

Sabin Levi

krokotak@hotmail.com

musicology-bg.com/sabin/index.html

Vita as of 2024

EDUCATION

Composition

2004	D.M.A., University of Kansas
1997	M.M., Brigham Young University
1995	B. Mus., Jerusalem Rubin Academy for Music and Dance, Jerusalem, Israel

Organ

2004	D.M.A., (second) University of Kansas
1998	M.M., (second) Brigham Young University
1995	B. Mus., (second) Jerusalem Rubin Academy for Music and Dance, Jerusalem, Israel
1986 -1990	Organ study in the Bulgarian Music Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria Pianist Diploma, Sofia Music School, Sofia, Bulgaria

Carillon

1998 – 1999	Studied with Prof. Albert Gerken in the University of Kansas Studied with Prof. Don Cook in Brigham Young University
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CERTIFICATIONS

Organ

1999	FAGO (Fellow of the American Guild of Organists), AGO
1998	AAGO (Associate of the American Guild of Organists), AGO

Carillon

1998	Carillonneur Player Member Certificate of the GCNA (Guild of Carillonneurs in North America)
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COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

2023	Book of the year Prize, Union of Bulgarian Composers
2022	Second Prize, Ivan Spassov International Composition Competition Plovdiv, Bulgaria
2015	Musicology Editor's Award, Union of Bulgarian Composers, Bulgaria
2010	Third Prize, Ivan Spassov Composition Competition, Plovdiv, Bulgaria

2005	Anthony B. Cius Composition Competition (University of Kansas), USA
2004	Ruth and Clarence Mader Scholarship Grant, USA
1998	Second Prize, Mayhew Composition Competition, USA
1998	Jellison Scholarship (University of Kansas), USA
1993-1994	America-Israel Cultural Foundation Competition, Israel (as an organist)
1991-1992	America-Israel Cultural Foundation Competition, Israel (as an organist)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Teaching

2020 -	Professor, Music Theory and Organ, National Music Academy “Prof. Pancho Vladigerov”, Sofia, Bulgaria
2015 -	Associate Professor, Music Theory and Organ, NMA, Sofia, Bulgaria
2011 -	Assistant Professor, Music Theory, NMA
2009 - 2013	Organ instructor, New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria
1995 – 1997	Assistant organ instructor, Brigham Young University – taught two undergraduate group organ courses

Organist and Choir Conductor

2005 – 2008	Staff Organist, Community of Christ Headquarters, Independence, MO
2002 – 2006	Organist and Composer-in-Residence, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Independence, MO
1999 – 2008	Organist and Choir Director, St. Rafael The Archangel Church (Catholic), Kansas City, MO
1999 – 2001	Organist and Assistant Choir Director, Red Bridge Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Kansas City, MO
1998	Organist, First Church of Christ, Scientist, Lawrence, KS
1997	Assistant Organist, Cathedral of Madeleine (Catholic), Salt Lake City, UT
1996 – 1997	Organist, Orem Community Church (United Church of Christ), Orem, Utah
1995 - 1996	Organist, Trinity Methodist Church, Highland Park, NJ

Masterclasses taught

2023	Tallinn Music Academy, Estonia
2010	New Bulgarian University, Sofia
2007	Graceland University, Lamoni, IA
2005	Graceland University, Lamoni, IA

Carillonneur

1996 – 1998	Assistant University Carillonneur, Brigham Young University
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Organ Teachers

1998 – 2004	Prof. Michael Bauer, University of Kansas
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1995 – 1998	Prof. Parley Belnap, Brigham Young University
1998	Dr. Richard Elliott, LDS Tabernacle Organist
1990 – 1995	Elisabeth Roloff, Jerusalem Music Academy, Jerusalem, Israel

