



Armen-Levon Manaseryan

Concert Pianist, Multi-Prize Winner, Recording Artist and Musical Illustrator

www.manaseryan.com



| Biography

Armen-Levon Manaseryan is an Armenian concert pianist, multi-prize winner, recording artist, and musical illustrator. He was born in Yerevan in the family of a musician. His musical talent was evident from an early age. At six years of age, he was accepted into Professor Shushanik Babayan's piano class at the *Tchaikovsky Specialized Music School*.

He graduated from three conservatories in three different countries with the highest possible marks: Armen-Levon studied Piano Performance at the *Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan* in Armenia, with Professor Sergey Saradjian. Then continued his education at the *Royal Conservatory of Liège* in Belgium, with Professors Etienne Rappe and François Thiry. After Belgium, he continued his study in Germany, at the *Musikhochschule Münster*, with Professor Heribert Koch. Shades of these Russian, French, and German piano performing schools sound in his interpretations.

Armen-Levon Manaseryan is a multiple laureate, winner of medals and awards at numerous International Piano Competitions in different countries. Participated in many prestigious festivals and competitions in Armenia, Belgium, Germany, France, Austria, Spain, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Poland, Malta, Portugal, Kazakhstan, The Russian Federation, and many other countries. In addition to piano prizes, in 2021 he was also awarded the Order of *Preservation of the Armenian Nation* by the *Cultural Armenia* Foundation and the *Fidayiner* Military-Patriotic Cultural Organization of the Republic of Armenia.

He has been invited to famous festivals such as the *International Summer Academy at Universität Mozarteum* in Salzburg, *Monheimer Beethovenfest* in Germany, Piano Recital for *Harvard Club in Germany* at Steinway & Sons Frankfurt, *Hammerklavier International Festival* in Barcelona, *Festival de Música de Sant Pere de Rodes* in Girona, *Monheimer Klaviersommer* festival in Germany, *Music of Europe: Armenia* at Sofia Philharmonic, in Bulgaria, *Musikfestival Burg Ramsdorf* in Germany, *Palazzo Ricci - Europäische Akademie für Musik und darstellende Kunst Montepulciano* in Italy, *Festival Sphèramusic* in Belgium, *Bonner Schumannfest* in Germany, concert series at *Cappella Villa Duria* in Germany, etc.

He has left an outstanding impression on the following pianists, composers, and conductors: Edvard Mirzoyan, Alexander Arutiunian, Michel Béroff, Frederic Rzewski, Gabriel Tacchino, Balázs Szokolay, Joseph Paratore, Ivan Urvalov, Françoise Chaffiaud, Paul-André Bempéchat, Yury Martynov, Hayg Boyadjian, Jerome Rose, Karen Durgaryan, Michel Fourgon, Levon Chaushian, Irina Osipova, Vache Sharafyan, Kirill Kashunin, Martin Vardazaryan, Simon Gourari, Ruben Asatryan, Yoko Nanno, and many others.



Biography |



As a chamber musician and soloist, he gave several concerts and performed the premiers of works in various combinations, such as performing with the brass section of the *Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra*, with the brass section of the *Armenian National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet Orchestra*, with the *National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia*, with the *Hover State Chamber Choir*, with the *Rheinbogen* string ensemble, etc. Also, he has a series of concerts with the *Pianoxas Duo* project, with the Armenian-French saxophonist Harutyun Harutyunyan.

Armen-Levon was the founder and artistic director of the *VITRAGE International Festival*, which took place in 2016-2018 in Brussels, Belgium. As well as the founder of the *Art Next To Kids* charity art project for children with special needs and autism. In 2023, he founded the *Armenian Pianists Association*, which is a networking platform for Armenian pianists from all over the world. Also, as part of the brand new project *Manaseryan Duo*, several concerts have already been scheduled. Armen-Levon Manaseryan will perform a program of world-famous piano duets with different pianists.

Armen-Levon Manaseryan is also a recording artist. He recorded his debut solo album *Color Of Sound* with the *KNS Classical* label. The CD includes *Piano Dances* by the Armenian composer Komitas Vardapet and *Pictures At an Exhibition* by Mussorgsky, including 10 illustrations by Armen-Levon based on musical impressions. Also participated in the CD album of contemporary music *SUSTAIN VOL. 3*, with the American label *Navona Records* (parent label: *PARMA Recordings*), where recorded *Variations On a Theme by Bach* by Grammy-nominated composer Hayg Boyadjian. He also recorded 2 volume CDs *Ave Maria in the Music of the 17th-20th Centuries*, which was part of the 2 volume books published by publishing house *Compozitor • Saint-Petersburg*. The release of the CD album *Visible Music* is already scheduled with the *KNS Classical* label, which includes Tchaikovsky's *The Seasons, Op. 37a*, and Beethoven's *32 Variations in C minor, WoO 80*. The CD booklet will include 12 of Armen-Levon Manaseryan's own illustrations based on the impressions of Tchaikovsky's music.

