



PIANO

Alena VLASÁKOVÁ

Czech Republic

studied at JAMU in Brno in the class of Prof. Otokar Vondrovic. Until 2000 she was engaged in both teaching and performing in concerts. She performed as a soloist and in piano duo with Eva Krámská in several European countries, premiered contemporary Czech compositions (e.g. by K. Slavický, B. Řehoř), and co-operated with the radio and TV. Since 1990 she has been teaching at the Faculty of Music, JAMU in Brno and HAMU in Prague. Her book „Piano Pedagogy“ represents progressive trends of teaching in the Czech Republic after 2000. She is a member of several international juries. Since 1990 Alena Vlasáková has been teaching at interpretation courses (Kiev, Lonigo, Prague, Vienna, Vicenza, etc.) and having cycles of lectures for piano lecturers from the Czech Republic, Italy, Lithuania, Japan, Poland, Austria, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, etc.



PIANO

Jan JIRASKÝ

Czech Republic

studied at JAMU in Professor Alena Vlasáková's class. He is a laureate of many national and international competitions (1st prize in Kiev, Noyers, Novi Sad, Karlovy Vary, medal of Maria Canals de Barcelona, special prize in Darmstadt, finalist of competition EBU/UNESCO Lisbon, etc.), holder of two Classic prizes 1999. He has performed in most European countries and in the USA, cooperates with Czech and foreign orchestras, performs at international festivals (Prague Spring, Moravian Autumn, etc.). He has recorded five CDs with works by Smetana, Janáček and Fibich. Recently he has performed a set of piano sonatas by W. A. Mozart, The Well-Tempered Piano by J. S. Bach and Janáček's piano compositions. He is currently a teacher and the Head of the Piano Department at JAMU.



FLUTE

Václav KUNT

Czech Republic

one of the best Czech flutists, studied at JAMU. After playing in the Orchestra of Janáček Theatre for 10 years, he devotes to solo and chamber concert activities. He was a soloist of the Prague Chamber Orchestra without Conductor from 1981 to 2004. As a soloist he has performed all over the world and he has made a lot of CD and broadcast recordings. He is teaching at the Faculty of Music, JAMU in Brno and at J. Neruda Music Secondary School in Prague. He organizes master classes in his home country as well as abroad. As a part of his course there are 2 seminars – flute technique and methodology seminars.



FLUTE

PICCOLO

František KANTOR

Czech Republic

studied at the Conservatoire and at JAMU in Brno. During his studies he was awarded a certificate of merit at the international competition Prague Spring (1981) and played at the international music festival Talentinum. He has performed as a soloist with several orchestras (Brno Philharmonic Orchestra, Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra in Olomouc), has been recording for the Czech radio and television. He worked in the opera orchestra of the National Theatre in Brno. At present he is a solopiccologist of the Brno Philharmonic Orchestra. He focuses on chamber music. He is a member of the Foerster Wind Quintet, the baroque ensemble Camerata brunae and performs with the classical guitar player Vladislav Bláha. At present he teaches at the Faculty of Music, JAMU in Brno. Piccolo playing with focus on orchestral excerpts is a part of his masterclass.



VIOLIN

CHAMBER MUSIC

František NOVOTNÝ

Czech Republic

studied violin at the Conservatoire in Brno under Prof. B. Kotmel Sr., at JAMU in the class of Prof. B. Smejkal and with prominent virtuosos and teachers such as Zakhar Bron and Viktor Tretiakov. He received first prizes, laureate titles and special awards in more than twenty competitions (e.g. Kocián Competition, Concertino Praga, Beethoven Competition in Hradec, Ševčík Competition in Písek, P. I. Tchaikovsky in Moscow, Prague Spring Competition, Premio Paganini in Genova, International Competition in Tokyo, etc.). He is a prize winner of the Italian Radio Prize and TV company RAI as well as a medal of H. Wieniawski. His extraordinarily extensive repertoire (e.g. more than fifty compositions with orchestra) could be heard in collaboration with leading symphonic orchestras in outstanding concert halls in Europe, Japan and the USA (Carnegie Hall, etc.). He records CDs for Czech as well as foreign publishing houses, co-operates with radio and TV companies. He works as an associate professor at the Faculty of Music, JAMU, regularly teaches at master classes (Czech Republic, Japan, the USA), and is a jury member of many international violin competitions.



VIOLIN, VIOLA

CHAMBER MUSIC

Bohumil SMEJKAL

Czech Republic

studied at JAMU and then he devoted a lot of time to chamber music in duo with a pianist Jaroslav Smykal, together they received a lot of laureate titles and other prizes at international competitions (the Netherlands – Utrecht, Hungary – Budapest, etc.). He worked as an art director of the BROLN (Brněnský rozhlasový orchestr lidových nástrojů – Brno Radio Orchestra of Folk Instruments), as a concert master of the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, Janáček Opera and B. Martinů Chamber Orchestra. Until the 1990s he also worked as a soloist. Between 1973–1993 he was a leader of the Janáček Quartet which gave concerts in Europe, Asia and the USA, and recorded several internationally praised CDs. In addition to conducting occasionally, he was a member of an international piano trio, the Pearl Trio (1994–2002). He is a professor of violin and chamber music at the Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts, as well as a guarantor of violin at Academy of Arts (Banská Bystrica, Slovakia), and he teaches at international master classes (Czech Republic, Austria, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Sweden, the USA, Japan, etc.).



ORGAN

Kamila KLUGAROVÁ

Czech Republic

studied at JAMU in Brno and AMU in Prague, a laureate of national and international competitions (Prague Spring, Bologna), a jury member of several international competitions. She has performed in Europe and Asia, taught master classes in Finland, France, and the Netherlands. She has made CD recordings for television and radio. At present she is an organ professor at the Faculty of Music, JAMU.



BASSOON

Roman NOVOZÁMSKÝ

Czech Republic

graduated from conservatory in Kroměříž under the supervision of Jaroslav Hýl and Zdeněk Škrabal, and from JAMU in Brno at Prof. František Svoboda. Between 1993–2004 he was a member of the State Philharmonic Orchestra in Brno, from 1996–2004 he was its solo bassoonist. In 1994 he worked in the Prague Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra. In 1996 he restored the ensemble Fagotti Brunensis. Since 1997 he has been teaching at the Faculty of Music, JAMU. He focuses on chamber music and is a member of several chamber ensembles – Brno Wind Quintet, Philharmonic Wind Trio, Harmony of Brno Philharmonics, Czech Virtuosi, Czech Chamber Soloists. With these ensembles he has made a lot of radio, TV and CD recordings and performed in a number of countries all over the world.



VOICE

Marta BEŇÁČKOVÁ

Slovak Republic

graduated from the Bratislava Conservatory (piano) and the Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Bratislava (singing). Her wide concert repertoire includes songs, oratorio and vocal-symphonic works from the Baroque to the present. She is a former member of the ancient music ensemble "Musica Aeterna". Recently she has been specialising in concert singing (Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, Prague Symphony, Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Czech Radio Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, etc.). As an opera singer she has created several important roles (Azucena in Trubadúr, Ulřica in Un ballo in maschera by G. Verdi, Orlando in Vivaldi's Orlando Furioso, Countess in Tchaikovsky's The Queen of Spades, Witch in Dvořák's Rusalka, Grand-mother Buryja and Kostelnička in Janáček's Jenůfa). Her discography includes more than thirty titles. Besides performing she also devotes herself to teaching at the Bratislava Conservatory, JAMU in Brno and in the international master classes.



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1 - 11 July 2009

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