

ERKEL FERENC

Conservatory

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József Balogh

Clarinet



PLACE OF BIRTH
PÉCS

DATE OF BIRTH
24. 11. 1956.

BIOGRAPHY - DISÍCOGRAPHY

József Balogh is a clarinetist, composer, and teacher with more than 30 years of experience in orchestral, solo, chamber music, educational, and organizational work. He is actively involved in both the Hungarian and international music scene through concerts, recordings, teaching, and participation in various musical organizations. In addition to classical music, he is also an excellent performer and connoisseur of many other musical styles – including jazz, klezmer, and world music.

Education

- József Balogh began his musical studies at the age of 9 in Pécs, where he also completed his conservatory education.
- In 1979, he graduated from the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music as a student of Béla Kovács. Between 1988 and 1992, he was a teacher at the Academy.
- Since 1976, he has been the principal clarinetist of the Hungarian State Opera.
- Since 1985, he has served as principal clarinetist of the Hungarian Radio Symphony Orchestra.
- In 1989, he won the Solti György Scholarship and joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, where he studied with Larry Combs, the orchestra's principal clarinetist.

Ensembles

He is a founding member of several ensembles:

- - Budapesti Koncertfúvósok (Budapest Concert Wind Ensemble)
- - Ózon Wind Quintet
- - ClarSix
- - Ale Brider Band

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- - Interclarinet
- - Judrom

Awards

- 1974 – “Concertino Praga” – 2nd place
- 1988 – Bartók Béla – Pásztory Ditta Award as a member of the Hungarian Radio Symphony Orchestra
- 1988 – 1st prize at the International Chamber Music Competition in Graz with the Danubius Quartet
- 1988 – 1st prize at the Hungarian Radio Woodwind Competition
- 1991 – Award of Excellence from the Presidency of Hungarian Radio
- 2009 – Hungarian Gold Cross of Merit



In addition to his talent and professional training, his exceptional versatility is evidenced by his mastery of nearly every musical style. His repertoire ranges from Baroque to contemporary music. He is a profound interpreter of every genre and era, and alongside classical music, he also performs jazz, klezmer, and folk music. He also plays the tárogató.

Voice recordings / CDs

- *Adagio Boxed Set*, Naxos 8.504011
- *Meditation (Swedish Edition)*, Naxos 8.503163
- *The Very Best Of*, Naxos 8.502020
- *Great Chamber Music* (10-CD Box Set), Naxos 8.501064
- *Warme Rote Stunden*, Romantische Klassische Musik (3CD set), Naxos 8.503038
- *Music for Comfort* Naxos 8.503158
- *Brahms: Clarinet Trio, Op. 114 / Clarinet Quintet, Op. 115*, Naxos 8.550391
- *Mozart: Piano Trio, K. 498, 'Kegelstatt' / Violin Sonata No. 26* (arr. für Klarinette und Streichtrio), Naxos 8.550439
- *Hören, Lernen, Wachsen: Musik für Babies und Kinder*, Naxos 8.551218
- *Beethoven: Adagio*, Naxos 8.552240 (1997)
- *Beethoven: Kammermusik für Hörner, Holzbläser und Streicher*, Naxos 8.553090, (1995)
- *Mozart: Clarinet Quintet, K. 581 / String Quintet, K. 515* Naxos 8.553254, 8.550390
- *Brahms: Clarinet Quintet in B Minor / DVORAK: String Quartet No. 12, "American"* Naxos 8.553256
- *Sarabande: Classical Favourites for Relaxing and Dreaming*, Naxos 8.556613

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- *Liebesleid: Classical Favourites for Relaxing and Dreaming*, Naxos 8.556615
- *Donizetti: Double Concerto / Flute Concertino / Clarinet Concertino*, Naxos 8.557492
- *A-Z der klassischen Musik (3rd Expanded Edition, 2009)* Naxos Educational 8.558212-13
- *The Genius of Beethoven* Naxos 8.578194
- *My First Mozart Album*, Naxos, 8.578204, 8.578233
- *My First Beethoven Album*, Naxos 8.578206, 8.578235
- *Harp Recital: Vigh, Andrea, Händel, G.F., Dittersdorf, C.D. von, Debussy, C., Ravel, M.* Capriccio C10485
- *Klassische Meisterwerke: Maurice Ravel*, Capriccio C49038
- *Contrasts - Hungarian Clarinet Music*, with various artists. 1990
- *Music for the Mozart Effect*, with various artists. Spring Hill Music, 1998.
- *Mozart Effect: Music for Little Ones*, with various artists. Children's Group, 2000.
- *Interclarinet*, with various artists. Farao Classics, 2000.
- *Interclarinet 2*, Farao Classics, 2002.

Teaching activities

- University of Oklahoma
- Idaho State University
- University of North Texas



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