Armen-Levon is known as a pianist who visualizes piano music. As a musical illustrator, he created 2 large and unique projects: *Color Of Sound* - illustrated 10 of his own paintings based on the impressions of *Pictures At an Exhibition* by Mussorgsky, and *Visible Music* - illustrated 12 of his own paintings based on the impressions of *The Seasons* by Tchaikovsky. Very often he gives concerts-exhibitions with these projects. So far, no pianist has done such a unique project with their own exhibitions. The public loves such visual piano music evenings.

He is a permanent Jury Member of the *Music and Stars Awards*, an online edition of the Classical Music International Competition, and he was a Jury Member of *Merci, Maestro!* International Competition for Young Pianists in Brussels, Belgium.

Also, Armen-Levon Manaseryan loves to share knowledge and often gives master classes. He has a piano class in Cologne and Bonn. In 2022 he was invited to teach piano at the State Music School in Bergheim, Germany.



| Awards

Armen-Levon is Multi-Prize Winner, he has won medals and awards in numerous International Piano Competitions. Some of the awards are listed below:

Preservation Of The Armenian Nation

In 2021, Armen-Levon Manaseryan was awarded the Order by the *Cultural Armenia* Foundation and the *Fidayiner* Military-Patriotic Cultural Organization of the Republic of Armenia.



Komitas Medal

In 2017, in Berlin, at the 5th *Komitas and Bach* International Competition-Festival, he was awarded the Komitas gold medal.

Cups and First prizes

In 2016, in France, Armen-Levon Manaseryan awarded first prize at the 9th *Concours International de Piano de Nice Côte d'Azur* and in 2017, in Malta, awarded first prize at the *Valletta International Piano Competition*.



Valletta International Piano Festival Award

In 2018, in Malta, awarded at the Opening of the *Valletta International Piano Competition*, with the piano recital by Armen-Levon Manaseryan.



Awards

Memorial Medal

In 2006, in France, Armen-Levon Manaseryan awarded first prize at the 9th *Flame* International Piano Competition.



Bronze Medal

In 2018, in Kazakhstan, awarded the Bronze Medal and the third place at the VII Delphic Games of the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) and the CIS countries.



Mix Of Piano Performing Schools |



Armen-Levon Manaseryan graduated from three conservatories in three different countries with the highest possible marks:

Armen-Levon studied Piano Performance at the *Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan* in Armenia, with Professor Sergey Saradjian. Then continued his education at the *Royal Conservatory of Liège* in Belgium, with Professors Etienne Rappe and François Thiry. After Belgium, he continued his study in Germany, at the *Musikhochschule Münster*, with Professor Heribert Koch.

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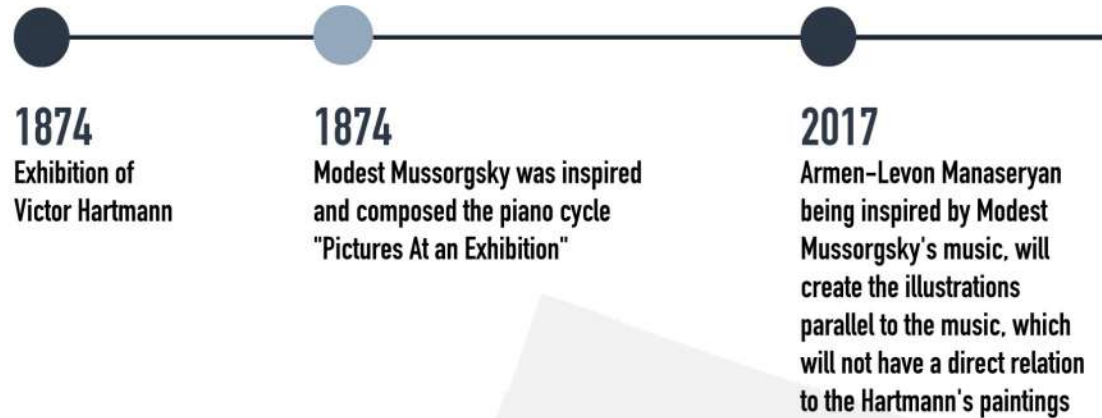


| Color Of Sound

Color of sound

Armen-Levon Manaseryan had the idea of this project for a long time. Having inherited artistic talents from his grandmother, who was a famous Armenian Artist, and member of the Artists Union of Armenia – Aida Boyadjian, the pianist developed a professional hobby – painting.

