

# Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu

Pianist, composer, teacher, Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu is a multifaceted musician with an outstanding artistic persona.

Admitted at the age of 11 to the Ankara Conservatoire, Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu was taught by the eminent professor Kamuran Gündemir for piano and by İlhan Baran, a disciple of Henri Dutilleux, for composition and musical theory.

At the age of 18, Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu moved to Belgium to pursue his double training with Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden (piano) and Jacqueline Fontyn (composition), first at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels and then at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel (for piano). He graduated *magna cum laude* in 1992, with a diploma of virtuosity. He began his PhD Studies at the Indiana University School of Music in Bloomington (USA) with Edward Auer (piano) and Donald Freund (composition).

During all his years of study, Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu distinguished himself above all as a pianist (European Piano Competition in 1991, Nany Philippart Competition in 1992, Belgian Vocation Foundation in 1995, J. and W. Pelemans Award from the Belgian Union of Composers for his contribution to dissemination of the national repertoire), but starting in 1993, he also began to be recognized as a composer: his 'Six Preludes' for piano earned him the Arthur De Greef Award of the Belgian Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Letters and Sciences and 'Contact' for flute and piano led him to win the musical creation cup of the Academy of Lutèce in Paris.

In 1996 he won the Sabam Award for 'Contact 2' at the competition for chamber-music concerts and in 2000 he received the André Chevillion-Yvonne Bonnaud Award from the Fondation de France for 'Le Tourneur'.

Two of his works have again won awards at international composition competitions: 'Nebula' was granted the Irène Fuérisson Award and "Varioactivité" won 2nd prize at the Hulste competition.

At the same time, his concerts as a pianist have brought him to countless countries in Europe, Asia and the Americas. The festivals at which he has performed include the Festival of Wallonia, Festival of Flanders, Ars Musica, Festival Musiq3, Klara Festival, Beethovenfest, Istanbul Festival, Lichfield Festival, Lille Piano Festival ...

Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu is also a highly prized chamber musician and among his many partners are clarinetist Ronald Van Spaendonck and cellist Marie Hallynck, with whom he founded the Kheops Ensemble, an ensemble that varies in size and brings together musicians such as Ning Kam, Tatiana Samouil, Sophie Hallynck, Hervé Joulain, Lise Berthaud ...

Alongside his concert activities, Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu is Professor of Chamber Music at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels and is also regularly invited to give piano lessons and masterclasses in Turkey, Belgium and the United States (Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music).

His music repertoire includes works by Beethoven, Dohnanyi, Schnittke, Bernstein, Gershwin ... while reserving a special place for contemporary composers.

His last recording, the 'Fugitives' album released by Cyprès in the fall of 2019, is dedicated to his own chamber music compositions performed by the Kheops Ensemble.