singers of KaMu have no audition. Everyone is welcome to join the KaMu family. KaMu is conducted by its founder, Mr. Pekka Nebelung.

KaMu Youth Choir
Finland

KaMu is founded in 2010 by Mr. Pekka Nebelung. In these years KaMu has been very active. In February 2016 KaMu Youth Choir won the Youth- and Children's Choirs World Championship in St. Petersburg, Russia and made the first CD of the Choir for the honored recording label Alba. In the same Year, 2016, KaMu was singing for the President of Finland in Kultaranta, Naantali, by his invitation. 2017-2018 KaMu was elected to be the Youth Choir of the year for the Finish Broadcasting company YLE. The singers of KaMu have no audition. Everyone is welcome to join the KaMu family. KaMu is conducted by its founder, Mr. Pekka Nebelung.
**KvaMu**  
**Finland**

KvaMu is the vocal ensemble of KaMu. It consists of four about 19 Years old young Ladies. KvaMu has a history with many singers. The current ensemble is formed 2018. The singers practice their repertoire by themselves, but have the financial and artistic assistance of KaMu and Pekka Nebelung. In 2019 KvaMu is going to travel to Germany, Italy and Lichtenstein to sing in various concerts and competitions. As a part of KaMu and as an independent group.

**Tellervo Choir**  
**Karelia, Russia**

The concert choir Tellervo of the Palace of Creativity of the Youth from the capital of Karelia Petrozavodsk is one of the oldest choirs in Russia. Last year it celebrated its 80th anniversary. In the IIIrd International Choir Festival Slovakia Cantat 2009 in Bratislava in the category Children’s choir from 16 to 21 years (sopranos, altos) the choir has won the first place and has been awarded with a gold medal. The choir is a silver medal winner at the IX World Choir Games in Sochi, Russia. The choir has also participated and achieved high results in multiple national and international events.

**Onyame Teease African Trad Culture**  
**Accra, Ghana**

Our group, the artistic company African ballets Manioc of Togo is known worldwide for its voodoo sequences. This year 2018, Manioc was on tour in West Africa Benin, and Ghana and soon we will be in Turkey for an InternationalFolklore Festival in Canakale.

Our motto is, go far from Africa, the continent of black deities to seek friends of the earth, strengthen bonds of friendships through cultural diversity.
The Sixth International JSFest Instrumental Competition
16.-19.11.2018
Jury of the Sixth International JSFest Instrumental Competition

Leena Hiltunen
Finland
Chairperson

Leena Hiltunen works in the cultural center Turku, in the cultural department on work with children. She is a master of arts, a teacher and a musician. Leena Hiltunen worked as a musician in the city orchestra of the city of Turku, and as a teacher of violin and alto in conservatory and regional musical school of the city of Turku. Before coming to the cultural department on work with children, Leena Hiltunen worked in a philharmonic society of the city of Tampere as an assistant to the managing director, as a director for marketing of an orchestra of a philharmonic society of Turku, and as a head of projects in the cultural department of the city of Turku.

Liudmila Gurevich
Russia

Liudmila Gurevich was born on 16 July 1950 in Leningrad, USSR. She took her first music lessons at the age of seven. Since 1966 she studied in the Music College named by Modest Mussorgsky (violin, class by Anatoly Reznikovsky). Since 1970 studied in Saint-Petersburg Conservatory (class of Prof. Mikhail Belyakov). Graduated from the Conservatory in 1975 with the first-class honors degree. Doctor of Artknowledge (1984), Docent (2008). Since 1970 worked at the Music school No.2 in Saint-Petersburg. Since 1990 is working at the Music College named by Rimsky-Korsakov (since 2009 – head of the String department). Also since 1984 she is working at the Saint-Petersburg Conservatory, now as Docent by the chair of violin and viola.