Organ Masterclasses

2004	Karel Paukert, Lawrence, KS
2001	Susan Landale, Lawrence
2000	Gillian Weir, Lawrence
2000	Catharine Crozier, Lawrence
1999	Olivier Latry, Lawrence
1998	Marie-Claire Alain, Lawrence
1996	Ann Labunsky, Provo, UT
1997	Richard Elliott, Salt Lake City, UT
1997	Yanka Hekimova, Paris, France
1992	Istvan Ella, Tel Aviv, Israel
1989	Milan Schlehta, Prague, Czech Republic

Organ recordings

2023	<i>17+1. J. S. Bach's Leipzig Chorales – in Bologna, Italy</i>
2022	<i>Sabin Levi in Bologna 2022</i>
2019	<i>Sabin Levi – Composer, Organist</i>
2017	<i>Sabin Levi: Organ Choral Preludes Based on Sephardic Songs</i> (recorded at the church of La Madeleine, Paris)
2016	<i>Music From Years Past</i> (CDBaby)
2014	Participation: In NMA's Brass Department CD
2012	<i>Organ Mosaic IV</i> – (CDBaby)
2010	Sabin Levi: <i>Organ Music</i> , in own performance (CDBaby)
2009	<i>Organ Mosaic III</i> – (released by Diuckal, Bulgaria)
2007	<i>Organ Mosaic II</i> (released by ZBPI, USA)
2005	<i>Organ Mosaic</i> (ZBPI)
2001	Ami Maayani, <i>Five Arabesques</i> , participation (released by Fons, Israel)

Composition teachers

1998 – 2004	Prof. Charles Hoag, University of Kansas
1996 – 1998	Prof. David Sargent, Brigham Young University
1996 – 1997	Prof. Murray Boren, Brigham Young University
1990 – 1995	Prof. Mark Kopytman, Jerusalem Rubin Academy for Music and Dance
1989 – 1990	Prof. Alexander Tanev (Bulgaria)
1989 – 1991	Prof. Velislav Zaimov (Bulgaria)

Composition Masterclasses

2004	Michael Torke, Lawrence KS
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2000	David Gompper, Lawrence
2000	Chen Yi, Lawrence
2000	David Dzubay, Lawrence

Composition recordings

2011	HORS String Quartet (participation), NMA Sofia
2010	Sabin Levi: Organ Music (CDBaby)
2008	New Music for Concert (participation), Beauport Record
2005	Music by Bulgarian Jewish Composers (participation) (CMP, Bulgaria)

Conference participation (a partial list), as a composer, performer and lecturer

2023	(November)	"Recording Organ in Bologna" – Intgeral Music Theory Conference, NMA
2022		Two music theory presentations, Music Theory Conference, NMA Sofia
2018	(November)	Rousse University Music Conference, Rousse, Bulgaria
	(February)	"Bulgarian Musicology in Retrospect and Perspective" – hosted by the Musicology Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia
2017		Plovdiv Music Academy Music Theory Conference, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
2014		Music Theory Conference, NMA Sofia
2013		Music Theory Conference, NMA Sofia
2012		Natasha Yapova Honorary Conference, NMA Sofia
2012		Choir and Organ Conference, NMA Sofia
2011		"New Bulgarian Music", UBC Sofia, Bulgaria
2010		Sofia Music Academy, Sofia
2008		New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria
2005		SCI Conference in University of Texas - San Antonio, TX
2004		SCI Annual National Conference, University of Iowa, IA
2004		SCI Conference in Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR
2003		Aspen Composer's Conference, Aspen CO
2003		SCI Conference in Stetson University, DeLand, FL
2003		Electric Rainbow Festival Dartmouth College, NH
2002		The Music of Olivier Messiaen University of Kansas, KS
2002		Computer Music World conference and workshop (Bulgaria)
2002		CMS Great Plains Conference, (College Music Society), NE
2002		New Bulgarian University, Sofia
2000		Music Midst Us Conference (Society of Composers, Inc.), KS

