

Musician: Duduk

People's Artist, Republic of Armenia
Professor, Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan

Biography:

Born on February 12, 1965 in Yerevan, Armenia, Gevorg Dabaghyan is revered as a virtuoso of the duduk, a quintessential Armenian woodwind instrument known for its hauntingly beautiful sound. His journey into music began in the classrooms of No. 94 Secondary School in Yerevan, followed by formative years at Romanos Melikyan Music College, where he honed his craft from 1980 to 1984. It was at the esteemed Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan that Gevorg flourished, graduating in 1989 under the mentorship of Ararat Petrosyan. His dedication to mastering the duduk led him to pursue postgraduate studies at the conservatory, completing them in 1992 under the guidance of distinguished dudukist Khachatur Avetisyan.

Gevorg Dabaghyan's musical career is adorned with accolades that underscore his exceptional talent and commitment to his art. In 1990, he clinched the coveted Grand Prix at the Dushanbe International Music Festival, acclaimed for his mastery of "Best Eastern National Instruments." The following years saw him ascend further heights, winning the Grand Prize at the Sayat Nova National Competition in 1991-1992. His groundbreaking CD "Music of Armenia," released in 1994, garnered international acclaim and earned him the esteemed "Indi" Special Award in 1995. Recognizing his profound impact on Armenian culture and music, Gevorg Dabaghyan was honored as Meritorious Artist of Armenia in 2004 and later elevated to the esteemed title of People's Artist of the Republic of Armenia in 2017.

Throughout his illustrious career, Gevorg Dabaghyan has collaborated with renowned musicians and graced prestigious stages worldwide. His performances alongside icons such as Yo-Yo Ma, Gidon Kremer, Jan Garbarek, Yuri Bashmet, and Rabih Abou-Khalil have showcased the duduk's rich cultural heritage in celebrated venues including Carnegie Hall, the Chicago Philharmonic, and the Amsterdam Concertgebouw.

Beyond his achievements as a performer, Gevorg Dabaghyan is deeply committed to passing on his knowledge and passion for the duduk. Since 1991, he has served as an esteemed instructor at the Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, nurturing aspiring musicians and preserving Armenian musical traditions. In 2010, he established a special Duduk school in Gavar, Armenia, named in his honor, to ensure the continuity of Armenian musical heritage for future generations.

In addition to his teaching commitments, Gevorg Dabaghyan has authored three seminal textbooks on the duduk, contributing significantly to scholarly discourse and understanding of this ancient instrument. His dedication to education extends to conducting master classes at the

Amsterdam Conservatory and teaching at the Giorgio Cini Foundation of Intercultural Studies in Italy, enriching global perspectives on Armenian music and culture.

Gevorg Dabaghyan's cultural impact extends beyond concert halls to the silver screen, with notable contributions to films such as "Karot" (Armenia), "Ararat" (Canada), and "The Lark Farm" (Italy), underscoring his versatility and influence in both traditional and contemporary musical contexts.

Biography:

Date of Birth: February 12, 1965

Place of Birth: Yerevan, Armenia

Education:

- 1980 – Graduated from No. 94 Secondary School, Yerevan
- 1980-1984 – Romanos Melikyan Music College, Yerevan
- 1989 – Graduated from Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Faculty of Duduk, under Ararat Petrosyan
- 1992 – Post Graduate Studies, Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, supervised by Khachatur Avetisyan

Awards:

- 1990 – Grand Prix, Dushanbe International Music Festival “Best Eastern National Instruments”
- 1991-1992 – Grand Prize, Sayat Nova National Competition
- 1995 – "Indi" Special Award for "Music of Armenia" CD, USA
- 2004 – Meritorious Artist of Armenia
- 2005 – UNESCO recognition for "Music of Duduk" project
- 2009 – Academician, International Academy of Natural and Social Sciences
- 2009 – Professor
- 2017 – People’s Artist of the Republic of Armenia

Work Activity:

- 1980-1992 – Soloist, Akunq State Folk Ensemble, Director: M. Muradyan
- 1991-present – Instructor, Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Faculty of Duduk
- 1994-present – Soloist, “Shoghaken” Folk Ensemble (8-member), promoting authentic folk music globally
- 1994 – Released debut CD “Music of Armenia”, receiving international acclaim
- 2001 – Participated in “The Worlds Multi-Voice” project, Moscow, with Gidon Kremer
- 2002 – Featured at Smithsonian Festival, Washington D.C., organized by Yo-Yo Ma
- 2002 – Duduk player for “Silk Road” international program with Yo-Yo Ma
- 2003-2008 – Released three CDs with “Shoghaken” Folk Ensemble

- 2004 – Released second CD “Miniatures”
- 2005-present – Teaches at Giorgio Cini Foundation, Italy
- 2006-present – Conducts master classes at Amsterdam Conservatory
- 2007-present – Recorded CDs with Komitas Quartet, archived in Armenian National Radio
- Collaborates with renowned musicians including Yo-Yo Ma, Gidon Kremer, Jan Garbarek, Yuri Bashmet, Rabih Abou-Khalil

Film Credits:

- Featured in films: “Karot” (Armenia), “Ararat” (Canada), “The Lark Farm” (Italy), “Plains of Ararat” (Russian Federation)

Additional Activities:

- Founded special Duduk school in Gavar, Armenia, named after Gevorg Dabaghyan (2010-present)
- Combined Duduk and organ for unique presentations of Armenian sacred music worldwide (2011-2014)
- Published three textbooks on Duduk

International Performances:

- Concerts in South America, Budapest, Vancouver, and prestigious venues worldwide