

DÁVID PAVLOVITS, guitarist and composer

The Hungarian guitarist-composer **Dávid Pavlovits** began to play the guitar at the age of 17. He played the guitar only three years when he has won a prize at an international guitar competition (Zory, Poland). Two years later he won 1st prize at Europe's oldest guitar competition, at the **Esztergom Guitar Festival**. The leading Polish daily newspaper, the "**Gazeta**" described him as a personality "*close to a genius*". He was the first Hungarian guitarist to give a solo recital in the **Carnegie Hall** of New York. His compositions are part of examination program of **Trinity College, London**, and played worldwide. He has composed electronic music for media like **Sony Pictures Television**, AXN TV channel, and film music for Hungarian and Iranian movie productions.



He attended the guitar and composition class of the **Franz Liszt Conservatory** in Szeged. The most important influence during his studies in Hungary he received from the professor **Ede Roth**. He graduated at the **Darmstadt Academy of Music** in guitar with distinction, later he has also graduated the **Gutenberg University in Mainz** and the **Musikhochschule in Munich**. He took classes with the following masters: **Tilman Hoppstock**, **Olaf Van Gonnissen**, **Walter Schumacher**, (guitar), **Lajos Huszár**, **Karl - Wieland Kurz** (composition), **Grigory Gruzman** (piano)

He has attended **Leo Brouwer's** master classes which played an important role in his compositional development. He has collaborated for with the composer **György Kurtág**.

Since 1993 he has been a laureate at several music competitions, such as in **Zory, Poland** (distinction), the **13. Esztergom International Guitar Competition** (1st prize), the **Budapest Music Contest** (2nd prize), **International Guitar Competition of Crete**, Greece (2nd prize) and the **Viareggio Competition of Composers** (distinction). He received the "**Zoltán Kodály**" Stipend for composers in 1999.

He has been teaching guitar, music theory and music history since 2001. Until 2003, his music seminars at the German Department presented topics like Ludwig van Beethoven's piano and orchestral music and the musical background of Thomas Mann's *Dr Faustus*. Recently he is had of guitar department at the **Faculty of Music** of the **University of Szeged**. He is currently one of the most successful guitar teachers in Hungary. Since 2010 this department has been the most successful one in Hungary, training a great number of young artists and competition winners.

Since 1994 he has taken solo concert tours, radio and TV broadcasts in over 30 countries of **Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America** and the **USA**, recitals in important cultural centres like **Los Angeles, Washington D.C, New York, Montréal, Puerto Rico, Rome, Jerusalem, Frankfurt, Geneva, Paris, Cairo, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Vienna, Bucharest, Minsk, Moscow, Belgrade, Warsaw** or **Budapest**. His Concerto for guitar and ensemble was premiered 2018 by Grammy-award winner William Kanengiser, conducted by David Pavlovits. The work was performed in Hong Kong and Shanghai as well.

His compositions are played worldwide, his Preludes are part of the examination program of **Trinity College, London**. His **11 Amethystes** for guitar edited by the publisher **Ricordi & Co.** (the editor of Verdi's operas) is played throughout Europe. The **Fingerprints** are miniatures inspired by Hungarian folk music. The musical language of his compositions contains often polytonal and polyrhythmic elements. His **Stormbird** Sonata (edited by **Doberman-Yppan/Canada**) was inspired by the Zu poem of the Babylonian mythology. Since 2015 he has composed a great number of works for guitar orchestra, which are played in several countries like New Zealand, Slovenia, Germany and Korea. He has published several pedagogical works like the **Flying Studies** and **Abrakadabra** studies for children.

After his successful recital in 2005 at the **Carnegie Hall** in New York, he has performed there a second time in 2008 with the UMZE contemporary ensemble. He has been holding master classes worldwide in Hungarian, English, German, French, Russian, Turkish, Italian and Spanish languages. He is also regularly invited to juries of international music competitions.

Press quotes:



"he is one of the most outstanding guitarists of his generation"

L'Est Eclair
(France, 1998)

"Dávid Pavlovits played with an utmost refined musicality. The Liszt pieces in his recital were unforgettable"

Zupfmusik
(Hamburg, 1997/4)

"Dávid Pavlovits: a first class guitarist. He is a rising star in the world of the guitar."

Aachener Nachrichten
(Germany, April 1998)

"Dávid Pavlovits has the promise of a world carrier"

NapiMagyarország
(Hungary, March 1999)

"The surprisingly effective Liszt and the five bagatelles of William Walton made an excellent impression."

Colin Cooper, The Classical Guitar Magazine (2001)

"die Amethysten sind wie Perlen, jede von ihnen geschaffen mit der feinsten Meisterschaft, die den Zuhörer mit ihrer reichen Fantasie und natürlichen instrumentalen Charakter (...) die Strobirs Sonata in sich interessante und genuine Ideen in eine klassische Form, und es ist so beeindruckend auf einem Konzert, dass es einen mächtigen Effekt bewirkt, selbst nach einem alten Klassiker wie Albeniz's Asturias"

(Gramofon, 2000)

"Pavlovits has an attractively vigorous style, crisp and authoritative, that lends conviction to even the old favourites like Asturias"

Colin Cooper, The Classical Guitar Magazine (2001)

"a recital of rare quality (...), a rarely heard mastery of sonority and polyphonic playing, with the skill of a conductor (...) a highly individual composer and performer, with dramatic power and sensibility"

recital in Paris, **Cahiers de la Guitare (2002)**

"an exceptional talent in composing and performing, with brilliant ideas and virtuosity"

Gazzetta di Parma (2003)

"Sowohl in den dargebotenen Gitarrenadaptionen bekannter Werke Bachs und Mozarts als auch in den Originalkompositionen und Eigenkompositionen von David Pavlovits erwiesensich die Künstlers wahre Meister des Instruments."

06.05.2003 Giessener Zeitung

"soul of unusual musical purity, perhaps that of Liszt, Mozart, Chopin, or some amalgam of the world-soul of all three"

Mark Greenberg, New York Nylon Review, 2005 November

„an impressively controlled and careful technique, all while imbuing every note with an distinctively pianistic musicality"

Julia Crow, Classical Guitar Magazine, London, 2005 november

“Die schöne Ausgabe enthält 11 Kompositionen des 34 Jahre alten Komponisten Dávid Pavlovits’. In Szeged (Ungarn) geboren hat er eine bemerkenswerte Laufbahn absolviert: Als Gitarrist Preisträger mehrerer internationaler Wettbewerbe, gewann 1998 beim Internationalen Kompositionswettbewerb in Viareggio (Italien) den Sonderpreis für seine Komposition „Stormbird Sonata“ (Doberman/Canada). Genauso bemerkenswert sind seine elf Kompositionen für die Mittelstufe (II). Die Stücke, die auf ihren Ursprung verweisen (ungarische Volksweisen), bieten sowohl den Schülern als auch den Lehrern an, eine neue Klangwelt zu erfahren. Harmonisch wie rhythmisch abwechslungsreich und überraschungsvoll. Unbedingt zu spielen. Pavlovits ist vielleicht der „neue“ Leo Brouwer.”

Neue Musikzeitung, 2006 Dezember