Dr.Doc. Liudmila Gurevich - one of the leading violin-teacher in St.-Petersburg. The author of the monograph «The Violin strokes and fingering» and «The Violin ABC». The leader of the Violin department at the Saint-Petersburg musical college named by Rimski-Korsakov, Docent at the St.-Petersburg Conservatory.
Rovshan Mamedkuliev was born in May 1986 in Baku, Azerbaijan. In 2004 he was accepted to Nizhny Novgorod Conservatoire. In 2014 Rovshan Mamedkuliev undertook his role as a professor of the classical guitar department in the Maimonides State Classical Academy (Moscow). Since 1999 Rovshan has won numerous awards in different guitar competitions, including: First Prize and Special Prize for the best interpretation of the compositions of Leo Brouwer on the 10th International Guitar Competition “Hommage à Leo Brouwer” (Antony, France, 2009), First Prize, Prize of Public and Special Prize for the best interpretation of the compositions of Heitor Villa-Lobos on the 1st International Guitar Competition “Heitor Villa-Lobos” (Salamanca, Spain, 2011), First Prize on the 2nd International Guitar Competition named after A. Frauchi (Moscow, Russia, 2011), First Prize on the 48th International Guitar Competition “Michele Pittaluga” (Alessandria, Italy, 2015). In 2012 Rovshan won one of the most prestigious guitar competitions in the world - XXX Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition (Charleston, SC, USA). Rovshan Mamedkuliev has performed throughout the world: Moscow, Los-Angeles, Toronto, Brasilia, Paris, Rome, Madrid, Berlin, Zagreb, Belgrade, Istanbul, Vilnius, Sarajevo, Chisinau, Baku, Minsk, Seoul, Beijing and others. In 2012, he gave a solo concert in New York's Carnegie Hall and concertized performing in numerous cities throughout Germany and Spain. In the 2013-2014 concert season after winning GFA's International Concert Artist Competition, Rovshan gave a Solo concert tour (51 concert) and master-classes throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and Brazil.

Rovshan Mamedkuliev also performs his own arrangements. He released an arrangement of music by Russian composers («Masters of Russian Composition: Alexander Borodin and Anatoly Lyadov»), MelBay Publications, USA, 2014) and an arrangement of the music by his native Azerbaijani composer («Fikret Amirov. 6 Miniatures», LACG Editions, USA, 2015).

Vladimir Gourevich
Russia

In 1971 he graduated from the Leningrad State Conservatory N. And. Rimsky-Korsakov (piano class of Professor. S.M.Chenevoy, class music theory of Professor Yu.N.Tyulin). In 1972 he defended his thesis in 1990 - a doctoral. Professor (1993). Sphere of scientific interests - the history of Russian music, musical culture of the Central Asia, problems of contemporary music education. In 1969-76, he worked in Turkmenistan. From 1976 to 1999 worked in Higher Trade-Union school of culture (Humanitarian University of trade unions), in 1999 - at the Academy of postgraduate pedagogical education, 2004 - in Russian pedagogical university A.I. Herzen. Invited Professor at the Institute of musicology at Leipzig University. The author of five monographs, more than four hundred articles in scientific journals of Russia and foreign countries. Specializes in the genres of piano ensemble and accompaniment. Zam. Chairman of the St. Petersburg Association of piano duets. Chairman of the organizing Committee of the competition «Brother and Sister», member of the jury all-Russian competition of piano duets A.G. Bahchieva. The author of original compositions, arrangements and transcriptions for choir heard on the Philharmonic stages in different countries. One of the leaders of the Union of Composers of Russia, since 1994 - Chairman of the audit Committee of the UK St. Petersburg, from 1995 to 2010 - Chairman of the audit Committee of the IC of Russia. At the tenth Congress of the Union of composers of Russia (2010) elected Secretary of this creative organization. Chairman of the Dissertation Council of the faculty of music University A.I. Herzen. Honorary worker of higher professional education of Russia (2012).
Participants of the JSFest Instrumental Competition

Regina Abzalimova
Ufa
Russia

Born on June 17, 2005 (13 years). She has been playing music since 4 years - piano, from 6 years - violin. Since 2015, the choice has been made in favor of the piano. She studies at the Secondary Special Music College in Ufa, Russia, the class of Tamara Tyufyakova, Honored Worker of Culture of the Republic of Bashkortostan (Russia). Laureate of city (2011 - 2016) and international competitions (2012). Favorite subjects in school: mathematics and music. Hobbies: vocal, drawing, reading, computer science and programming. Awarded following the results of the competitions with vouchers to the All-Russian Children's Center "Orlyonok" (2016), and to the International Children's Center "Artek" (2018).

Elena Berg
Moscow
Russia

Was born in Moscow in 1999. She began her music practice when she was 3 years old, and started her violin lessons when she was 5 years old. Now she is fourth-years student of College of Musical and Theatre Art named author Galina Vishnevskaya. Laureate and winner of international and all-Russian music competitions. As a member of College chamber orchestra has took part in tour along Italy and Russia. In the orchestra "Korolëv orchestra" has took part in the production of the opera "The Tsar's Bride" by Rimsky-Korsakov in Russian Historical Museum. Is fond of composing music, painting and making clothes.

