

Selection of successful students of Professor Niklas Sivelov

Marie-Luise Bodendorff was born in Augsburg (Germany) in 1983.

She had her first piano lessons at the age of five and due to her exceptional talent she was admitted to the Hochschule für Musik in Karlsruhe at the age of 10. She later became a full-time student of Prof. Olga Rissin-Morenova.

Aged six, Marie-Luise Bodendorff started giving concerts. Her first public appearance was with The South- West Chamber Orchester Pforzheim in 1989.

Other events include performing with Kurpfälzisches Kammerorchester Mannheim, New Philharmonic Westphalia, Folkwang Kammerorchester Essen, The Bacau Philharmonic and The Kharkov Philharmonic. She has played numerous solo and chamber music recitals throughout Germany and abroad, and also made recordings for ARD and Bayrischen Rundfunk. She made a notable appearance on "We can do everything except speak High German", a TV-spot that was broadcast to all of Germany.

From 2002 until 2007, Marie-Luise Bodendorff studied with Russian piano authority Vladimir Krainev at the Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media.

The ERASMUS exchange programme enabled her to study at Paris Conservatoire, where she took lessons with the famous French pianist Brigitte Engerer in 2008.

From 2007 to 2013, Marie-Luise Bodendorff attended Postgraduate Studies with Prof. Christopher Oakden in Hannover and finished these successfully.

The soloist class at Royal Danish Academy of Music (RDAM) with Prof. Niklas Sivelöv, proved to be an important milestone on her artistic journey.

In June 2014, Marie-Luise Bodendorff received her soloist diploma and gave her debut recital in Tivoli Concert Hall. She had already given a virtuoso solo recital in 2013 and performed Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto at the same venue one year earlier with the RDM Orchestra.

In 2013, Marie-Luise Bodendorff was invited to play for the Danish Royal Family at Chateau de Caix. Here she started a collaboration with the "Nordic String Quartet" that later became known all over Denmark as the "Nordic Piano Quintet". Concerts at Copenhagen Summer Festival, Bornholm Chamber Music Festival, Ofelia Live and other events followed.

The piano quintet has received coaching by Prof. Tim Frederiksen, Lars Anders Tomter and Alexander Zapolski.

Marie-Luise Bodendorff currently resides in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Her portfolio of international piano competition prizes and other awards include:

Competition for young pianists, Rome, Italy, 1992

Lions International Youth Competition, 1993 Culture Prize from "Baden-Württemberg",

1998 Bundeswettbewerb "Jugend musiziert", 1999 Puigcerda Competition, Spain, 2001

International Piano Competition "Stiftung Karic", 2001 GEDOK Competition, Detmold, 2002

International Seiler Competition, 2005

International Piano Competition, Rhodos, Greece 2006 Scholarship from the "Deutscher Musikwettbewerb", 2011 The Van Hauen Prize, 2013

Stefano Andreatta began to study music and piano at the age of seven with his father. He made his debut with orchestra at fifteen performing Beethoven First Piano Concerto. In 2011, he graduated with highest honors under the guidance of Francesco Bencivenga at the “Agostino Steffani” Conservatory in Castelfranco Veneto. In 2012 he was selected to take part in the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, where he worked with Jerome Lowenthal, from Julliard School in New York. After which, he studied also with Riccardo Risaliti and Anna Kravchenko. In 2014 he completed with highest honors a Master in Piano and Didactics, submitting a thesis on Russian composers of the Soviet Union.

He won prizes in national and international competitions, including First prize at “Premio Brunelli” in Vicenza, reserved to the best Italian graduates; Third prize at Chopin International Piano Competition in Rome; and Third prize and special prize at Guido Alberto Fano International Piano Competition in Padua. In 2016, he won First prize at the FVG International Piano Competition in Sacile, as well as special awards for best Beethoven sonata and best 20th-century piece. In 2017, he won Third prize at the Concours musical international de Montréal.

Mr. Andreatta gives concerts regularly in Italy and abroad. As a soloist, he performed with Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto, Orchestra Filarmonia Veneta “G. F. Malipiero”, Nova Amadeus Chamber Orchestra, “Mihail Jora” Philharmonic Orchestra of Bacau, Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, and Astana Symphony Orchestra. He has recently recorded a CD at Fazioli Concert Hall for KNS Classical label.

Mr. Andreatta is currently studying under the guidance of Massimiliano Ferrati and is attending a post-graduate course at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen with Niklas Sivelov.

The pianist *Julia Dahlkvist* is gaining a reputation as one of the exciting pianists in Scandinavia. Among a number of prizes in International Competitions, she is the winner of Nordic International Piano Competition in 2004 where she was awarded with a Blüthner Grand Piano. During the years 2006- 2008 she performed the Complete Piano Repertoire of Claude Debussy on tours in the Nordic countries. She is since 2011 part of the Piano Faculty of Karlstad University, Ingesund College of Music.

