



Personal drive

My aim in teaching is to inspire other musicians to feel and understand harmony and wholeness in the deepest way. To help them discover all technical aspects of their instrument and develop a broad knowledge of music, but also to inspire them to develop a good physical and mental balance, to open up their imagination and to find their way in a spiritual direction: for a complete union of soul and body. It will enable them to be more free and open in their stage-performances, resulting in a more profound and intense 'transmitting' of music, moving audiences of all backgrounds across the globe.

Performing background

Solo performances, chamber music and concerts with orchestra's since the age of seven, in over thirty countries in Europe, North-America and Asia. Most important podia:

- Amsterdam Concertgebouw, The Netherlands (2014, 2010, 2008)
- Musashino Hall, Tokyo, Japan (2013)
- Tchaikovsky Hall, Moscow, Russia (2013, 2011)
- Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, China (2011)
- Academic Capella, St. Petersburg, Russia (2010)
- Wiener Saal, Salzburg (2008)
- Palau de la Musica, Valencia, Spain (2008)

Most important festivals (concerts, master classes and adjudication):

- *Guitar Foundation of America (GFA), Los Angeles (2014)*
With a.o. Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, Ana Vidovic and Tilman Hoppstock
- *Nürtingen International Guitar Festival, Germany (2014)*
With a.o. David Russell, Paul O'Dette, Jorge Caballero and Duo Maccari - Pugliese
- *Salzburger Schloss Konzerte, Austria (2014, 2000-2005)*
With a variety of chamber musicians, a.o. violinist Luz Leskowitz and flutist Janne Thomsen
- *Festival Cultural Alfonso Ortiz Tirado, Alamos, México (2014)*
With a.o. tenor Fernando de la Mora and soprano Iride Martinez
- *Aalborg International Guitar Festival, Denmark (2013)*
With a.o. Marcin Dylla
- *Guitar Virtuosos Festival, Moscow, Russia (2013, 2011)*
With a.o. Adam Delmonte, José María Gallardo del Rey and Duo Melis
- *Storioni Festival, Eindhoven, The Netherlands (2012)*
With a.o. Misha Maisky, Sol Gabetta, Vladimir Mendelssohn and Storioni Trio
- *International Guitar Symposium Iserlohn (2011, 2010?)*
With a.o. Pepe Romero, Laura Young, Aniello Desiderio, Amadeus Duo and Pavel Steidl
- *West Dean International Classical Guitar Festival, England (2011, 1997, 1996)*
With a.o. David Russell and Carlos Bonell
- *Uppsala International Guitar Festival, Sweden (2011)*
With a.o. the Assad Family and John Etheridge
- *Cleveland International Classical Guitar Weekend, USA (2011)*
With a.o. Zoran Dukic and Jason Vieaux



Appearances on radio and television

Regular performances on Dutch national radio and television. Registrations of concerts and interviews on television in Japan, China, Russia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Sweden, France, Serbia, Montenegro, Hungary, Slovakia, Italy, México and the USA.

Recordings

- 2005 Legnani, Sor, Mertz, Aguado, Moreno Torroba, Barrios, Mangoré, Rodrigo
- 2010 Ponce, Tansman, Brouwer, José (Naxos Laureate Series)
- 2012 Bach, Sor, Gallardo del Rey, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Tárrega (Naxos Laureate Series)
- 2014 'Reminiscences of Russia': Vassiliev, Rudnev, Kozlov (Naxos)
Incl. world premiere of 'Swan Princess' by K. Vassiliev (dedicated to Irina Kulikova),
world premiere of Mogiana (3rd movement of Three Lyric Pieces) by K. Vassiliev
and world premiere of Inbetween Steep Banks by S. Rudnev

Education

- 2007 – 2010 Conservatoire of Maastricht, The Netherlands (M.A. with honour)
- 2003 – 2008 Mozarteum University, Salzburg, Austria (M.A. with honour)
- 2000 – 2005 Gnessins Academy, Moscow, Russia (M.A.)
- 1997 – 2000 Tchaikovsky Music College

Honors and awards

Over 30 awards since the age of 12, including the 1st prize at the international competition of Voronezh (Russia, 1992) and a scholarship from the United Nations program for talents 'New Names' (1990 – 1998). A climax of five 1st prizes plus a special award in 2008.

Most memorable awards:

- 1st prizes:**
 - Michele Pittaluga, Alessandria, Italy, 2008
 - Guitarra Alhambra, Valencia, Spain, 2008
 - Forum Gitarre Wien, Austria, 2008
 - International Guitar competition Iserlohn, Germany, 2008
 - Twents Gitaarfestival, The Netherlands, 2008
 - International Guitar festival of Coria, Spain, 2006
- 2nd prizes:**
 - International Guitar festival of Naxos, Greece, 2007
 - Norba Caesarina, Caceres, Spain, 2007
 - Ivor Mairants Guitar Award, London, England, 2006
- Special awards:**
 - Young talent, Culture and Podium prize, The Netherlands, 2008
 - Printemps de la Guitare, Charleroi, Belgium, 2006
 - Special Prize, Koblenz International Guitar Festival, 2006

Irina Kulikova
* It's about the touch



Publications and Contributions

'The Mystery of Sound and Wholeness of the Artist: A Multidisciplinary Introduction to a Better Stage Performance.' - Masters thesis at the Mozarteum University

Luigi Legnani – Fantasia op.19 Adur, Chanterelle, fingering

Konstantin Vassiliev – Swan Princess, Les Productions d'Oz, fingering

Konstantin Vassiliev – Three Lyric Pieces, Les Productions d'Oz, fingering

References

'She is the future of the classical guitar'

- José María Gallardo del Rey, composer and guitarist

'Some of the most sheerly beautiful playing I have ever heard'

- Al Kunze in Soundboard Magazine

'Wherever she performs, she plays herself into the hearts of the audience.'

- Luz Leskowitz, Direktor Salzburger Schlosskonzerte

'A deeply romantic and truly captivating player.'

- Norbert Kraft, Naxos producer

'Few can tell us something so special as she does.'

- Carlo Marchione, guitarist

'The magic that the art of music is all about.'

- Marco Tamayo, guitarist

'An exceptionally fine musical talent.'

- Colin Cooper in Classical Guitar Magazine

'Seldom I heard a guitarist succeed in eliciting such a beautiful, rich sound from the instrument.'

- Ton Hartsuiker, former director of Utrecht Conservatoire, The Netherlands

'If she is the representative of a new generation of guitarists, the future of the classical guitar is looking immensely good.'

- Roland Kieft, chief editor Dutch classical radio

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