Polina Borisova
Moscow
Russia

Born in 1988 in Ryazan where she started her violin lessons. Having graduated from the Moscow Frederic Chopin College of Music in 2007 and Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory in 2012 at the class of the Honored Artist, Professor Ara Bogdanjan. In 2014, she brilliantly graduated Bachelor in Moscow conservatory. From 2014 Polina is a teaching assistant in Moscow Conservatory. Polina is the winner of more then 20 international competitions, participant of many national and international Festivals, gave concerts in Spain, France, Armenia, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Belarus, Tunisia, Spain, Portugal, Israel, Poland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Laos, Makedonia, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Cyprus, Italy, Vietnam, Austria, etc. Since 2009 takes part in the official International musical project «Polina Borisova&David Almerich», playing ensemble with the Spanish pianist and saxophonist David Almerich. Since 2013 Polina is a soloist of the St. Petersburg Music House and performs in various cities of Russia and abroad.

Ella Kraatari
Rovaniemi
Finland

Ella Kraatari is studying piano at the Lapland Music Institute with Katri Säkō-Arias and Maiju Roine. Ella is also studying the violin with Igor Arias. She has performed in concerts as a soloist, piano duo and trio, as well as participated in national piano events.
Group of three sisters was founded in 2015, in Mikkeli Music Academy by Marina Bagdasarova-Karhunen. Girls have started their solo studies in the age of five. As skills developed desire to play together arose. Chamber music has deepened girls’ understanding of music and it’s elements and they are looking forward to new challenges in that area. Girls are performing in different kinds of events and productions. Now, at the ages of 15, 13 and 12 the trio is taking part to their 1st competition.

Jakub Kusior has involved in music from age of 11. In 2015 he began studying at The Bronislaw Rutkowski Music School in Kraków at the primary level. He is a laureate of numerous international clarinet competitions:
- I Prize – IV London International Music Competition, 2018,
- II Prize- Concorso Musicale Internazionale "Melos" in Roma, 2017,
- Excellent – ConCours Europeen pour Jeunes Solistes in Luxembourg, 2017,
- I Prize – International Association of Art „, The Muse “ Athens, 2018,
- I Prize – Laureate – International Competition Davorin Jenko in Belgrad, 2018,
- III Prize – 10 International Music Competition and Festival in Dobrovo (Slovenija), 2018,
- II Prize – I Concurso Internacional de Clarinete 2018 in Gran Canaria, 2018,
- I Prize – Great Composers Competition – The Music of Northern Europe, 2018,
- Prize – IV Świętokrzyski Festiwal Klas Instrumentów Dętych in Kielce, 2018,
- III Prize – VIII Zachodniopomorski Festiwal Klarinetowy in Szczecin, 2018,
- III Competition of Wind Instruments, Accordion and Percussion in Trzciana, 2018,
- II Prize- VIII Concorso Internazionale Giovani Musicisti Premio "Antonio Salieri", 2017,
- II Prize- 14th Concorso Internazionale per Giovani Musicisti "Luigi Zanucconi", 2016,
- II Prize – 15th International Independent Music Competition "Individualisi", 2017

Anton Khromov is a pupil of the 3rd grade music school in accordion. He took part in various contests and festivals in Russia (Moscow, Rzhev, Kostroma). He is a laureate of these contests.

Born in Ufa. She has started playing music at the age of 5. At the age of 7 she was admitted to the Secondary Special Music College in Ufa. Currently Yana is a 4th year student of the Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, St.Petersburg, class of Prof. E.E. Roschina. While studying, Yana has been awarded diplomas and has become a laureate of multiple international competitions in Lithuania, Portugal, Finland, Germany and Russia.
Elena Nazarenko is a teacher of music in piano school in Moscow. She participated in many internationals competitions. She holds diplomas of the accompanist for the preparation of laureates of internationals competitions in Prague, Madrid, Vienna, Rome.

My name is Eva Klets. I am 16 years old. I live in Saint-Petersburg. I study at Secondary Special Music School of Saint-Petersburg Conservatory named by Rimsky Korsakov. I study there for 3 years. I play the harp and my teacher Karina Maleeva is the best harpist in our school. I enjoy playing the harp. I wanted to be a musician from my childhood. This competition is a chance for me to show my skills and become a winner.