Julia is a concert pianist with diverse background. Born in a Finnish-Russian family in Siberia, she started to play the piano at the age of three under the guidance of her mother, Lidia Mustonen. She has studied several years in Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Staatliche Hochschule für Musik in Freiburg, Hochschule der Künste in Berlin, Royal Academy in Dublin as well as Stockholm College of Music and Danish Royal Academy of Music in Copenhagen.

Her teachers have been Erik T. Tawaststjerna, Vitali Berzon, John O'Conor, Alicia de Larrocha and Niklas Sivelöv.

She has been awarded many times, in Finland by: Kordelini Foundation (2002 and 2006), Jenny & Antti Wihuri Foundation (2001 and 2003) and Culture Foundation (2005 and 2010) as well as the Finnish Performing Music Promotion Centre (2006). Awards in Sweden: Swedish Music Academy, Anders Wall Foundation and the Freemasons Loge in Stockholm. Most recently she was awarded by the Léonie Sonnings musikfond in Denmark.

Elisabeth Holmegaard Nielsen is 21 years old, lives and studies in Copenhagen, Denmark. Despite her age, she has already graduated with a Bachelor's degree in classical piano performance at the Royal Danish Academy of Music with the highest marks and is now doing her final year of master's diploma with Professor Niklas Sivelöv.

Elisabeth began playing piano at the same time as she was accepted at the Royal Danish School of Ballet in the year of 2000; and during all these years she has participated in concerts, competitions and music festivals, in Denmark and abroad: Tivoli Concert Hall, Copenhagen; The Round Tower, Copenhagen; The Town Halls of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg; Théâtre Municipal Baltazar Dias, Madeira, Portugal 2005; Kremlin, Moscow 2008; Laeiszhalle, Hamburg, 2010; Concert hall of Artisten, Gothenburg 2011; Kulm Hotel, St. Moritz, Switzerland 2011; Hovdala Music Festival, June 2012, Laudinella hotel, St. Moritz 2013.

She has participated in masterclasses with: Vera Nossina, Moscow, Eleonora Tkach, Kiev, Konstantin Sherbakov, Zürich, Paolo Giaometti, Düsseldorf, Juhani Lagerspetz, Helsinki, Louiz de Moura Castro, Brazil, Kevin Kenner and Boris Berman, USA, Sergei Osokin, Riga, Gianluca Luisi, Federico Gianello and Salvatore Spanò, Italy, Christopher Hinterhuber, Austria.

In October 2012 she was the winner of three prizes at the international piano competition for young musicians in Enschede, Holland.

As a result – Elisabeth has been invited to perform twice with Netherlands symphony orchestra in the coming season

In November 2012 Elisabeth was invited to study at the first Steinway Academy in Europe, an international school for gifted young musicians in Verona, Italy with prof. Federico Gianello.

In May 2013, Elisabeth was a finalist in the soloist competition at The Royal Danish Academy of Music with the 2nd piano concerto of Schostakovich.

She was also the winner of the 3rd prize in the competition for all instrumentalists and 1st prize in the competition for pianists at the academy.

Elisabeth was also chosen to perform the Grieg piano concerto at the Nordic masterclass for conductors in Alsion, Sønderborg, under the guidance of maestro Jorma Panula. She performed with the National Danish Orchestra of South Jutland on August 9th, 2013.

Filip Strauch belongs among the most talented Slovakian pianists of his generation. After the graduation from the University in Slovakia in 2012 he was admitted for the advanced postgraduate programme- soloist class at The Royal Academy of Music in Copenhagen, Denmark with Prof. Niklas Sivelöv.

Simultaneously with his Danish studies, Filip won a scholarship for a special training course at The Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in Saint Petersburg, Russia where he has been studying with well-known Russian pianists and teachers Vladimir Shakin and Sergey Maltsev.

Filip began playing the piano at a very early age, under the guidance of his pianist father. A ten-year-old Filip recorded Mozart's well-known fantasy C minor for the Slovak Radio. During his studies at the Conservatory in Žilina, Filip became a laureate of the Slovak Conservatories Competition and simultaneously won a contest to play alongside the National Chamber Orchestra.

In 2004 he received the medal for representing the school and in the same year was admitted to the Conservatory in Bratislava to be tutored by renowned teacher Peter Pazický. It was under his guidance that Filip later graduated with great success in the Slovak Philharmonic. In 2005 he started his studies at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava with Ivan Gajan, and later Marian Lapšanský. Filip worked with several renowned teachers - Ferenc Rados, Josef Kluson, András Keller, Avedis Kouyoumdjian, Dmitri Bashkirov, Christian Zacharias, Robert Levin, Catherine Brown, Juhani Lagerspetz, Steven Mayer, Liisa Pohjola, Jens Elvekjær, Boris Berman.