As many people know, when Mussorgsky went to the architect and artist Victor Hartmann's exhibit, he was inspired to paint the famous *Pictures At an Exhibition* piano cycle in 1874.



Color Of Sound is the complete opposite: Armen-Levon Manaseryan, being inspired by Mussorgsky's music, has created his own 10 illustrations related to the music, which do not have a direct relationship to Hartmann's paintings.

All Armen-Levon's paintings come into motion, reminiscent of movie screenshots. Some of the pictures are very thought-provoking. What is the story behind the finished illustration that the public sees?

For this project, the special handmade paper was used in the size of 50×38 with irregularly cut edges, reminiscent of papyrus. This gives a special effect, especially when presented at an exhibition. Mixed techniques were used.

The world premiere of this project took place in the Heribert Koch master classes in Germany, along with the piano recital of Armen-Levon Manaseryan. After the premiere, the project was staged in Germany, Portugal, France, Armenia, Malta, Belgium, Spain, and many other countries. On all stages, in all countries where *Color Of Sound* has been, the audience has warmly welcomed the unique idea of solo piano concerts with exhibitions.

In 2017-2018, *KNS Classical* Label presented the debut CD album of Armen-Levon Manaseryan – *Color Of Sound*. In addition to Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, he recorded the *Piano Dances* by Armenian composer Komitas Vardapet. Notably, the recording of the Komitas piano works represents the first instance of an Armenian composer being featured on the *KNS Classical* label. The CD's booklet also includes Armen-Levon Manaseryan's 10 illustrations based on impressions of Mussorgsky's music.

Color Of Sound |



| Color Of Sound



Color Of Sound |





| Color Of Sound



*“Immense musical and pianistic pleasure.
His recording will be a success!”*

Gabriel Tacchino

Pianist, the solo student of Francis Poulenc
About the debut CD of Armen-Levon Manaseryan

Color of sound



VITRAGE
FESTIVAL
INTERNATIONAL
D'ART ET DE MUSIQUE

VITRAGE International Festival Of Music And Art

In 2016, in Brussels, Armen-Levon Manaseryan founded the *VITRAGE International Festival of Music and Art* in Brussels and became its artistic director. Numerous solo concerts, chamber music concerts, exhibitions, and other performances were organized within the framework of the festival.

One of the main directions and goals of the *VITRAGE* festival was the promotion of Armenian music and Armenian culture in the heart of Europe, in Brussels. It was an invisible cultural bridge between Europe and Armenia. After the concerts, where the performance of Armenian music was an unwritten law, the audience, who did not know Armenian culture, went home, having already fallen in love with Armenian music. And after the theatrical performance of the *Armenian-Moscow Theater*, dedicated to the Armenian Genocide, the audience sat with tears in their eyes.

A number of special collaborations made up a big concert with the participation of professors and students of the *Tchaikovsky Music School* (present: *BRIMA*, Brussels), who performed works by the winners of the *Edvard Mirzoyan Competition for Young Composers* (Armenia). Children of different years, as well as their professors, performed works written by young composers. Some works even remained in the repertoire of young performers.

Armen-Levon Manaseryan invited guest artists from different countries to perform at the festival, including Grammy-nominated American-Armenian composer Hayg Boyadjan (USA), Honored Art Worker of Armenia, cellist Aram Talalyan (Armenia), pianist Julietta Vardanyan (Armenia), saxophonist Harutyun Harutyunyan (France), folk multi-instrumentalist Harutyun Chkolyan (Armenia), Karapetyan Brothers (Belgium/USA), the *Armenian-Moscow Theater* (Russia), and many other artists and ensembles. Armen-Levon Manaseryan also took part in the festival as a soloist and as a chamber musician.

Students from Armenia have always occupied a special place at the *VITRAGE* festival and have always been welcome guests. Students of the *Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan* (Armenia) had the opportunity to perform in the center of Europe and see the sights of Belgium.

Due to the relocation of Armen-Levon Manaseryan to Germany in 2018, the festival has suspended its activities, but in the future, it is planned to restart the festival. The new edition of the festival will be coming soon and promises big announcements.

