



LISZT ACADEMY
FOUNDED 1875

A QUICK GUIDE TO **THE LISZT FERENC ACADEMY OF MUSIC**



BUDAPEST
•
HUNGARY





LISZT ACADEMY AT A GLANCE

- The Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Budapest is the only music academy in the world founded by Franz Liszt. The renowned piano virtuoso, composer, conductor, teacher, author and philanthropist established the institution in 1875.
- Liszt's credo was "Génie oblige!" The duty of an artist is to use his gifts for the benefit of humanity and to nurture genuine talent. Teaching at the Academy is rooted in this principle, reflecting the ideals of its visionary and versatile founder, a pioneer years ahead of his time.
- A straight line can be traced through four generations from Liszt to the Academy's piano professors of today.
- One of the world's finest music academies, offering a full spectrum of music education.
- Incorporates the Liszt Memorial Museum and Research Centre, the Kodály Music Pedagogy Institute and the Kodály Museum and Archives.
- The Liszt Academy is also recognised as a world-class concert centre with its unique acoustics and exquisite interior.
- The historic restored Concert Palace is a masterpiece of Art Nouveau architecture.

THE FACADE OF THE MAIN BUILDING AT LISZT FERENC SQUARE
© GYÖRGY DARABOS

LEGACY

- The Liszt Academy is proud to nurture the ongoing legacy of world famous Hungarian musicians like Liszt, Bartók, Kodály, Dohnányi, Hubay, Popper, Weiner, Ligeti and Kurtág, all of whom have shaped our style, approach and traditions.
- Our impressive list of alumni bridges genres, continents and ages. Sir Georg Solti, Antal Doráti, Sándor Végh, György Sebők, János Starker, Tamás Vásáry, Péter Frankl, György Pauk, Zoltán Kocsis, Dezső Ránki, András Schiff, Péter Eötvös, Miklós Perényi and Éva Marton, amongst others, have had an immense impact on the development of classical music.



GYÖRGY & MÁRTA KURTÁG
© JUDIT MARJAI



MIKLÓS PERÉNYI
© ISTVÁN FAZEKAS



BÉLA BARTÓK, ZOLTÁN KODÁLY & THE WALDBAUER-KERPELY QUARTET
© MTA BTK ZTI

TEACHING FOCUSING ON QUALITY

- Students of the Liszt Academy are educated following the institution's twin spirits of tradition and progressiveness, while breathing in the inspiring atmosphere of the Concert Centre with its international concert life.
- Teaching is conducted on a one-to-one basis and in small groups and workshops, respecting the individual needs of each talented student. The study of all classical instruments, singing and opera, jazz and folk music, orchestral and choral conducting, music pedagogy, and composition are offered as majors.
- Programmes are offered in English, leading to BA, MA, DLA and PhD degrees.



TOP-QUALITY EDUCATION

- 12 departments and 24 sub-departments
- approximately 170 professors, 800 students
- diverse international student community from over 40 countries
- ranked as the 30th best performing arts university in the world
- well equipped classrooms and facilities
- more than 100 Hungarian and international prizes won by students & professors each year
- hosts the Liszt Academy Central Library with the biggest music-related collection in Hungary



INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED DEPARTMENTS

- Chamber Music
- Church Music*
- Composition
- Conducting
- Folk Music*
- Jazz
- Keyboard & Harp
- Music Pedagogy (Kodály Institute Budapest division)*
- Musicology*
- Music Theory*
- Strings
- Vocal & Opera Studies
- Woodwind & Brass

* training only in Hungarian



PERFORMANCE SKILLS ENHANCEMENT

- **Chamber music** – regarded as an essential part of professional musicianship development at the Liszt Academy
- **Master classes** – wide range of masterclasses held by internationally recognized artists, e.g. Jordi Savall, Boris Berman, Emerson Quartet, Leszek Możdżer, Avishai Cohen, Gordon Stout, Felix Renggli, Maria Graf, Bruno Canino, Nobuko Imai, David Fray, Thomas Adès, Steven Isserlis
- **Performance opportunities** – students featured in public concerts in breathtaking, state-of-the-art venues
 - Workshops of the Liszt Academy, Masters of the Orchestra, Talent Obliges series
 - Liszt Academy Symphony Orchestra & Alma Mater Choir conducted by Ken-Ichiro Kobayashi, Pinchas Steinberg, Zoltán Rácz, Gábor Takács-Nagy
- **Concerts** – free access for students to all concerts at the Liszt Academy