As a prize winner of the Yamaha competition in Bratislava in 2009, Filip got an opportunity to perform with the Slovak Radio Orchestra, which was recorded live and broadcast on Radio Devín. During university Filip represented the school throughout Europe. Filip won in June 2014 1st prize in Piano Competition of Royal Danish Academy of Music and simultaneously won a prize of best instrumentalist of academy. In addition to solo play, he has been regularly working on many projects including chamber and contemporary music.

Kendzsi Tanaka was born in Hungary, and he is half Japanese. He studied piano at the Vántus István Music High School with Dr. Lucz Ilona from 2009-2013 in Szeged, Hungary. He then graduated from The Royal Academy of Music, London in 2017 under the tutelage of Joanna MacGregor. He is also a masters graduate in Piano Performance, which he completed with Niklas Sivelöv at The Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen. His best successes as a pianist so far are Second Prize at the VIII. International Stasys Vainiunas Piano Competition, Third Prize in the VII. International Bartók Béla Piano Competition, along with the orchestra's special award, with which he was granted a performance of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with the Hungarian National Symphony Orchestra Szeged. His other merits include The 1st Prize and The Best Interpretation of a Hungarian Piece at the 18th National Piano Competition in Békescsaba, Hungary; and Second prize at the 32nd Valsesia

Musica International Competition. He has played in several masterclasses in Hungary, The Netherlands, Slovenia and the UK with superb teachers such as Matti Raekallio, Vladimir Viardo, Eckhardt Gábor, Diana Ketler, Steven Osborne and Lívía Rév. He outstandingly likes playing music from Bartók, Brahms and Bach, but loves experimenting with contemporary music and jazz as well.

Bingbing Zhu

is a classical pianist, born 1989 in Tianjin, China. When she was 4 years old she began playing the piano with her mother, and played her first solo recital at the age of 16. Bingbing Zhu took her Bachelor Degree at The Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing (CCOM) where she studied with professor Taihang Du. In 2011, she was accepted at The Royal Danish Academy of Music where she took her Master and Advanced Postgraduate Diploma with Professor Niklas Sivelöv. Bingbing Zhu has been awarded several prize, the second prize in 2013 Scholarship Competition for Singers and Instrumentalist (DKDM), the second place in 15th Asia Piano Open Competition (Hongkong), and Champion of Xinghai Cup Piano Competition (Tianjin). Bingbing Zhu has been invited to perform at several classical music festivals, e.g. Nation Centre for the Performing Arts (China), Hong Kong Culture Center (China), Allegro Vivo Music Festival (Austria), and 4th International Chinese Art Festival (Singapore). In 2014, Bingbing Zhu performed Mozart's D minor concerto (KV 466) with Tivoli Symphony Orchestra conducted by Giordano Bellincampi in Tivoli Concert Hall.

Nadia Okrusko

was born in 1989 in Lithuania and started studying piano at the National M.K.Ciurlionis arts school in Vilnius.

In 2005, she had her debut as soloist with Kaunas chamber orchestra in Lithuania. In 2008, Nadia won 1st prize at Rosalyn Tureck Bach competition in New York, USA and in the same year was awarded a honorary diploma by Lithuania's president Valdas Adamkus. From 2009, she studied at St Petersburg Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in Russia, graduating in piano class of prof. Leonid Tamulevich in 2014. In 2015 Nadia moved to Copenhagen, Denmark for her master's degree at the Royal Danish Music Academy, where she graduated in class of prof. Niklas Sivelöv in 2018.

She is recipient of several scholarships for pianists in Denmark, such as Tove Birthe Legat, Feldthusens Fond, and Torp-Pedersens Fond. During studies at RDAM she won 2nd prize at Academy's piano scholarship competition and performed as soloist with "Percurama" percussion and winds orchestra.

Nadia has performed solo and chamber music in different festivals and projects around Europe, also in USA, Mexico, Ecuador and China.

Since her graduation from RDAM in Copenhagen, Nadia has been working in Copenhagen as a piano teacher and freelance pianist. She tours in Danish schools with a piano quartet

“Glemte stemmer”, which is part of “Levende Musik i Skolen” school concert tour program, and plays in ensembles with multiple singers and instrumentalists.

Nadia is currently especially interested in Caucasus music, classical and folk, and she hopes to make a recording of composers from Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia.

Bogdan Nicola was born in 1989 in Bucharest, Romania. He started playing the piano when he was 7 at the ‘George Enescu’ College of Music where he studied under Professor Ana Maria Ciornei. He has won numerous prizes in national and international piano competitions.