The instrumental trio consisting of Li Cheng, Chen Hao lei (clarinets) and Liudmila Kim (piano) originated in the Institute of music, theatre and choreography of the Russian Herzen University in 2015 and at the same time the musicians began to perform in concert halls - in the St. Petersburg Union of artists, the Mansion of count Musin-Pushkin, etc., take part in international competitions. Ensemble is the winner of international competitions "St. Petersburg Assembly of the arts" and "Vivat, Petersburg". Li Cheng was born in Taiyuan, China in 1994. He started playing the clarinet at the age of 11. Chen Hao lei was born in Urumqi, China in 1996. Both are students of the Institute of music of the Herzen state pedagogical University in the class of clarinet associate professor A.V. Maistrenko. Both are laureates and winners of International competitions. Lyudmila Kim was born in 1981 in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky. She graduated from the Institute of music of the Herzen state pedagogical University, piano class of Professor M. V. Vorotnuy. Laureate and winner of International competitions.
Irina Kozlova was born in 1987 in St.Petersburg (Russia). She began
to play the piano aged 18 in music school for adults (St.Petersburg).
She graduated from St-Petersburg State University, Faculty of Arts
(organ, harpsichord and carillon department).
In 2016 she got a degree of Bachelor of Arts (with honours);
in 2018 she got a degree of Master of Arts (with honours).
Nowadays Irina is a student of St-Petersburg Music Conservatory of
Organ and harpsichord department (Prof. Daniel Zaretsky).
Irina took part in master-classes held by organists from Germany,
Austria, France, Italy and the Netherlands. Since February 2018
Irina has been a prize-winner of the National organ competition.

Liubov Kozlova is a pianist, laureate of international competitions. In 2013
she graduated from the music college named after M.P. Mussorgsky. In 2017
she received a bachelor's degree in the class of Professor Podolskaya at the
Department of Musical Instrument Art at the Institute of Music, Theater and
Choreography of the Russian State Pedagogical University named by Herzen.
In 2015, she won the 1st prize (Assoluto) at the international competition
"Città di Pesaro" (Pesaro, Italy). In the spring of 2016, she won the III place
international contest "Crimean Spring" in the nomination "Soloist with
Symphony Orchestra" (Yalta). In March 2017 took part in the VI All-Russian
competition of pianists and chamber ensembles. D.D. Shostakovich
(Volgograd), where she received the III prize; In April of the same year, she
won the Grand Prix at the VII International Competition "Musical Fireworks
in Baden-Württemberg" (Mülakker, Germany). At the moment she studies at
the magistracy on the profile of Theory and Practice of Musical Instrument
Art (Herzen University).

Catherine Mikheeva
Moscow
Russia

Born in Kaluga in 1999.
She studied at the Art School №1 (N. P. Rakova). At present
she is a student of the A. Shnitke College of Music. A laureate of
All-Russian and international contests and festivals, laureate of the
award to support the talented youth of the Russian president.
Participant of master classes with M.S. Voskresensky, A.B. Diev,
A.M. Sandler, E.Mechetina, S.Voronov, V.Vitaite, M.Marchenko.
She performed with the Youth Symphony Orchestra (S. Richter),
Bryansk Governor's Symphony Orchestra.

Balázs Német
Budapest
Hungary

As a cello student I think the music can be the language which can
connect us. That’s why I try to get closer to every types of music. I learn
classical music in the St. István Music Secondary School in Budapest
and I can play music with talented gipsy jazz and classical music students
as well. As I live with attention deficit disorder (ADD) it is very difficult
for me to be regular, but I always felt that the essence of the music is
not the rule, but the feeling. With my music I try to show the emotions
which are important for me and I hope these feelings can be familiar for
everybody. My best result is Ist Prize at the Hungarian János Starker
Cello Competition 2017.
Nikanov Vitaly was born on December 31, 2004 in Togliatti, in a family where no one studied music. He began to study Music in Krasnodar Region at the age of five, under strict control of the grandmother. Repeatedly he became the laureate of regional competitions. At the age of nine, Vitaly's family moved to Moscow, where he continued to study music at the Alexandrov Music School with the outstanding teacher, Marina Mozgovenko. Gradually, Vitaly has become involved into the world of professional musicians and now does not imagine himself without it! The young pianist, who was given the opportunity to learn music just for general development, has revealed musical talent and taken music seriously. In Moscow Vitaly took part in many concerts and competitions, where he often took prizes.