ENTRANCE EXAM REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION DEADLINE

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 2021. MARCH 31ST

ENTRANCE EXAM REQUIREMENTS:

BASSON:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-bassoon-requirements-116767>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-bassoon-requirements-116764>

CELLO:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-violoncello-requirements-116761>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-violoncello-requirements-116758>

CLARINET:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-clarinete-requirements-116751>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-clarinete-requirements-116750>

DOUBLE BASS:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-double-bass-requirements-116747>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-classical-double-bass-requirements-116746>

FLUTE:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-flute-requirements-116745>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-flute-requirements-116744>

FRENCH HORN:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-french-horn-requirements-116743>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-french-horn-requirements-116742>



GUITAR:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-classical-guitar-requirements-116741>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-classical-guitar-requirements-116632>

HARPSICHORD:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-harpsichord-requirements-116738>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-harpsichord-requirements-116737>

OBOE:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-oboe-requirements-116736>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-oboe-requirements-116735>

ORGAN:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-organ-requirements-116734>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-organ-requirements-116733>

PIANO:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-classical-piano-requirements-116727>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-classical-piano-requirements-116726>

SAXOPHONE:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/saxophone-admission-requirements-for-ba-and-non-degree-studies-122012>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/saxophone-admission-requirements-for-ma-studies-121998>



TROMBONE:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-part-time-trombone-requirements-116723>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-trombone-requirements-116722>

TRUMPET:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-trumpet-requirements-116721>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-trumpet-requirements-116720>

TUBA:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-tuba-requirements-116719>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-tuba-requirements-109440>

VIOLA:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-and-non-degree-viol-a-requirements-116716>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-viol-a-requirements-116715>

VIOLIN:

BA ADMISSION REQUIREMENT:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ba-violin-requirements-116712>

NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/non-degree-violin-requirements-112388>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

<https://lfze.hu/classical-instruments/ma-violin-requirements-116710>

VOCAL AND OPERA STUDIES:

BA & NONDEGREE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

FOR CLASSICAL SINGING:

<https://lfze.hu/vocal-and-opera-studies/ba-and-non-degree-classical-singing-requirements-116604>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR ORATORIO AND LIED SINGING:

<https://lfze.hu/vocal-and-opera-studies/ma-oratorio-and-lied-singing-requirements-116603>

MA ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERA SINGING

<https://lfze.hu/vocal-and-opera-studies/ma-opera-singing-requirements-116602>



INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- Following the principles of Ferenc Liszt we constantly strive to establish and develop international projects involving the most prestigious art universities from all over the world.
- The themes of these various initiatives range from exploring great composers – such as Liszt and Bartók – through ensemble playing and operas, to contemporary reflections and compositions, and interdisciplinary projects.



PROJECTS:

- Opera Exam Festival – four-day showcase with guest performances by leading European conservatories
- International Éva Marton Singing Competition
- Bartók World Competition and Festival – the competition is built around the most characteristic elements of the Bartók oeuvre, namely violin, piano, chamber music and composition, in a six-year cycle (for more information about the first competition see pages 8-9).
- Reconnections – annual workshops and concerts in cooperation with the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance
- Kurtág-Ligeti Workshop – five-day instrumental and composition masterclasses
- Crosscurrents – a contemporary music programme series organised with the Music Academy of Vienna
- Erasmus+ International Strategic Cooperation for the creative renewal of music education practice in Hungary, the Netherlands and Scotland based on the Kodalyian music pedagogical principles
- Supported by the Creative Europe EU “L’Europe du Piano” international project with France, Italy and Hungary aims to enable the professional development of young European pianists



THE BARTÓK WORLD COMPETITION & FESTIVAL

The Liszt Academy, with financial support from the Hungarian Ministry of Human Capacities, launched in 2017 the Bartók World Competition & Festival on the occasion of the 135th anniversary of the birth of Béla Bartók.