In 2008, he was accepted at the National Academy of Music in Bucharest. His achievements brought him the Romanian State Scholarship between 2008 and 2011. In 2011 he was offered a place to study at the Royal Danish Academy of Music, in Copenhagen, under Niklas Sivelöv, leading Scandinavian pianist and member of the Steinway Hall of Fame. Bogdan has recently graduated with a Bachelor in Music and he is currently a second year master student.

Bogdan performed in various chamber music and solo masterclasses held by Boris Berman, Gabriel Amiras, Luiz de Moura Castro, and Sergei Osokin. He is the 3rd prize winner of the international competition ‘Carl Filtsch’, held in Sibiu, Romania in 2012.

Born in Santander in 1988, **Hugo Selles** began his musical studies at the age of six, and soon after became a piano pupil of Francisco San Emeterio – a musical relationship that lasts until today. At an early age, he received first prizes in piano competitions including Torrelavega and La Salle, and won the jazz category of the fifth Music Competition for Young Musicians of Cantabria (2006)

After graduating from the Conservatorio Jesús de Monasterio, Hugo went on to complete his Bachelor of Music in 2010 at Musikene Centro Superior de Música del País Vasco in San Sebastian, awarded with scholarships from the Fundación Botín of Santander. He studied piano with Marta Zabaleta and Miguel Borges, chamber music with Gabriel Loidi and contemporary repertoire with Ricardo Descalzo.

Hugo has performed in many competitions and concerts. His awards include First Prize at the VIII Chamber Music Contest Rotary-Sardinero (2008), Second Prize at the XXIII Premi de Música Ciutat de Manresa for Chamber Music (2008) and Fourth Prize at the 7th Nordic International Piano Competition (2014). He has performed in the Young 70 Quincena Musical concert in San Sebastián (2009), the IX Festival Música Musika at Euskalduna Jauregia in Bilbao (2010), the XIII Anthology of Cantabrian Composers at the Fundación Botín of Santander (2012), the Young Performers’ section of the 62 International Festival of Santander (2013), the Festival Bach og Mozart at Tivoli Koncertsal in Copenhagen (2014) and the 1st Ferrara International Piano Festival (2014). Hugo is going to perform Sergei Rachmaninov’s 2nd Piano Concerto op. 18 this month of December with SymfUni, conducted by Peter Piotr Gasior.

Hugo has performed in master classes with Claudio Martínez Mehner, Gustavo Díaz Jerez, Nino Kereselidze, Moritz Eggert, Josep Colom, Boris Berman, Steven Mayer, Ferenc Rados, Paul Badura-Skoda, Jeffrey Swann, Sergei Osokin and Liisa Pohjola, among others. In 2009, Hugo had the opportunity to work with English composer Simon Holt and premiered his piece *Black Lanterns* in Spain.

As a composer, Hugo explores diverse styles of music in his work. His ongoing project *Psychic Equalizer*, which has been well received by the critics and public, has been nominated to Hollywood Music In Media Awards 2014. In 2010, he premiered his piano composition *Dysthymia* at the Plenary Hall of the City Council of San Sebastián. In 2013, Hugo composed the soundtrack for Marcos F. Aldaco's *En Los Brazos de la Luz*, a short documentary film about the life and work of painter Enrique Gran, which won 3rd prize at the XVI Film Festival Ciudad de Astorga. He worked with Aldaco again for his documentary *Susurros*, about the pre-historic paintings of the cave El Moro Chufín.

Hugo also has an interest in music management, and in 2012 he completed a Diploma in Music Business at SAE Institute Madrid.

Hugo is currently studying his Masters in piano with PROF. Niklas Sivelöv at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen, for which he has been awarded a scholarship from the Fundación Botín of Santander.

David Lau Magnussen (b.1981) has in recent years established himself as one of the foremost Danish pianists. Highly active as a soloist and chamber musician, the highlights of his most recent season included the world premiere of a new piano concerto by Martin Lohse in Copenhagen as well as numerous solo and chamber music recitals throughout most of Europe and Asia.

During his career he has received numerous prizes and awards, amongst them the prestigious "Oddfellow Artist Award" that was presented to him after a solo recital in the historic Oddfellow Concert Hall, Copenhagen. As well as regular radio and television appearances, several CD recordings have featured David in chamber music. In the coming season he will record the complete piano works written by Kasper Rofelt and dedicated to David, as well as the Piano Concerto by Martin Lohse on the record label Dacapo. These are due to be released internationally in 2015.