Selected Organ Composition and Carillon Events

2025	(January)	Radio presentation, interview, Bulgarian National Radio https://bnr.bg/hristobotev/post/102122508
2024	(January)	Recital, Israeli Organ Festival, Haifa University, Haifa, Israel
	(May)	Recital, Fiori Musicali Festival, Dobrich, Bulgaria
	(June)	Recital, Sofia Music Weeks Festival, Sofia, Bulgaria
	(September)	Radio presentation, interview, Musica Ficta Radio, Bulgaria

		https://soundcloud.com/off-beat-radio/musica-ficta-120924-ft-sabin-levi
2023	(December)	Two concerts with choir, Pillichsdorf, Austria
	(May)	Organ recital, (with Vratsa Philharmony), Bulgaria Hall, Sofia
	(April)	Organ Workshop, NMA Sofia
	(October)	Recital, Tallinn Music Academy, Estonia
		Recital, St/ Nicholas church, Tallinn, Estonia
		Recital, Sofia Music Weeks Festival – Church of St. Joseph, Sofia
2022	(July)	Recital, including own compositions, St. Antony church, Bologna, Italy (Bologna Summer Organ Festival)
	(June)	Recital, <i>Sofia Music Weeks</i> Festival, St. Joseph church, Sofia
	(June)	Recital, Yambol Concert Hall, Yambol, Bulgaria
	(May)	Concert, together with organist Darina Dikova, NMA Sofia
2021	(August)	Concert, together with the soprano Krasimira Dimitrova Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, Varna, Bulgaria
	(May)	Recital, Dobrich Music Hall, Dobrich, Bulgaria
2020	(September)	Recital, church of St. Michael the Archangel, city of Rakovsky, Bulgaria
2020	(March)	Lecture-recital, NMA Sofia
2019	(April)	Lecture-recital, NMA Sofia
		Recital, Dobrich Music Hall, Dobrich, Bulgaria
	(March)	Recital, Church of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, Varna
2019	(February)	Recital, St. Heggvik church, Bjugn, Norway
		Recital, Curhauskapelle, Stephansplatz, Vienna, Austria
2018	(October)	Lecture-recital, Evangelical Methodist Church, Rousse Recital (Bach Triosonatas Integral) NMA, Sofia
	(September)	Organ Inauguration recital, Evangelical Methodist Church, Rousse
	(August)	Recital, Varna Methodist Church
	(April)	Recital, Niedermuenster Church, Regensburg, Germany
	(April)	Lecture-Recital, Church Music Academy, Regensburg, Germany
2017	(July)	Recital, Evangelical Methodist Church, Varna, Bulgaria
2017	(April)	Recital, St. Michael in Kornhill Concert Series, London, UK
2016	(February)	Two recitals, and a theory lecture, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem
2015		Recital in Schneeberg Concert Series (St. Wolfgang church, Germany)
2014		Organ Seminar participation, NMA Sofia (as a lecturer and performer)
2013	(October)	Two organ recitals and a carillon concert, Israel (Tel Aviv and Jerusalem)
2013	(September)	Concert participation, Sofia Catholic Cathedral
2013	(May)	Concert participation (with orchestra), Bulgaria Concert Hall, Sofia
2013	(April)	Concert in the Vatican Institute of Sacred Music, The Vatican
2012		Concert participation, Sofia Catholic Cathedral
2011		Organ Recital/Slide show in the Bulgarian Music Academy, Sofia Recital of own organ music, as part of <i>ppPianissimo</i> Music Festival, Sofia,
2010		Swedish chamber music concert series in Bulgaria, participation Organ music broadcast and interview, Bulgarian National Radio
2009	(September)	Organ Music featured on KGNU Radio station, USA
2008		Organ Recital in Trinity Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX
2007		Organ meditations performed in concert in Graceland University
2007		Organ Recital in Southminster Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA
2006		Organ Recital in the church of St. Peter, New York. NY