Besides featuring a repertoire demanding the very highest musical expertise, the format of the Bartók World Competition and Festival achieves something totally new compared to traditional music competitions. The competition is built around the most characteristic strands of the Bartók oeuvre, that is, piano, violin, chamber music and composition, in a six-year cycle. The individual instrumental competitions are organized every second year, with composer competitions in alternate years, chosen to complement the following instrumental category.

This distinctive format attracts the attention of the best instrumentalists of the next musician generation to the works of Bartók and inspires young composers to create new works written in the spirit of Bartók.



BÉLA BARTÓK
(ARCHIVE PHOTO)

TIMING OF THE BARTÓK COMPETITION

March 2018	Announcement of composition competition (piano pieces)	November 2022	Gala concert of composition competition; Announcement of violin competition
25 November 2018	Gala concert of composition competition; Announcement of piano competition	September 2023	Violin competition
7-15 September 2019	Piano competition	 A photograph of three young women, the violin competition finalists, standing on a stage in front of a grand piano. They are wearing dark dresses and holding their violins. <p>THE THREE FINALISTS OF VIOLIN 2017: ÁGNES LANGER, TAKAGI RIRIKO AND COSIMA SOULEZ-LARIVIÈRE (from left to right) © ADRIÁN ZOLTÁN</p>	
November 2019	Announcement of composition competition (string quartet pieces)		
November 2020	Gala concert of composition competition; Announcement of string quartet / chamber music competition		
September 2021	String quartet / chamber music competition		
November 2021	Announcement of composition competition (violin pieces)		

THE THREE FINALISTS OF VIOLIN 2017: ÁGNES LANGER, TAKAGI RIRIKO AND COSIMA SOULEZ-LARIVIÈRE (from left to right)
© ADRIÁN ZOLTÁN



ITALIAN VIOLINIST SALVATORE ACCARDO (bottom row in the middle) HEADED THE INTERNATIONAL JURY OF VIOLIN 2017. THE JURY MEMBERS WERE BARNABÁS KELEMEN, TIBOR TALLIÁN, QIAN ZHOU, KRZYSZTOF WĘGRZYN, IVAN ŽENATÝ, VILMOS SZABADI (upper row from left to right), JOEL SMIRNOFF AND TAKASHI SHIMIZU (bottom row from left to right).
© LÁSZLÓ MUDRA

MORE THAN JUST A COMPETITION

The Bartók World Competition and Festival is much more than just a music competition: it is at the same time a scientific event and festival targeting a broad audience. Every other year, beside the competitions in instrumental categories, there will be a scientific conference held in the Institute of Musicology, with the focus firmly on Bartók in a scientific context, the theme of which is always topical and illuminated by the very latest research from Hungary and abroad.

“Following Bartókian examples, the Bartók World Competition & Festival creates a tradition, while audiences can gain a better understanding of the art of Bartók.”

Dr Vigh Andrea,
President of the
Liszt Academy



© ANDREA FELVÉGI

LISZT ACADEMY FACILITIES

- The main university building is located in this inspiring historic city; the Academy lies on the doorstep of Budapest's dynamic concert life, and offers easy access to the city's thriving entertainment life and rich cultural scenery
- Concert halls, an opera rehearsal studio, and numerous practice venues
- More than 40 classrooms, some named after world-famous teachers of the Academy, like Kodály, Bartók, Dohnányi and Hubay
- Research library meeting the needs of the university: 450 000 music scores, 70 000 books and 100 journals, 25 000 CDs, DVDs and vinyl records
- 237 newly renovated musical instruments in the Instrument Rental Office



THE LIGETI BUILDING

- The innovatively reconstructed building on Wesselényi Street houses the management and administration of the Academy. The building also contains lecture rooms suitable for teaching both theoretical and practical music subjects, a professional studio available for high quality recording and 28 practice rooms for students.



STUDENT'S LIFE



KODÁLY INSTITUTE

The Kodály Zoltán Musical Pedagogy Institute of the Liszt Academy of Music has been a distinguished international centre for advanced studies in Kodály-based music education and music teacher training ever since its opening in Kecskemét in 1975.

The Institute provides graduate and post-graduate training programmes for both Hungarian and international students in the field of Hungarian music pedagogy and methodology based on the music pedagogical concept developed by the renowned Hungarian composer, educator and researcher Zoltán Kodály. The Institute has had a profound influence on several generations of music educators from around the world who have come to study in Kecskemét and who have participated in the Institute's summer and one-year courses.

