



Cristian Niculescu

Curriculum Cristian Niculescu, Dinu Lipatti Trio Berlin, ensemble contempo

Education

Bucharest: George Enescu Music College; the Music Academy; with Cristina Georgescu and Sandu Sandrin; Berlin: Hochschule der Künste; with Hans Leygraf and Georg Sava; Salzburg and Madrid: Master classes with Dimitri Bashkirov.

Debut 1986: National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Bucharest.

Appearances as soloist: Cleveland Chamber Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland, Ohio, USA; Philharmonic Orchestra George Enescu, Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Radio Chamber Orchestra, Bucharest; Brandenburg Philharmonie, Potsdam; Youth Orchestra, Berlin-Charlottenburg; Romanian Philharmonic Orchestras in Sibiu, Iasi, Cluj, Targu Mures, Brasov, Ploiesti, Bacau, Craiova. Collaboration with conductors: Gerd Albrecht, Horia Andreescu, Emil Simon, Diego Masson, Misha Katz, Virko Baley, Vincent Gröger, Ovidiu Balan, Florin Totan, Cristian Brancusi, Iosif Conta.

Recitals and chamber music concerts: Philharmonic Hall, Berlin; Gasteig, Munich; Philharmonic Hall, Bucharest; Danish Radio, Copenhagen; Deutsche Oper, Berlin; Musée de l'Armée, Paris; and elsewhere in Italy, Denmark, Norway, Austria, France, Japan, and the USA.

Performances at International Music Festivals: Berliner Festspiele; Musik-Biennale for New Music, Berlin; George Enescu International Festival, Bucharest; Enescu Tage Festival, Berlin; Musikfest, Hamburg; Tage Neuer Musik, Nürnberg; Musikfestspielen, Potsdam; International Grieg and Autunnale Festival, Bergen, Norway; International Festivals Sobygard, Skagen, and Vendsyssel, Denmark; Sommerakademie Mozarteum Salzburg; Openair Event Concert 1848 Tasti, Siena; and New Music International Week, Bucharest.

Chamber music performances: as permanent pianist with ensemble contempo paris and the Dinu Lipatti Trio Berlin; with the Athaeneum Quartet (from the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra); musicians from the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra; the Deutsches Symphony Orchestra, Berlin; the Konzerthausorchester Berlin; the Norddeutschen Rundfunk Orchestra, Hamburg and with violinists Florin Paul and Alexandru Tomescu; cellists Michaela Fukachova, Eduard Weissmann, Catalin Ilea and Radu Nagy; and singers Ruxandra Donose and Silvia Weiss.

Radio and CD Productions: BBC, London; NDR, Hamburg; Deutschlandradio, Berlin; Bayerischer Rundfunk; Danmarks Radio, Copenhagen; Norsk Radio, Bergen, Norway; and with the National Radio Symphony Orchestra, Bucharest.

Prizes: Music Critics Prize and First Prize at the major national piano competitions in Romania; Honor Diploma at the International Piano Competition Maria Canals, Barcelona, Spain.

Dinu Lipatti Trio Berlin

The Dinu Lipatti Trio Berlin, established in 2000 by violinist Florin Paul, cellist Radu Nagy, and pianist Cristian Niculescu, has performed in major European cultural centers, carrying on the tradition of former chamber groups bearing the same name. In 2007, the Trio was invited to play in the prestigious George Enescu International Festival in Bucharest.

Florin Paul has won numerous international competitions including the Jacques Thibaud (Paris, 1977) and the Nicolo Pagnani (Genoa, 1979) competitions. He is active as a soloist and plays in various chamber music groups. From 1986-1995, as violinist of the Lipatti Trio, he played with cellist Emil Klein and pianist Cristian Beldi.

Radu Nagy specialized in chamber music. From 1995-2000, he was a member of the Lipatti String Quartet founded in Romania. He has won several international competitions including the Dmitri Shostakovich String Quartet Competition (St. Petersburg, 1996) and the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition (South Bend, Indiana, 1997).