2006	Organ Recital in the church of St. Peter, New York, NY (second time)
2006	Performed two recitals on KU Memorial Carillon
2006	Performed a recital at Community of Christ, Independence, MO
2005	Performed a concert and taught an organ masterclass in Graceland University, Lamoni, IA
2005	Organ performance featured on Kansas Public Radio (KANU 91.5 FM)
2004	Organ performance featured on Kansas Public Radio (KANU 91.5 FM)
2003	Recital, Cathedral of Saint Mary, Novi Sad, Serbia (This concert was featured on Serbian National Television and Radio and on <i>MOST</i> Private Television Channel)
2003	Performed two concerts at the First International Organ Festival, Israel
2003	Bachathon XXIV (Kansas City, MO) participation
2003	Benefit concert for the restoration of the Voit organ in Rousse, Bulgaria, at The University of Kansas and in Independence, MO
2002	Episcopal Cathedral Concert Series, Topeka, KS
2002	Recital, Bulgaria Hall, Sofia, Bulgaria
2001	Recital, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
1999	Recital, University of Kansas
1998	Temple Square Concert Series, Salt Lake City, Utah (both on the Assembly Hall, and Tabernacle organs)
1997	Recital, Church of St. Laurent, Paris, France
1996	Temple Square Concert Series (Assembly Hall organ)
1995	Recital, Bulgaria Hall organ, Sofia, Bulgaria
1990 – 1995	Various locations in Israel (Jerusalem, Tabha, Tel Aviv)
1993	Concert tour, Hungary (Budapest, Zalaegerseg, Seksaard)
1976 – 1990	Various concerts as a pianist, organist, and composer in Bulgaria

PUBLICATIONS

Books – author

2022 “Counterpoint – Baroque Style. Practical Instruction for Writing a Ricercar, Invention and Fugue” – textbook. Published by *In Sacris*, Bulgaria
ISBN: 978-619-90821-4-0.

2019 “Technical and Creative Challenges in Writing a Compound [Multi-Themed] Fugue“. Published by *In Sacris*, Bulgaria, ISBN: 978-619-90821-2-6

2013 “Polyphonic Aspects in the Music of Arthur Honegger”- published by *Dobrudzha Enterprises*, in Bulgarian, ISBN: 978-954-8200-34-9

2012 “Bulgarian Jewish Musicians” – Published by *CreateSpace*, USA,
ISBN: 978- 1478233459, in English

2009 “Sofia Central Synagogue and its Music Tradition” – Published by *CreateSpace*, USA, ISBN: 978-1477535561, in English.

2005 "Organ Culture in Israel and Palestine" – co-author, together with Gerard Levi (no relation), published by *BookSurge* USA, ISBN: 1-4196-1034-1. This book describes all known organs, players, organ compositions and related events. In English.

- translator

2019 "Counterpoint. The Polyphonic Vocal Style of the 16th Century" – translation to Bulgarian of Glenn Haydon's English translation of the original Danish study by Knud Jeppesen. Published by *In Sacris* (Bulgaria), ISBN 798-619-90821-3-3 – with own introduction and critical commentaries. With editor Prof. Goritsa Naydenova.

2017 "Polyphony – Strict Style, with Johann Joseph Fux" – translation to Bulgarian of part of J. J. Fux's "Gradus ad Parnassum" (in Latin), and also of Alfred Mann's English translation of it. Published by *In Sacris*, ISBN: 978-619- 90821-0-2 – with own foreword and critical commentaries. With editor Prof. Natasha Yapova.

- publisher and editor

2017 "Counterpoint. Polyphony" – by Assen Karastoyanov. Second edition. publ. by *In Sacris*, ISBN: 978-619-90821-1-9 – (ed. Prof. Goritsa Naydenova)

2016 "Exercises in Harmony, Polyphony and Orchestration" – by Assen Karastoyanov. Second Edition. Published online in www.musicology-bg.com

2014 "Choir Music on Jewish Themes" – by Prof. Nikolay Kaufman. Selection of his transcriptions for choir of Jewish folk songs. Engraver from manuscript, music editor, compiler, book design. www.musicology-bg.com

2011 "The A Capella Choir and the Organ – East-West Interactions" – book editor and compiler. Published by the Bulgarian Music Academy (March). Contains articles by multiple authors in Bulgarian, English and German. (with own article participation)

2011 "The Golden E flat and the Bronze Fifths" – The Unequal Temperaments and Old Tuning Systems" – by Kamen Petev. Music editor. ISBN: 978-954-92200-7-0.