The ceaseless efforts of past and present members of the faculty to ensure that the Kodály Institute remains equal to or surpasses other music teacher institutions in the world has significantly contributed to the spread of the principles of Kodály music education across five continents. The Institute today provides MA and non-degree training programmes. The Institute has a musical pedagogy group responsible for teachers' training located in Budapest.

www.kodaly.hu



LISZT ACADEMY CONCERT CENTRE

The Concert Centre of the Liszt Academy was launched in 2013, on the occasion of the handover of the restored main building. It is dedicated to the organization of the Academy's rich concert life through the staging of new productions and concerts enhancing the academic life of the university, as well as coordinating guest productions. Since its reopening, the Liszt Academy has become a significant global concert venue for music old and new, Hungarian and international, hosting the finest soloists, orchestras and composers of our time.

As one of the most important traditions of the university, students can attend all concerts free of charge – the students' terrace has become a legendary spot in our building. The Concert Centre organises around 1000 concerts a year hosted in the two concert halls.

Chamber music concerts play a prominent role in the schedule of the Concert Centre, as does the organization of specialized workshops. The hosting of a variety of concert series offer performance opportunities for our talented students, and the Liszt Academy Orchestra is exceedingly popular with our audiences. The academic staff of the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, themselves outstanding and internationally celebrated musicians, often take to the stage in chamber music formations alongside many world-famous colleagues and ensembles.

The Concert Centre of the Liszt Academy also organises music competitions. The International Éva Marton Singing Competition has become one of the most prestigious vocal contests, while the Bartók World Competition and Festival distinguishes itself from other contests with its unique categories corresponding closely to Bartók's oeuvre: violin, piano, string quartet and composition.



LISZT ACADEMY CONCERT PALACE

The Concert Palace is regarded as a true sanctuary of music. Built by Flóris Korb and Kálmán Giergl, it is one of the most impressive examples of Central European Art Nouveau architecture.

GRAND HALL

The 900-seat Grand Hall, with its intricate symbolic adornment, is known for its unparalleled acoustics and atmosphere.

“The Grand Hall is a sacred place for ceremonies, and the ceremonies are the concerts themselves. The roles of priestesses are taken by the musicians, among whom the soloists can be regarded as the embodiments of Orpheus, that is, if we are to believe the motifs on their dressing room windows. Participation in the ritual acts are sanctioned by inscriptions – Favete lingvis and Sursum corda – while Apollo’s altars decorated with serpents affirm the sacred nature of the concerts. As we listen to the music, our souls, like the geniuses holding on to their lyres on the façade, rise into Apollonian heights where we can see the god’s portraits, altars and descending angels, as well as the words Harmony, Beauty, Rhythm, Poetry, Melody and Imagination reflected in the celestial water beyond the vaulted sky – and actually written in the skylights. Meanwhile, the audience, tenderly hugged by Apollo, is turned into a laurel tree like Daphne.

In the Grand Hall, music itself is made visible – and music, as Nietzsche said, is the direct idea of the eternal life.”

(**Endre Raffay**, PhD, art historian)



THE WINNER, COSIMA SOULEZ-LARIVIÈRE, AT THE GRAND FINAL
OF THE BARTÓK WORLD COMPETITION & FESTIVAL, 2017
© LÁSZLÓ MUDRA

SIR GEORG SOLTÍ CHAMBER HALL

The 300-seat Sir Georg Solti Chamber Hall is newly equipped to fulfil its primary role as a functioning opera theatre.

“In the last few decades the international opera repertoire has gone through enormous changes. The growing supply of Baroque and contemporary compositions have opened up new opportunities for the students of the Vocal and Opera Department, as well as for other faculties at the Liszt Academy. The reopening on 22 October 2013 of the Chamber Hall as a chamber opera venue greatly enhances the music life of not only the Liszt Academy but of Budapest in general.”