The concerts were mainly held at the *Armenian Culture Center* in Brussels and at the *Russian Center for Science and Culture* in Brussels. The concerts were held with the support of the Armenian Embassy in Brussels, the Russian Embassy in Brussels, the *Composers Union* of Armenia, *YerazArt*, *Music of Armenia* (MoA), *ANM media*, *International Competition - Merci, Maestro!*, *Competition for Young Composers named after Edward Mirzoyan*, and the *Brussels International Music Academy* (BRIMA).





ART NEXT TO KIDS

Art Next To Kids

Armen-Levon Manaseryan is the founder of the *Art Next To Kids* charity art project for children with special needs and autism.

As we all know, music is processed in both hemispheres of the brain, it can stimulate cognitive functioning and may be used for the remediation of some speech/language skills. So the pianist decided to organize special concerts, with special "programmatic" piano music. In addition to piano performances, Armen-Levon Manaseryan talks about music, composers, and piano works for children with autism and children with special needs.

What is programmatic music? Programmatic music is a type of instrumental art music that attempts to musically render an extramusical narrative. The narrative itself might be offered to the audience through the piece's title, or in the form of program notes, inviting imaginative correlations with the music.

Such piano "programmatic" piano works as *Pictures At an Exhibition* by Mussorgsky, *Carnaval*, Op. 9 by Schumann, *The Carnival of the Animals* by Saint-Saëns, *Peer Gynt Suites* by Grieg, *Papillons*, Op. 2 by Schumann, and many other works, give children the opportunity to fantasize during the piano performance and draw under these impressions.

This is also a very good opportunity to introduce children to the pearls of classical piano music. It is very nice to see the delight and joy on the faces of children and their parents after such events.

During these special concerts, there are also certified child psychologists, who work with children.

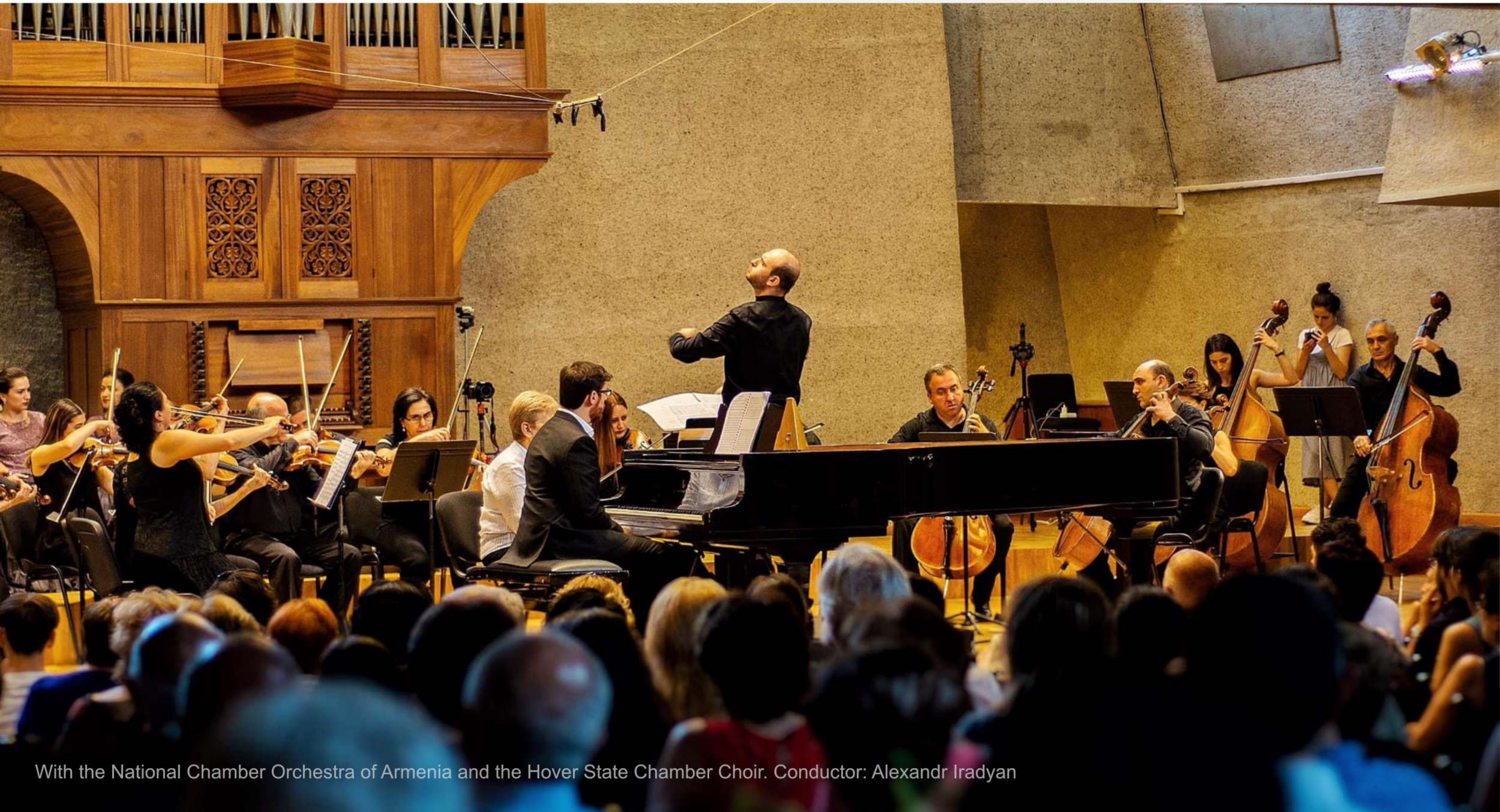
Art Next To Kids charity art project supported by *Source Foundation* Supporting Children With Disabilities, *People LLC* Child Care Service, *Artconcept* International Association, *Naregatsi* Art Institute, and *LOFT* Yerevan.