Alexandra Orishak is eight years old. She started to play clarinet in 2017. She studies at the Secondary Special Music School of the St. Petersburg State Conservatoire named after N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov.

Elena Orishak is nine years old. She started to play harp in 2015. She studies at The Secondary Special Music School of the St. Petersburg State Conservatoire named after N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov. Elena’s teacher is Marina Smirnova. Elena is a diploma winner of the third Moscow open competition of young harpists named after M. A. Rubin.

Aliina Pirttikangas (born in 2007) started her violin lessons at the age of four (4) in 2011: She has studied violin with Anna Major, Kaisa Kuula-Bullat and Soile Saarikko as her teachers in Kankaanpää music school, which is located in West-Finland. She plays the first violin in string trio Dolce and is a concertmaster in student orchestra called Sylvesterit. She has taken part twice (2016, 2018) in Satakunnan jousisoitintapahtuma – judicial view for string instruments in West Finland with laudable and excellent reviews. She also plays the piano and sings in a choir.
Varvara Pochtar was born in Ryazan, Russia. She is 11 years old. Varvara began her musical education at the age of 5, when she entered the Musical School in Honor of Aglintseva. She started playing piano. During her studying Varvara took part in many school concerts, school, regional and international contests and she has many rewards. She is a laureate of the 1st degree of The Russian Youth Talents Competition “Orlyata Rossi” (“Orlyonok”, Russia, 2017), the VII Super Final International Project “Salyut Talantov. Muzika” (St. Petersburg, Russia, 2017), the IX and X City Open Competition of Young Pianists in Honor of Stavrovskiy (Vladimir, Russia, 2016-2017), a laureate of the 3rd degree of The VI International Competition and Festival for young pianists and piano teachers “Bartolomeo Cristofori” (St. Petersburg, Russia, 2018) and others.

Aleksei Severinov is a classical guitarist, a laureate of several international competitions. He is a graduate of Rostov College of Arts in the class led by Khobystin A.K. and Krasnodar State University of Culture and Arts in the class led by Pantyukhin I.V. A musician who has had a lot of concerts. Aleksei performed solo concerts in Russia, also played at different music halls in Estonia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Hungary etc. Aleksei plays music from different epochs, but most of his focus is on modern music with its various styles and rhythms. Furthermore, Aleksei Severinov composes his own music and often plays his compositions on stage. Now, A. Severinov is a teacher at Music School No. 17 named after A.R. Rubinston in Peterhof.

Sokolova Mariya (flute) was born in 2003. She started to learn music when she was 4 year old in Children's Art School named after M.A. Balakirev in Gus-Khrustalny, Vladimir region. In 2015 she became a student of Central Music School at Moscow State P.I. Tchaikovsky Conservatory (the class of Moscow State Conservatory's professor A.M. Golyshiev). She was a participant of many concerts and competitions: she took part in the international competition "open Italy" where she won the second place. She also took part in the final Gala Concert at St. Martin church in Rimini, Italy. She participated in the international competitive Festival "Salzburg Stars" in Austria, where she won the first place. She took part in the International competition "Golden Stars Rain" in Vladimir, where she was the winner of the first degree. Mariya took part in the International Art School "New Names" in Suzdal, where she participated in many master classes and concerts.

Silja Han and Ksenia Bullat are studying piano at the Lapland Music Institute with Katri Säkön-Arias. They have performed in concerts as soloists and as a piano duo and they have participated in both national and international competitions.

Aleksei Severinov Saint-Petersburg Russia

Varvara Pochtar Ryazan Russia

Mariya Sokolova Moscow Russia

Piano Duo Silja Han & Ksenia Bullat Rovaniemi Finland
Elizaveta was born in 1996. She entered Central Music School at the Moscow state Conservatoire in 2003. In 2007 and 2010, she became a laureate of the XIII and XVI Moscow international Festivals for young soloists. In 2008, she won the Special prize of jury at the First international Competition for young pianists named after Rachmaninov (Germany, Darmstadt). In 2013, she was presented with the First diploma for the performances at the Festival «Asambleji umjetnosti. Rusija-Crna Gora» (Montenegro, Antivari). She also performed with the Moscow state symphonic Orchestra for childhood and youth, and with the Rostov symphonic orchestra. In 2014, she graduated from the Central music school under Polina Fedotova (piano). Nowadays, she studies at the Moscow Conservatoire under Daniil Kopylov (special piano), Vitaly Yunitsky (chamber ensemble) and Irina Kirillova (art of the accompanist).