(**Máté Mesterházi**, musicologist)



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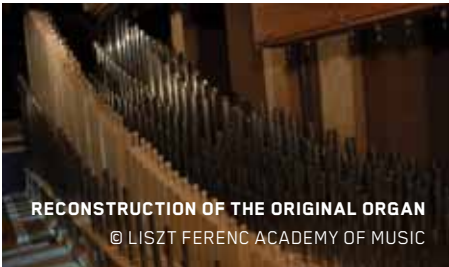
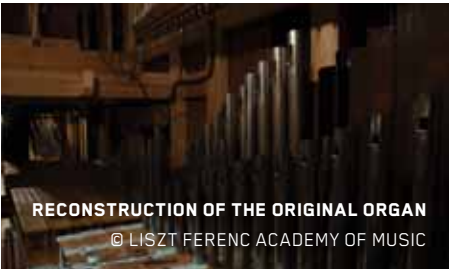
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RETURN OF THE NEWLY RESTORED ORGAN OF THE GRAND HALL ON THE BIRTHDAY OF FRANZ LISZT

The first organ made exclusively for a concert hall in Hungary, the organ of the Grand Hall was first played at the inauguration of the new Liszt Ferenc Academy building on 15 May 1907. This magnificent instrument, whose façade was to become the emblematic symbol of 20th-century Hungarian music, is one of only three Romantic organs in the world of comparably high quality and grand size. As well as being the largest organ ever produced by its builders A. Voit & Söhne, the instrument enjoyed immediate international acclaim, as for the first time in the world the stage keyboards supplied with electric tracker action enabled the organist to sit in direct proximity of the audience and the other musicians performing on the stage.

Sadly, the original instrument increasingly lost its genuine character as a result of repeated misguided reconstructions between 1925 and 1967. Lacking proper maintenance, the organ became much less reliable, so much so that in 1967 the leadership of the Liszt Academy chose to procure a completely new instrument. The original façade of the organ was silenced, leaving the pipes to function merely as decorative elements to the Grand Hall, while parts of the Voit organ were exiled to various regions of the country.

Reconstruction of the original organ, which was funded by the Hungarian government and took all heritage conservation criteria into consideration, took over 8 years to complete. Reborn in the autumn of 2018, the Voit organ, renewed in appearance and sound, is once again a key element in the concert life of the Liszt Ferenc Academy. The organ's size and robust new condition enable the concert performance of the entire organ literature.





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LISZT FERENC MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Though he refused to draw a salary from the Academy, Ferenc Liszt, professor and founding president, received a service apartment in the building of the Old Academy of Music. He spent the final five years of his life in the apartment. Every single object in this museum – including the very table Liszt composed at, his abbé hat (galero) and travel bag, the Chickering concert piano in the salon decorated with peacock wallpaper, and the main instrument in masterclasses, the Bösendorfer piano – evoke the unique figure of this music genius, whose personality and aura immediately capture the imagination of visitors from all over the world.

The institution nurtures close professional relations with Liszt memorial centres functioning elsewhere in Europe, including those in Bayreuth, Weimar, Raiding and Schillingsfürst.

This building was used as the main building of the Academy of Music from 1879 to 1907. It still houses the Church Music Department. Organ, harpsichord and harp classes are held here, as are various language courses and chamber music, strings and guitar classes. The Chamber Hall is a venue for public and university concerts, exams and auditions.

The Liszt Research Centre coordinates research on the life and work of Liszt in Hungary.

The museum provides tourists with audio guides in 15 languages; in addition, personal guided tours are available in seven foreign languages.

www.lisztmuseum.hu

ZOLTÁN KODÁLY MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

The Kodály Memorial Museum, which opened in 1990 in the composer's former flat in Budapest, operates under the supervision of the Kodály Institute and is one of the most important memorial places in Hungarian musical culture.

From October 1924 till his death in March 1967 Kodály lived at the Körönd ('circle') which today bears his name.

Besides the permanent exhibition that presents Kodály's apartment in its original splendour, the Kodály Museum holds temporary exhibitions and serves as a venue for short courses, chamber music concerts and musical gatherings.

The Kodály Archives is a private independent establishment and also a co-existing institution of the Museum that operates under the same roof. Its primary task is to collect, preserve and register documents relating to Kodály (manuscripts, printed scores, photos, sound recordings and motion pictures). Another aim of the Archives is to promote research on Kodály.

www.kodaly.hu/museum



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