Articles

- 2024** *Bulgarian Music for Organ* – in Scientific Conference "90 Years Union of Bulgarian Composers". Sofia: Union of Bulgarian Composers, 2024. ISBN: 978-619-90891-4-9
- 2023** *Recording Organ Album in Bologna* - together with Assist. Prof. Pavel Stefanov – in article compilation: "Academic Forum – Integral Music Theory 2023". ISSN: 2367-5985
- Designing the Perfect Concert Organ from the Ground Up* - Almanac of NMA "Professor Pancho Vladigerov". ISSN: 1313-9886 and ISSN: 2367-8011
- Summer in Bologna* - in Musical Horizons, 8/2018 ISSN: 1310-0076

- 2022** *The Counterpoint Textbook of Prof. Dimitar Radev – Strict (Renaissance) Style* – Almanac of NMA “Professor Pancho Vladigerov”. ISSN: 1313-9886 and ISSN: 2367-8011
- The Counterpoint Textbook of Prof. Dimitar Radev – Free (Baroque) Style* – in article compilation: “Academic Forum – Integral Music Theory 9/2022”. ISSN: 2367-5985
- 2021 *Organ Playing and Memorization* – in Almanac of NMA “Professor Pancho Vladigerov”. ISSN: 1313-9886 and ISSN: 2367-8011
- 2020 *Teaching Counterpoint, Strict Style – a really polyphonic task* – in Pedagogical Almanac of the University of Veliko Turnovo, ISSN: 1310-358X
<http://ph.uni-vt.bg/bookinfo.aspx?bid=633>
- 2019 *Knud Jeppesen’s Counterpoint – translated to Bulgarian* – in Bulgarian Musicology, volume 6/2019 (in Bulgarian), ISSN: 1310-0076
- Writing a four-voiced compound fugue in the style of Hindemith* (in Bulgarian) in Gallery of Words/Musical Logos <http://galerianadumite.bg/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/both-together-1.pdf>
 ISSN: 2534-8973
- 2018 *A Musical Experiment – Writing a Six-Voiced Quadruple Polymetric Fugue* (in Bulgarian),
 in Gallery of Words /MusicalLogos
<http://galerianadumite.bg/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Sabin-Levi.pdf>
 ISSN: 2534-8973
- A Negative and a Positive – Writing a Four-Voiced Mirror- Symmetric Compound Fugue* (in Bulgarian) – in Musical Horizons, 8/2018 ISSN: 1310-0076
- Writing a Five-Voiced Triple Fugue with a Retrograde Counterpoint* – in Conference Materials of University of Rousse (Bulgaria), online on <http://conf.uni-rouse.bg/bg/docs/cp18/6.3/6.3-8.pdf> ISSN: 2603-4123
- A Composer’s Experiment – Creating a Three-Voiced Single- Mirror Symmetric Compound Fugue* (in English) in Almanac of NMA “Professor Pancho Vladigerov”, 2018
 ISSN: 1313-9886 and ISSN: 2367-8011
- Ashkenazic Music* – in La Estreya, Sofia, (Bulgarian) ISSN: 131-8200
- 2017 *A First Translation to Bulgarian of Johann Joseph Fux’s Gradus ad Parnassum* (Bulgarian) – published by the Academy of Music and Dance Academy, Plovdiv, Bulgaria (ISBN: 978-954-2963-24-0)