He gives masterclasses regularly in conservatories and universities worldwide, most recently at CCOM (Chinese Conservatory of Music, Beijing), Royal Irish Academy of Music (Dublin), Heilongjian University (Harbin) and at Dulwich College International in most parts of China. A student of Peter Feuchtwanger in London, Stefan Vladar and Avedis Kouyoumdjian in Vienna as well as Niklas Sivelöv in Copenhagen, David Lau Magnussen also holds a keen interest in the philosophy of music and life: As well as concerts, he regularly gives lectures about life seen from the piano stool, which he is currently preparing to be published as a book.

David has played concerts in many European countries and regularly visits Asia to perform and teach. In China he has appeared both as a soloist and together as Duo Shaw-Magnussen (with cellist Jacob Shaw) in nearly all the main Chinese cities – Guangzhou, Beijing, Harbin, Suzhou, Shanghai... Future tours are planned to include the USA, Scandinavia, Asia and South America.

Pianist **Kristoffer Nyholm Hyldig** made his concert début in 2010 at the Royal Danish Academy of Music from the class of Prof. Niklas Sivelöv, but for many years he has been a very active contributor to Danish music culture as a soloist, chamber musician and accompanist. He has performed with orchestras conducted by, among others, Michael Schønwandt and Jean Thorel, as well as the Turangalîla Symphony with the Royal Danish Orchestra and Michael Boder.

He was awarded the Jury's Special Prize in the 2009 EU Piano Competition in 2009, the Jakob Gade Scholarship, the Léonie Sonning Music Foundation Scholarship and, most recently, the Danish Music Critics Award. He has also produced recordings to be used in several Zentropa-produced movies and plays regularly at the Royal Theatre in Copenhagen.

Christian Westergaard (b. 1980) began studying the piano at the age of eight with Esther Lund Madsen. He trained at the Royal Danish Academy of Music with Amalie Malling and Niklas Sivelöv and in recent years has made a name as a striking partner of a number of the leading young Nordic singers. He has played concerts at among other venues the Wigmore Hall in London, at the Hamburg Musikhalle and in the rest of Germany, in Italy, Sweden, Norway and in Denmark in the DR Concert Hall, the Tivoli Concert Hall, at Takkelloftet and The Black Diamond. He is founder and artistic director of Liedkompagniet, which has renewed the focus on Danish Lied art with composers including Rued Langgaard and Herman D. Koppel. In 1999 and 2000 he won First Prize in the Danish Steinway Competition.

On Dacapo with the Randers Chamber Orchestra, Christian Westergaard has recorded chamber music by his father, Svend Westergaard, and with the singers Signe Asmussen and Adam Riis has recorded "Songs of their Times" with music by Ib Nørholm on Kontrapunkt. He has been engaged as an accompanist at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen and the Opera Academy. Christian Westergaard has received among other grants the Van Hauen Grant and the grant of the Sonning Music Foundation.

Kati Eriikka Arikoski (born in 1979) started her piano studies at the Conservatory of Kuopio, Finland in 1986. Since 1999, she studied in the Turku Art Academy in Finland and graduated as a piano teacher in the spring 2005 from the class of the head teacher Jukka Juvonen. In spring 2008 she graduated with a masters degree at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen and continues her studies at soloist line with Professor Niklas Sivelöv.

She has also frequently participated in master courses, both in Finland and abroad. Her teachers have included Matti Raekallio, Erik T. Tawaststjerna, José Ribera, Pierre Réach, Emanuel Krasovsky and Liisa Pohjola, a.o

She has given a number of solo concerts, has been a member of various chamber music ensembles and worked as lied pianist in Finland, Sweden, the Faroe Islands, Denmark and Austria. She also performed with the Turku Philharmonic Orchestra in May 2004, at the Concert for Young Soloists and played as a soloist with the Sigyn Sinfonietta in autumn 2006.

Arikoski won 3rd prize at the National Leevi Madetoja Piano Competition in Oulu, January of 2006. She was also awarded a special prize, a recital, which was held at a music festival, "Music in Paanu Church" in Käsämäki, the summer of 2006. In June 2008 she won joint first prize at the piano competition and became second place with her piano trio in chamber music competition at the Royal Danish Academy of Music.

Arikoski is an active chamber musician. She performs with tenor Jakob Holtze and viola player Jussi Aalto and forms a piano duet with Anna-Mari Murdvee. The piano duo, who performs mainly four-hand piano music, has played together since the year 2000 and has performed in various places in Finland and abroad in Austria, Denmark and the Faroe Islands. Arikoski also belongs to the group "Elokuu Ensemble" that has given concerts every year since 2003 in Seinäjoki, Finland. They arrange own Chamber music series "Tunes of August", as the name already implies, always every August! Check more information about the group: www.elokuu-ensemble.com.

Søren Rastogi has in the last few years established himself as one of the most promising Danish musicians. He was educated in Copenhagen at The Royal Danish Academy of Music by Tove Lønskov and Prof. Niklas Sivelöv . He graduated from RDAM with the highest grades and had his debut from the soloist class the same place in 2005.