Cristian Niculescu has performed as a soloist with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonic Orchestra G. Enescu, and the National Radio Orchestra, Bucharest. He has played in such prominent concert venues as the Philharmonic Halls in Berlin, Munich, and Bucharest; Konzerthaus Berlin; radio studios in Denmark, Germany, and Romania; and numerous international festivals.

Cellist Boris Matchin trained in Moscow, Tel Aviv, and New York performing widely in chamber music groups and as a soloist. He has won prestigious scholarships from the Elise-



Meyer Foundation and the Masfield Foundation. In 2007, he replaced Radu Nagy in the Dinu Lipatti Trio.

ensemble contempo

ensemble contempo performed before a highly enthusiastic audience in Berlin's Philharmonic Hall (...) Their

music making is remarkable for their deep concentration and passionate playing. (Neue Musikzeitung, Berlin)

The members of ensemble contempo have known each other since childhood in Romania and discovered their common musical pulse as students at the Music Academy in Bucharest when they played together for the first time. Achieving great success in their own nation, they figured as part of the country's musical elite. After receiving their diplomas and with the change of political regime, however, the young musicians moved separately abroad.

Several years later, they regrouped and founded the ensemble contempo in Paris. Their debut concert in Berlin's Philharmonic Hall garnered such strong reviews that they soon received invitations to play at international festivals in Denmark, Germany, Romania, and France. They recorded performances as well for Danish Radio, Copenhagen and Romanian Radio, Bucharest. Their repertory includes the complete chamber works of George Enescu, music of Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Dvorak, Fauré, Ravel, and Shostakovich, and compositions by number of contemporary composers.

Mihaela Smolean (violin) has lived in Paris since 1990, playing with the Orchestre National d'Ile de France from 1993-1996 and joining the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France in 1996. Winner of the Prix de Rome in 1997, she has garnered numerous prizes in both Italy and Romania. As a soloist, she has played and recorded with the National Radio Orchestra, Bucharest, as well as with other orchestras and chamber music groups in France, Romania, and Italy.

Adriana Winkler (violin) was named Cultural Attaché to the Romanian embassy in Berlin in 2007. From 1996-2007 she was Concertmaster of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of St.



Jacques de Santiago Compostelle while also teaching at the Escuela de Altos Estudios Musicales de Galicia in Spain. She has performed and recorded as a soloist with orchestras and chamber music groups in Romania, Portugal, and Spain and won prizes in numerous national and international competitions.

Teodor Coman (viola) moved to Paris in 1990. He played first as a principal viola with the Orchestre National d'Ile de France and since 1995 has been second principal violist of the Orchestre National de France. Until 2003 he taught at the Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris Alfred Cortot and at the Conservatoire National Regional of Rueil-Malmaison. He has won numerous prizes in international competitions and has played as a soloist with orchestras and with such chamber music groups as the Trio à Cordes de Paris and the Quatuor Arpeggione.

Radu Nagy (cello) specialized in chamber music. He was a founding member of the Lipatti String Quartet in Romania which worked from 1995-2000 with the Fine Arts Quartet in Milwaukee (Wisconsin) and did the Master's degree at Northern Illinois University with Vermeer Quartet. The Lipatti Quartet won several prizes in international competitions, including the Dmitri Shostakovich String Quartet Competition (St. Petersburg, 1996) and the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition (South Bend, Indiana, 1997). Since 2000 he has been the principal cellist of the Arturo Toscanini Orchestra Parma, Italy and member of the Dinu Lipatti Trio Berlin.

Cristian Niculescu (piano) has lived in Berlin since 1992 and has performed as a soloist with the Cleveland Chamber Symphony Orchestra; the Brandenburg Philharmonic Orchestra, Potsdam; the Philharmonic Orchestra George Enescu; and the National Radio Orchestra, Bucharest. With chamber music groups, he has given concerts in Berlin, Munich, and Bucharest as well as in Japan and the USA, and has played in numerous international music festivals. He won the Musical Critics Prize in Romania and he is one of the founders of the Dinu Lipatti Trio Berlin.

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