Piano Recitals and Concerts With Orchestra |

Armen-Levon has given many solo recitals, participated in prestigious festivals, performed as a solo pianist as well as a chamber musician.

His musical repertoire always features music representative of his Armenian roots, which he proudly plays in various concert halls in Europe, as a chamber musician and soloist, he gave several concerts and performed the premiers of works in various combinations, such as performing with the brass section of the *Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra*, with the brass section of the *Armenian National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet Orchestra*, with the *National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia*, with the *Hover State Chamber Choir*, with the *Rheinbogen* string ensemble, etc. Also, he has a series of concerts with the *Pianoxas Duo* project, with the Armenian-French saxophonist Harutyun Harutyunyan.



With the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia and the Hover State Chamber Choir. Conductor: Alexandr Iradyan

| Piano Recitals and Concerts With Orchestra





Color Of Sound

"KNS Classical" Label
Belgium/Spain
2017-2018

KNS Classical Label presents the debut CD album of Armen-Levon Manaseryan - «Color Of Sound».

The CD includes *The Piano Dances* by Armenian composer Komitas and *Pictures At an Exhibition* by Modest Mussorgsky.

The booklet also includes the 10 own paintings of Armen-Levon Manaseryan based on impressions of Mussorgsky's music.



Sustain Vol.3

"Navona Records" Label
Distributed by "Parma Recordings"
USA/Germany
2021-2022

Navona Records presents SUSTAIN VOL. 3, an exploration of the capabilities of piano and organ highlighting the varied compositional approaches of today's composers. Influenced by the classical canon and moving in new directions, the latest edition in the SUSTAIN series pays homage to the classical composers of yesterday, while thoughtfully expressing modern personalities and ideals in a dynamic presentation of new piano repertoire.

Armen-Levon Manaseryan participated in the CD-album of contemporary music with his recording of *Variations On A Theme By Bach* by Grammy-nominated Armenian-American composer Hayg Boyadjian.



Discography



Ave Maria in Music of the XVII-XX Centuries

«Compozitor • Saint-Petersburg»
Publishing House.
Germany/Russia
2021-2022

Most of the vocal compositions included in this compilation were written by famous composers of Western Europe on the verses of Catholic Prayers dedicated to the Virgin Maria. The compilation is supplied by the CD with the recordings of the piano accompaniment performed by Armen-Levon Manaseryan.

Program: Scarlatti, Durante, Händel, Beethoven, Schubert, Saint-Saëns, Fauré, Tosti.



Ave Maria in Music of the XVII-XX Centuries

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Most of the vocal compositions included in this compilation were written by famous composers of Western Europe on the verses of Catholic Prayers dedicated to the Virgin Maria. The compilation is supplied by the CD with the recordings of the piano accompaniment performed by Armen-Levon Manaseryan.

Program: Dumont, Bach-Gounod, Cotogni, Mozart, Cherubini, Schubert, Luzzi, Tosti.

Recording Session |



STEINWAY & SONS



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