Anton Zhulev has been involved in music since he was three. Interest to the flute appeared during his studies at the music school from the Stary Oskol of the Belgorod region. The first success was achieved by participating in competitions of various levels. Currently, Anton continues his musical education at the College of Music of the Belgorod State Institute of Arts and Culture. Laureate of international competitions "Golden talents of Europe" (2017 Czech Republic, Prague), "White Lira" (2018, Belgorod, Grand Prix), Regional competition of the South of Russia (2018, 1 place).

Grigorii graduated from the 4th Musical School of Arts. While studying he played in an orchestra "Young Symphony composers of St. Petersburg". As part of the orchestra he performed in Finland, Germany, Kazan, Velikiy Novgorod. In 2017 he entered to St. Petersburg Musical College of Rimsky-Korsakov. Now he is on the 2nd year.
Aleksandra Kharinova graduated from musical school in Saint-Petersburg in 2015. Then she entered the St. Petersburg Musical College named after N. A. Rimsky-Korsakov. She’s studying third year there at the moment. Aleksandra played solo with different orchestras, took part in other festivals and competitions including: II Starptaustiskais bērnu un pusaudžu festivāls "Rigas jurmala", Riga, 2014, III place.
Yearly city competition of instrumental music "With music in the new century", Saint-Petersburg, II place
Festival of youth orchestras "Mariinsky NEXT", Saint-Petersburg.

Anastasia Litvinova graduated from music school in Saint-Petersburg in 2015. Then she entered to St. Petersburg Musical College named after N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov. She is studying third year at the moment. Anastasia played solo with different orchestras, took part in festivals and competitions including:
Stockholm International Music Competition (2010 - second prize winner, 2012 - second prize);
IV International Music Competition named after Savshinskyi, 2012;
Master classes Alfred Schnittke Akademie International 2015;
Festival of youth orchestras "Mariinsky NEXT" 2016;
XV International Music Competition St. Petersburg spring 2018 - second prize winner.

Jāzeps Mediņš Riga 1st Music School chamber orchestra Armonico was founded in 1993. Since 2004 the artistic director and conductor of the orchestra is Normunds Dreģis. Chamber orchestra Armonico consists of 28 musicians playing string instruments. For several projects wind instruments are involved. Orchestra’s repertoire includes music from baroque, classical and romantic eras, as well as music composed in 20th/21st centuries. The orchestra has won diplomas and prizes at several competitions and taken part in festivals in different countries – Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, France. The most recent and unique experience was concert Tūkstošbalsu simfonija within frames of 11th Latvian School Youth Song and Dance Celebration in 2015. The orchestra often collaborates with Latvian composers and profesional soloists (both singers and instrumentalists). In 2014 Armonico took part in staging of W.A.Mozart’s opera Bastien and Bastienne with young soloists of Latvian National Opera. Since 2012 the orchestra is a member of Latvian Orchestras Association and European Orchestra Federation.

Born in Finland in 1981, Tuomas Nikkanen is known for "exciting", "powerful" and "unique" interpretations. After studies at the Sibelius Academy of Music in Helsinki under the tutelage of Juhani Lagerspetz, Liisa Pohjola and Erik T. Tawaststjerna, Nikkanen's inspiring interpretations began earning prizes at national and international competitions including the "Best young Performer" at the international Artur Rubinstein Piano Competition in Bydgoszcz, Poland in 1998, the "Best Performance" at the international M.K.Ciurlionis Piano Competition in Vilnius, Lithuania in 1999, and many more.
In 2015, Nikkanen released his recording of Sibelius’ 10 pieces Op.24 and the Piano Sonata along with two songs sung by his lied-partner, soprano Riitta Muikku-Piirainen. The CD was recorded at the home where Sibelius was born in Hameenlinna.
Nikkanen’s impressive musical accomplishments earned him the prestigious Sibelius medal for "Important work as an interpreter of the life work and legacy of Jean Sibelius", an honor awarded to him by the Hameenlinna Sibelius society in 2016.
Ekaterina Butyrina was born in February 2008, now she is 10. At the age of four she began studying the piano in the Saint-Petersburg City Palace of Youth Creativity (Anichkov Palace) with Irina Pismak. And she took part in numerous concerts, festivals and competitions. She is a laureate of several city, all-Russian and one international competitions and festivals. One of them is XXIIIrd L. A. Brook International Children Piano Duo Competition “Brother and Sister” in 2018 (laureate of the II degree).