- 2016 *Professor Assen Karastoyanov's Exercise Book and Counterpoint Textbook – in a Process of Second Edition* – Musical Horizons (5/2012015)
- Polyphonic language of Arthur Honegger* – (Bulgarian), publ. by The Almanac of the National Music Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2014 *Carillon* – NMA Almanac, Bulgaria
- Practica Musica: Music Teaching Software, Pros and Cons for it and Other Teaching Resources*, (Bulgarian) – in Materials from Academic Forum “Integral Music Theory 2014”, ISSN: 2367-5985
- 2013 *Nikolay Kaufman's Jewish Song Transcriptions* - NMA Almanac Melodic-Harmonic Language of Petr Eben – in <http://organ-library.blogspot.com>
- 2012 *Velislav Zaimov and the Bulgarian Organ Music* in <http://organ-library.blogspot.com/p/velislav-zaimov-and-bulgarian-organ.html>
- 2011 *Bulgarian Music for Organ and Choir: the First Bulgarian Organ Conference* – in The Organ (in English, UK), February
- 2010 *Julius Reubke and his 94th Psalm Sonata* - part 1– in Musical Horizons, Bulgaria (in Bulgarian)
- 2010 *Music for Organ by Bulgarian Composers*, Part 2 Diapason
- 2009 *Music for Organ by Bulgarian Composers* in Diapason, USA
- 2009 *Sofia Central Synagogue and its Musical Tradition* in Jewish Times, Bulgaria (in Bulgarian)
- 2009 *The most important organ music editions* (Bulgarian, in form of a booklet), Union of Bulgarian Composers
- 2008 *The Salt Lake Tabernacle Organ* (Bulgarian) – in Musical Horizons, Bulgaria
- 2007 Max Reger (in Bulgarian) – in http://organ-library.blogspot.bg/2007/06/blog-post_19.html
- 2007 *Modernistic Elements in the Organ Music of Petr Eben* (English) –in Organfocus.com
- 2007 *Jewish Choir Tradition in Sofia* (Bulgarian) – in Musical Horizons

- 2005 *Organ Culture in Israel and Palestine* (English) - in The American Organist, US
A Short Overview of César Franck's Organ Oeuvre (English) - in Organfocus.com
- 2004 *Zahari Mechkov* - In Musical Horizons (in Bulgarian)
- 2003 *A Brief History of the Organ Use in the Jewish Worship* (English) -in Shireinu Notes (USA)
Max Reger - Life and Work in Musical Horizons (Bulgarian)
- Adding Volts to the Pipes - A Short Survey of Compositions for Organ and Tape* (English) - in The Organ (UK)
- 2002 *Adding Volts to the Pipes - a Short Survey of Compositions for Organ and Tape* (English) - in Bombarde (USA)
- The Sole Surviving Bulgarian Church Organ* (English) - in TheTracker
- What the Medieval Organ was not* (Bulgarian) - in Musical Horizons
- Organs in Bulgaria* (English), together with Hristo Buzhev - in Diapason (USA)

Musicology website

- 2014 www.musicology-bg.com
Hosts musicological articles

Festival

- 2023 Organizer – Organ Festival Sofia 2023 – in Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2025 OFS (Organ Festival Sofia) - active every other year

Music Editor (sheet music)

- 2009– 2021 "Organ Music by Bulgarian Composers" –
Function: Series' compiler and editor.
Publisher: Union of Bulgarian Composers, Sofia, Bulgaria
Volumes published: 15. Composers represented: 32.
- 2013 "Solo Violin Music by Leon Surujon." Includes previously unpublished pieces. Together with Prof. Yossif Radionov.

Languages

Bulgarian, English, Hebrew, Russian and French reading comprehension

Memberships

SCI (Society of Composers, Inc.), BMI (Broadcast Music, Inc.), AGO (American Guild of Organists), CMS (College Music Society), ICL (Israeli Composer's League), UBC Union of Bulgarian Composers (also as a musicologist), GCNA (Guild of Carillonneurs in North America)

Links

Audio

Ami Maayani

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nV8RJB2ZzvE>

Video (on Youtube)

Reger:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGzeBTIB8QE>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_eCZkc3khQ

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvvagQsvW4o>

Carillon:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SzFiFWO6oh4>

Own Music (three choral preludes):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4aZvet2E0G8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JX6Jjhx-izU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBEY1FVNGfQ>