He is most sought after at festivals and concert venues in Denmark and internationally, both as a soloist, chamber musician and accompnist. He has received a number of excellent reviews for his performances. As a soloist with orchestra, Søren Rastogi has performed with most Danish orchestras with conductors such as Christian Mandeál, Douglas Bostock, Mathias Aeschbacher and Thomas Søndergaard in concertos by Schumann, Gershwin and Mozart.

In 2009-10 he will appear again with Ålborg Symfoniorkester and the conductor Mathias Aeschbacher in the Piano Concerto No. 24 by Mozart and he will perform for the first time with Danish National Radio Symphony Orchestra the Piano Concerto by Strawinsky conducted by Peter Dijkstra.

In 2006 he was appointed "Artist in Residence" by The Round Tower of Copenhagen and the Danish National Radio. Included was a broadcasted concert series with 5 concerts as a soloist, chamber musician and accompnist. He has been broadcasted in Denmark and Norway on numerous occasions, as well as several broadcasts in the EBU.

Alongside his soloist appearances, Søren Rastogi has performed several works for choir and piano with the Vocal Ensemble of the Danish Radio. He is among the most sought after Danish accompnists, and has a close collaboration with baritone Johannes Weisser, with whom he has been touring Scandinavia. Recently they have released the CD "Visiting Grieg" which has received outstanding reviews and was recommended as one of the 3 best recordings in 2009 by Norwegian "Aftenposten"

He has received numerous prizes and awards, for instance from the Danish Music Critics Association, and was a prizewinner at several competitions such as the 5th Nordic Piano Competition, Nyborg and the Mendelssohn Competition, Berlin.

Meiling Huang was born in China.

She was born in a musicians family. And she is studying piano soloist class(advanced postgraduate degree) with prof. Niklas Sivelov at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Denmark since 2014.

She won the 1st prize at Yan Bian piano competition in 1995. She held concerts in 9 Korean cities in October 1996. She also won the first prize at Ji Lin piano competition in 1999. From 2001,she studied in the Middle School of the Central Conservatory Of Music. And she got the scholarship from CCOM every year.

She got TOYAMA Youth Piano Competition's prize in 2003 and 2005. She held the concertssuccessfully with China Philharmonic Orchestra in May of 2007.

From 2007 to 2014,she studied in Central Conservatory Of Music in Beijing.Studied with Prof. Taihang Du. On August of 2007, she held concert at Klaviersoiree im Forum Seebach,inWeimar in Germany.

In 2009,she also won the first prize at Allegro-Vivo international music festival competition in Austria. In 2010, The Allegro-Vivo International Music Festival invited her as a soloist to perform in Austria.

In the same year, she held the concert in Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing.

In 2011 CCOM recommend her for admission to the conservatory, and pay full scholarship for her master degree in CCOM.

She held three solo concerts in Germany,and held concerts with Südwestdeutsche Philharmonie in Germany and Swiss.It was a great success.

On November of 2012 , she also held the concert in Forbidden City Concert Hall (Beijing). In 2014,she held a solo concert and chamber music concert successfully in Beijing.At the summer of 2014,she got the Master Degree from CCOM and the Advanced Postgraduate offer from the Royal Danish Academy of Music at the same time

Kristina Socanski was born in Belgrade, Serbia in 1990. At an early age, she showed exceptional musical talent and won several competitions for youth in her home country. In 2001 she moved to Stavanger, Norway together with her family.

Kristina has studied at the University of Stavanger and Barratt Due Music Institute in Oslo, Norway, as well as at HFM Franz Liszt in Weimar, Germany. She holds her official degrees from "Norwegian Academy of Music" in Oslo (Bachelor Degree) and "Royal Danish Academy of Music" in Copenhagen (Master Degree). In February 2019, she graduated from the "soloist class" (Advanced Postgraduate Program) at RDAM in Copenhagen, where she specialized in chamber music and accompaniment, mentored by prof. Niklas Sivelov, Friedrich Gurtler and Soren Rastogi.

In 2018, Kristina was invited to Aaron Copland School of Music, Queens College in New York, as a “visiting scholar”. Here she collaborated with prof. Edward Smaldone, and performed some of his music written for piano, among other pieces written by American composers. This was a part of her artistic research dedicated to contemporary music written in the USA, which was presented in Copenhagen in 2019.