Maya Kazarina has been playing the classical guitar for 7 years. During this time she became a laureate of 15 international competitions. Maya is a participant of the concert programs of the Spivakov Foundation. She takes an active part in the concert activity of the city of St. Petersburg.

Kirill Korovin was born on November 19, 2003 in St. Petersburg. Since five years he has been studying at the Saint-Petersburg Children's Art School named after Mravinsky. In 2014 he took 2nd place at the open Russian competition named after N.A. Rimsky-Korsakov, held in the city of Tikhvin. In 2018 he won first place at the international forum of arts Evrojurmala and at the open city competition Young soloist 2018.

Aleksandr Lebedev is engaged in the clarinet class of Professor B.K. Karaev. During his studies he showed himself as a gifted and diligent student, a bright soloist and ensemble player who achieved serious success in all subjects. He is a laureate of several regional and international competitions of performing skills. Among his achievements: laureate of the Prize of the Government of St. Petersburg "Young talents" for 2017, laureate of the XIII International Competition "Young Virtuosos" EMCY Sofia 2017, winner of the I prize of the International competition "Ohrid Pearl" EMCY Ohrid, Macedonia 2017 laureate of the III International Clarinet Competition "Weber-Clarinet" in 2016 Petrozavodsk.
Ivet Maria Borrego Karbonel
Moscow, Russia

Ivet was born in Moscow in 2000. She started playing violin at the age of 5. Ivet studies at the Gnessin Moscow High Special School of Music in class of associate professor Ariadna Anchevskaya. Since 2012 she has regularly participated in Prof. Mincho Minchev's master classes within Varna Summer Festival. She has participated in the master classes of Prof. Evgeniya Chugaeva, Kevork Mardirossian, Irina Svetlova and Alexey Koshvanets. Ivet has performed with "Cantus Firmus" Chamber Orchestra and Ruse Philharmonic Orchestra. She is a regular participant in the concert programmes of Vladimir Spivakov International Charity Fund, playing an instrument given to her as a present by the Fund.

Erik Khanzarov
Saint-Petersburg, Russia


Jania Michał
Mszana Gorna, Poland

Michał Jania was born in 1998. He is studying clarinet with Prof. Paweł Krauzowicz at the Academy of Music in Krakow. He has participated in master classes led by such experts as Jean Michel Bertelli, Karel Dohnal, Jean-Marc Fessard, Igor Frantisak, Florent Héau, Michel Lethiec, Jeremy Reynolds, and Kyrill Rybakov.

Evelina Vitkovskaia
Saint-Petersburg, Russia

Teacher: PISMAK IRINA

Teacher: PISMAK IRINA

Teacher: PISMAK IRINA

Agния Ksuvreli is a student of Saint Petersburg City Palace of Youth Creativity.
Diploma of the I International Piano Competition of the Nathan Perelman, Saint-Petersburg, Russia, 2017.
Diploma of the laureate II degree of the IV ALL-RUSSIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL COMPETITION "MUSICAL DIALOGUES", Saint-Petersburg, Russia, 2017
Professor: PISMAK IRINA
Kiviloo
Ingmar (14) has played violin for 8 years. He has won several violin competitions in Estonia, including the 2016 competition of “Young Instrumentalist of the Year” organised by the Estonian Music School Union; he was also named the favorite of the Estonian Academy of Music’s jury. In 2015 Ingmar won the “Future Talent” arts scholarship. In 2017 he participated in the international string competition “Young Musician”. He has successfully taken part in the International Boys String Festival in Saaremaa (Estonia). He studies at the Tallinn Old Town Music School. His violin teacher is Tereza Šmerling.

Karoliina (11) has played violin for almost 6 years. She started violin studies at the age of 6 with Tereza Šmerling, using the Suzuki method. Ursula also loves ballet, swimming and reading, but violin is her biggest passion. She participated at the “Young Instrumentalist 2018” competition organised by the Estonian Music School Union, where she won the 2st prize. Music became a major part of Ursula’s life. Ursula is active in a school chorus and the orchestra. Being a member of a violin trio, Ursula has travelled to a number of countries while performing – to Australia, USA, Canada, Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland and Latvia.

Kuppart
Karoliina (11) has played violin for almost 6 years. She started violin studies at the age of 6 with Tereza Šmerling, using the Suzuki method. She won the 1st prize at her age group at the “Young Instrumentalist 2016” competition organised by the Estonian Music School Union. In 2017 she participated in the international string competition "Young Musician". Karoliina is a member of the ensemble and trio Magic Strings.

Melsas
Ursula (11) has played violin for almost 6 years, starting at the age of 6 with Tereza Šmerling and using the Suzuki method. Ursula also loves ballet, swimming and reading, but violin is her biggest passion. She participated at the “Young Instrumentalist 2018” competition organised by the Estonian Music School Union, where she won the 2st prize. Music became a major part of Ursula’s life. Ursula is active in a school chorus and the orchestra. Being a member of a violin trio, Ursula has travelled to a number of countries while performing – to Australia, USA, Canada, Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland and Latvia.

The violin ensemble “Magic Strings” was formed at the Old Town Music School (Tallinn, Estonia) in 2012. The trio consists of some of the best young violin players in Estonia - Ingmar Kiviloo, Karoliina Kuppart and Ursula Melsas. The music director is Mrs Tereza Shmerling, the accompanist is Ms Susanna Liisa Onoper. The ensemble performs classical, folk, and pop pieces. “Magic Strings” has previously performed in Estonia as well as in Switzerland (2012), Canada (2015 and 2018), UK (2016), Australia (2017), Finland (2017), Netherlands (2018) and the USA (2017, 2018). “Magic Strings” has given concerts and performed in a variety of places that are all listed on their website: https://talendipesa.weebly.com/
Georgii Kazimirov
Saint-Petersburg
Russia

Georgii Kazimirov graduated from the Musical School of Komsomolsk-on-Amur city in 2014. Then he entered the St. Petersburg Musical College named after N. A. Rimsky-Korsakov, in the class of teacher Anna Platonova. He’s studying third year there at the moment. Georgii played solo with with chamber orchestra of Musical College named after N. A. Rimsky-Korsakov in one of the Mariinsky theatre halls. He participated in the master class of Professor Vadim Mazo in 2016 (University of Humanities Wesley Illinois, Bloomington, USA). Georgii participated in various competitions including: - The VIII International Music Performers Contest "Musical Vladivostok", 2014 (diploma), “Saint Petersburg assembly of art”, 2016 (3rd place), VIII Savshinsky International Music Competition, St. Petersburg 2017(diploma).

Susanna Liisa Onoper (18) has been playing piano since the age of seven.
In 2014 she graduated from Maire Roovik's piano class in Tallinn Music School. She has successfully participated in various competitions, her latest achievement being two first prizes in two categories in the international piano competition "Dragon 2017". Susanna is fond of playing in ensembles and accompanying instrumentalists and singers alike. She is currently studying under the guidance of Ira Floss in Tallinn Music High School's final year.

Tatiana Gurbaeva
Saint-Petersburg
Russia

Graduated from Petrozavodsk branch of Leningrad State Conservatory in 1985 and has been working as a teacher and a concertmaster for 35 years. She began her career in the college in 1982 as a concertmaster, and since 1987 she has been working as a piano teacher and a concertmaster. Successful performances at prestigious competitions have been repeatedly awarded with diplomas "the Best Concertmaster". Tatiana actively collaborates with organist N. Medvedeva (Bergen, Norway). Since 2012, there have been four concerts of chamber piano and organ music in Bergen and Klokkarvik. Tatiana Gurbaeva has been awarded numerous diplomas for performing and teaching activities, as well as a letter of appreciation by the Head of Petrozavodsk Administration and a Certificate of Merit by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation. 2014 - International Multi Arts Competition Festival "Bravo Turku", Diploma of the 1st degree Winner in the nomination musical instruments. 2015 - 2nd International Festival "Wonderful Moment". A laureate of the 3rd degree in the nomination "Teacher-soloist". 2016 - International Festival "Vivat, Peterburg". Diploma Awarded 3rd degree Laureate in the nomination "piano duo".
Now Tatiana teaches at the School of Arts in the village of Sosnovo (Leningrad region) and works as an accompanist at the Russian State Pedagogical University named A. Herzen. Now she is a master's student at the same University (Organ, class of Docent Olga Bakaeva-Petrenko).
ORGANIZATION
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