Kristina has won prizes in competitions in Serbia, Norway, Italy, Austria, Germany and the USA. As a result of her recent awards, she has been invited to perform in major venues such as Mozarteum (Salzburg, Austria), Weil Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall (New York) and Kammersaal, Berlin Konzerthaus (Germany). Other venues include LeFrak Concert Hall (New York), Stavanger Concert Hall (Stavanger), Oslo Opera House, Tivoli Concert Hall (Copenhagen), Royal Danish Theatre (Copenhagen), Kolarac Cocert Hall (Belgrade). Her debut concert in Copenhagen (2019) was broadcasted by the Danish Radio (P2 Klassisk), she has also recorded for Serbian Radio and TV Stations at several occasions (Radio Beograd 202, RTS, RTV, TV Banat). Her talent has been acknowledged with grants and scholarships from the Norwegian Cultural Council, Sparebank 1, Idella Foundation, Oticon Foundation, Den Böhmske Fond, Torp-Pedersen Fondet, Feldthusens Fond and others.

During her studies at the Norwegian Academy of Music, Kristina worked together with the renowned contemporary pianist Ellen Ugelvik. This inspired her to start exploring contemporary music, and marked the beginning of an exciting new journey. In the last few years, the collaboration with Peter Degenhardt, professor emeritus at the Music Academy in Cologne and a contemporary music specialist, has also been of great importance.

In 2017 Kristina spent a month in Florence, Italy, studying accompaniment and opera coaching with Maestro Jane Klaviter at the “Bel Canto Institute”. This inspired her to continue and broaden her activity as a collaborative pianist. She is a passionate chamber musician and member of several ensembles, as well as the founder and artistic director of “Vrsac International Chamber Music Festival” in Serbia.

Kristina has performed in Scandinavia, numerous European countries and in the USA. As a part of her soloist degree, she has been a teaching assistant for the piano class at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen.

Kristina is also an experienced piano teacher, with more than 10 years of teaching behind her, and many hours devoted to development of young musical talents.

Anne-Marie Lipsonen (born 1981 in Helsinki, Finland) began her musical education with playing the piano at the age of four and violin at the age of eight. She took her B.A. degree as a pianist in 2005 at Helsinki Conservatory/ Stadia-Polytechnic with specialising in Accompaniment and Chamber Music. Since 2004 she has been living in Copenhagen and finished her studies for Masters degree in The Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen with highest grades. Her teacher was Prof. Niklas Sivelöv.

She is currently taking the post graduate pianist program specializing in chamber music, practice and accompaniment at The Royal Danish Academy of Music under the guidance of Professor Niklas Sivelöv and Associate Professor Friedrich Gürtler.

During her studies at The Royal Danish Academy of Music she has also been coached by Associate Professor Pianist Amalie Malling, Professor Tim Frederiksen among others.

Anne-Marie Lipsonen has performed in her homeland as well as abroad. She has performed together with Aalborg Symphonic orchestra and worked with conductors Frans Rasmussen and Benjamin Shwartz, bariton Audun Iversen, soprano Denise Beckand violinist Minna Pensola. She has been awarded prizes in The V Nordic Lied Competition 2007 together with soprano Lina Johnson, Erkki Melartin Lied Competition 2004 together with soprano Katri Mäntylä, The Piano Competition in IV Forum Internacional de Música 2006 in Spain and awarded several grants from -among others- The Finnish Cultural Foundation, Danina's legat and most recent from the Léonie Sonning's Music Foundation in Denmark.

Anne-Marie Lipsonen is an active lied pianist and accompanist. She has given concerts at the Danish Song Society among others. She has participated on master classes by known lied musicians like Helmut Deutsch, Malcolm Martineau, Hartmut Höll and Rudolf Jansen. In the spring 2009 she studied at The Curtis Opera Theatre at The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, USA.

She also takes keen interest in modern music and has performed on festivals for contemporary music such as the Musica Nova Festival in Helsinki and Ung Nordisk Musik Festival in Copenhagen. In the coming spring she has been invited to perform works by Danish composers at The Nordic Music Festival in St. Petersburg with The St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonics.

In addition she has frequently participated in master courses in chamber music and solo by teachers such as Jacob Lateiner, Matti Raekallio, Eero Heinonen, Paul Badura-Skoda, Luiz da Moura Castro and Tokyo Quartet.

She has worked as an accompanist and teacher in music schools and colleges

and as pianist on masterclasses with Professors Bo Skovhus, Anner Bylsma, Ralph Kirschbaum, Valter Despalj, Reinhard Latzko, Harro Ruijsenaars and Jakob Kullberg.

www.Lipsonen.dk

Daniel Beskow

"Daniel is a pianist who captures the audience with his stagepresence and true musicianship"

"Daniel Beskow, has an extraordinary musical intelligence"

Critics from his debut concert Daniel Beskow, has after his debut concert in Copenhagen 2012 established himself as one of Scandinavia's most interesting and promising young concert pianists. After studying at the Royal College of Music and Edsbergs Institute of Music in Stockholm Daniel continued his studies in Norway with Prof. Jiri Hlinka and in London with Prof. Peter Feuchtwanger. Soloist Diploma at the Royal Danish Music Conservatory with Niklas Sivelöv and Hochschule für Music und Theater Hannover with Einar Steen Nökleberg. Masterclasses with Andrzej Jasinski, Ronald Brautigam, Liisa Pohjola, Hans Leygraf and Peter Feuchtwanger among others Extensive concert tours in Scandinavia as a soloist and chamber musician for example in the Grieg Hall, Troidhaugen, Berwald Hall, Tivoli's main hall etc and he has been invited to several chamber music festivals like Hindsgavl, Bornholm and Lyngbo. The 2014 season includes several performances of Griegs piano concerto in a-minor and Mozart piano concerto no 13 . Other highlights includes a tour with violinist Gregory Maytan in Västerbotten, Sweden, organised by Norrlandsoperan and The Winterreise and Dichterliebe with Johannes Held, baritone. Concerts with Josefine Andersson, Caroline Amneus mezzosopranos, Cornelia Beskow, Olga Nikolskaja, sopranos. Jun Sasaki, cello aswell as Ellinor Corr and Lousinne Azizian, violin. Invitations to Feuchtwangen piano festival and Smoega chamber music festival. Daniel has recieved many prizes and awards among them 1st prize in the Royal Danish Academy of Music soloist competition, 1st prize in the Chamber Music Competition. Audience Prize in the Danish Radio P2 contest 2011, 2nd place in the "young and promising" 2011, prizewinner in piano competition in DKDM 2012. Winner of several awards from the Swedish Royal Academy of Music, RWA DEA major German scholarship etc Daniel specializes in Nordic piano repertoire and the Swedish composer Wilhelm Stenhammar. Debut CD coming soon.

Nikolaus von Bemberg, born in 1991 in Munich, is a musician based in Copenhagen, where he is currently studying piano in performance under Prof. Niklas Sivelöv in the master's degree program at the Royal Danish Academy of Music.

Educated in classical music performance at the University of Music and Performing Arts Munich under Prof. Markus Bellheim, Nikolaus v. Bemberg has a keen interest in the musical development of the 20th century, improvised music as well as cooperating with artists of other disciplines. At the moment he is working on a multi-media installation of the theme "The Forest", employing both live music, visual art as well as written text.

He creates programs to present classical music in new fashions to offer an engaging and accessible segue into the larger themes of music, but still challenging the audience's conception: For instance "The Art of American Piano" - a talkshow featuring various American music styles including jazz and classical music. The show was premiered in 2019 at the Münchner Stadtmuseum. Additionally, "The Memoires of D. Shostakovich" provides a portrait of the Russian composer embracing both spoken word and the performance of a selection of musical works by Shostakovich. It was premiered in 2020 at Schloss Nymphenburg in Munich.

Bemberg has performed with authors, actors, dancers, singers and visual artists such as the Catalan theater group "La Fura dels Baus." He has received a Germany Scholarship and currently holds a scholarship from the Yehudi Menuhin Live Music Now Foundation. As a jury member he acts for the German youth competition "Jugend musiziert" in an honorary capacity.

Artur Tuznik is a Polish piano player and composer based in Copenhagen, Denmark, active on European scene for jazz and improvised music both as a bandleader and sideman. His recognizable musical voice is strongly influenced by language of impressionism and folk music of his origins, while previously rooted in tradition of modal-jazz and sound we know as Scandinavian jazz. Most recently, after completing his studies at classical DKDM in Copenhagen, he engaged into stilistics from between worlds of classical music and contemporary improvisation, being known for his daring approach to combine achievements of earlier music with modern understanding of songforms and instrumentarium. After moving to Denmark in 2008, Tuznik made his recording debut in 2011 with his "Licak/Tuznik Quintet", released on the Danish label BlackOut, feat. Anders Mogensen on drums. The album was received by critics as an "excellent contemporary record and real must listen", and Tuznik has been described as "unusually gifted improviser" and "brilliant soloist". That was followed by a release of his Outbreak Quartet by label of Radio Katowice, after the band won probably the most important competition in Poland "Bielska Zadymka Jazzowa".

In 2016 he made his first trio release featuring Danish rhythm section of Nils Davidsen and Jakob Høyer - major figures on Scandinavian scene for improvised music. Album "Artur Tuznik TRIO" has been released by Polish label Multikulti, followed by great reviews internationally. The major Danish newspaper POLITIKEN placed it in TOP 5 Jazz Albums of 2017.

He graduated from Rhythmic Music Conservatory in Copenhagen with a master degree and with prestigious Advanced-Postgraduate-Diploma "Solistclass". Afterwards, with Bachelor degree in classical piano from Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen.