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A TALENT AGENCY

ÁRPÁD ERKEL

BALÁZS

COMPOSER ARRANGER ORCHESTRATOR
CONDUCTOR SONGWRITER MUSICIAN

PROFILE

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

ÁRPÁD ERKEL BALÁZS



Perhaps one of the greatest honors a composer may have, is to be a part of one of his son's film scores. And, for Árpád, it has occurred twice.

At the 89th Academy Awards Ceremony, *Sing* (Kristóf Deák, dir.), was presented with the Oscar for Best Live Action Short Film. The composer for the film was the distinguished Ádám Balázs. Included in the score was a famous and significant Hungarian children's song "Elderflower (Bodzavirág)," composed by Ádám's father, Árpád Balázs.

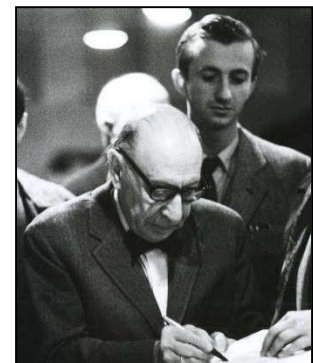
And, in 2020, Árpád and Ádám co-composed "Miserere mei, Deus," that was included in Adam's film score for *Spirál* (Cecilia Felméri, dir.).

Born at Szentes, Hungary, Árpád graduated from the Franz Liszt Academy of Music (Budapest) in 1964, and was a student of Ferenc Farkas. This was followed by studies at Aram Khachaturian's masterclass in 1967. In 1970, he was then the recipient of a scholarship to study with Goffredo Petrassi—one of the most influential Italian composers of the 20th century—at the Accademia di Santa Cecilia in Rome.

As a freelance artist, Árpád received many prestigious recognitions. From 1973 to 1990, he was a member of the Bureau of the Hungarian Composers Association, where he was a Department Secretary, followed by Department President.

Between 1985 and 1990, Árpád was Vice-President of KÓTA, the Hungarian Association of Choirs and Orchestras. In 1990, he was the founding president of the Hungarian Blind Association, and after 1998, he became President Emeritus.

In 1996, together with 14 renowned associates, he founded the Hungarian Art Workshop. He led the Hungarian section of the World Music Association for ten years, to include international competitions at Brescia, Le Havre, Corciano-Perugia, Athens, Jastrzebie Zdroj. He became a permanent jury member and taught several master classes as a visiting professor at Palermo, Gorizia, Pardubice. In 2002 he was elected a regular member of the European Academy of Science and Arts, Salzburg.



Igor Stravinsky dedicates to Árpád, the sheet music of "Petruska," main theme.

In 1969 he won the SZOT prize, and in 1970, he was awarded the Erkel Award, the Distinguished Artist Award in 1981, the Presidential Golden Medal in 2000, the MSZOSZ Prize in 2001 and the Hungarian Heritage Prize in 2002. In the spring of 2002, in recognition of his outstanding creative work, he was elected a full member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts in Salzburg.

The towns of Letenye and Kiskunfélegyháza, presented him with the Honorary Citizen Award in 2002. And, in 2019, Árpád was presented with perhaps the most prestigious recognition of his work in the arts and with children. A school was named for him—The Balázs Árpád Elementary School for the Arts—in Kiskunfélegyháza.



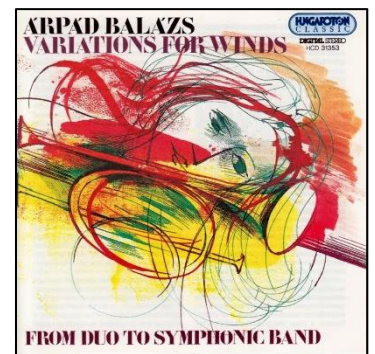
Sáandor Szokolay, Jr., Béla Bartók and Árpád Balázs at the 10th International Béla Bartók Festival in Debrecen (1982)

Árpád has won more than 50 awards in his domestic and international competitions. Among these are the top ten prizes awarded by the International Association of Radio and Television Associations, including Budapest, Prague, Karlovy Vary, Helsinki, Berlin, Moscow and Sofia. For three years he composed for and directed the Hungarian Broadcasting Television's highly acclaimed series of music programs, *Hang-sórozó*. In the 70s and 80s, he was the artistic director for the professional preparation and conducting of national children's orchestra festivals – Vác, Veszprém, Zánka. In addition to the jury of the events, the youth repertoire was enriched with new string and wind instrumental ensembles.

His compositions have been recommended for students learning to play the piano, and in the UK his piece, "Trudging," is one of the set performance pieces for the ABRSM Grade 1 Piano examination.

Árpád composed seven musical stage works, four oratorios, fifteen cantatas, twenty-four orchestral pieces, over two hundred choirs, stringers, chamber music, movie soundtracks, stage accompaniments, folk songwriting and pedagogical pieces, and three pedagogical books on music subjects. His book of memoirs, entitled *Selected Lives*, was published in September 2012.

Among his repertoire, there are four solo works of art and 50 domestic and foreign audio tracks. There are countless radio and Television recordings made of Árpád's works. In addition to Editio Musica in Budapest, several foreign publishers have also released his pieces, including such noted companies as Boosey and Hawkes (London-New York), Edizioni Suvini Zerboni (Milan), Shawnes Press Inc. (Pennsylvania), W.I.B.C. Publishing (Portland), Muzicsna Ukraina (Kiev), Izdatelstvo Muzika (Moscow), Latvian "Liesma" and Musikhjolskolens Forlag (Denmark).





On World Music Day, October 1, 2022, the Lajtha László Elementary School of Arts, together with the Concert Center, the Szentes Music Friends Association and the Szentes Cultural Center, organized a celebratory concert for Árpád Balázs at the József Tóth Theater and Vigado.

Árpád maintains a continuous relationship with his hometown. In 1989, on the occasion of the 425th Anniversary of Szentes becoming a city, he composed a cantata entitled, "Commentaries on the Words of Mihály Horváth", which was performed by the Bárdos Lajos Vegyeskar and the Teachers' Chamber Ensemble of the Lajtha László Music School, under the direction of János Nagy.

Árpád and his wife, Ágnes, reside in Budapest, Hungary.



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Budapest, Hungary
Citizenship: Hungary (EU)

“Variations for Winds” Choral Works Sampler

INDUSTRY AND SOCIETY RECOGNITIONS AND PARTICIPATIONS (Non-exhaustive list)

2024 Diamond Diploma

Great Hall of the Academy of Music, Budapest

2017 Academy Award, Best Live Action Short Film

“Sing,” Meteor-Filmstudio, Kristóf Deák, dir., Anna Udvardy, prod.
Adam Balazs, composer – Árpád Balázs, soundtrack

Hungarian Heritage Award Hungarian National Artist of Merit
Gold Medal of the President of the Republic Ferenc Erkel Award SZOT Prize

Head of the Department of the Association of Hungarian Musicians

Board Member and Vice President of KÓTA

Founding president of the Hungarian Brass Association

Head of the Hungarian Section of the World Federation of Music Organizations

Founder, Hungarian Art Workshop Founding President and President Emeritus, Hungarian Blind Association

Honorary Citizenship of Szentes Honorary Citizenship of Letenye Honorary Citizenship of Kiskunélegyháza
Honorary Citizenship of Vonyarcvashegy Honorary Citizenship of Balatonfüred

School Dedication - The Balázs Árpád Elementary School for the Arts, Kiskunélegyháza, 2019

MOTION PICTURES

SPIRÁL (Soundtrack)
Spirál Film

Cecilia Felméri, dir.
Ernő Mesterházy, András Muhi, Mónika Mécs, prod

MINDENKI (SING) (Soundtrack)
Meteor-Film

Kristóf Deák, dir./prod.
Anna Udvardy, prod.

2017 Academy Award for Best Live Action Short

SZVIT (Suite)
Hungarian Pannónia Filmstúdió

Zsolt Richly, dir./prod.

TELEVISION – ANIMATION

A KOCKÁSFÜLŰ NYÚL (THE RABBIT WITH THE PLAID EARS) (Multiples)
Magyar Televisio

Zsolt Richly, dir./prod

SKAZKA ZA SKAZKOY (FAIRY TALE AFTER A FAIRY TALE) (Joint Production)

A KECSKE ÉS A KOS (THE GOAT AND THE RAM) Hungarian Pannónia Filmstúdió, Árpád Balázs, comp. / Zsolt Richly, dir.
ПИТЕР А ЧИРИ ЧИТЕР (PETER A CHEERY CHEATER) Soyuzmultfilm (USSR) Evgeniy Krylatov, comp. / Vladimir Pekar, Vladimir Popov, dirs.

ALBUMS / SINGLES – COMPOSER / ARRANGER / MUSICIAN / PRODUCER (Non-Exhaustive List)

- Ako Si Pupiljak Od Ruže (as B. Árpád)* Zvonko Bogdan - Hitovi, Hi-Fi Centar
Ako Si Ti Pupiljak Od Ruže (as Balázs Árpád) Zvonko Bogdan - Tamburaški Orkestar Janike Balaža - Zvonko Bogdan, PGP RTB
Árpád Bálazs: „Ének A Vízen” (“Song on the Water”) (Choral Works), Hungaroton Classic
Árpád Bálazs: Fúvósváltozatok, A duótól a Konsertfúvószenekarig (Variations for Winds from Duo to Symphonic Band), Hungaroton Classic
Azt Hallottam Valamikor Rtges Rtgen, Hungaroton
Baum Scholl Ich Sein, Wenn Du Die Blüte Bist and Eugen Farkas Und Seinem Ensemble - 51 Zigeunermelodien Mit Eugen Farkas Und Seinem Ensemble, Ariola
Best of Communism, The, Selection of Revolutionary Songs, Various, Hungaroton
Best of Communism II, Various, Hungaroton
- Edesanyam Lelkem Bekopogok Nalad*, Hungaroton
Ej Uhnyem (as Balázs Árpád), Various - *Éneklő Ifjúság* (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Ének A Dalról (as Balázs Árpád), Various, *Éneklő Ifjúság* (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Ének A Vízen – Choral Works, Hungaroton
Fa Leszek, Ha Fának Vagy Virága (as Balázs Árpád), Various - *Hűvösebb Van Már, Ősz Kezd Lenni* (Hungarian Songs), Qualiton
Fa Leszek, Ha Fának Vagy Virága (as Balázs Á.), *Lakatos Sándor És Zenekara - A Virtuóz Prímás*, Qualiton
Gyere Haza Kincsem (as Balázs A.) Solthy Károly - Famous Hungarian Folk Songs, Qualiton
Hang-sorozat: Children's Choir, Melody Instrument and Triangle, Editio Musica Budapest
Hungarian Radio And Television Children's Chorus, László Csányi - European Nations' Children's Songs, Hungaroton
Hungarian Rondo Concert Band Level 3.5, Editio Musica Hungarian
- Ich Liebe Die Mainächte (Szeretnék Május Éjszakáján) (as A. Balázs)* Various - *Puřtaklänge - Original Ungarische Zigeunermusik*, Intercord Ton GmbH
Két Leánykar (as Balázs Árpád), Various - *Éneklő Ifjúság* (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Két Orosz Népdal - Various - Éneklő Ifjúság (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Kikeleti Napközöntő (Kórusdal Gyermekkarra Zongorakisérettel) (as Balázs Árpád), Various - *Éneklő Ifjúság* (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Májusi Fény (as Balázs Á.), Various - *Dalol Az Ifjúság*
Memento (as Balázs Árpád), *Vándor Kórus - Dúdoló: A Vándor Kórus énekel* (Program of The Vándor Chorus), Hungaroton
Musica Piccala Dunai Vasmű Önkéntes Tűzoltó Zenekara - Szórakoztató Dallamok, Hungaroton
My Leaf (Levelem, Levelem) Ferenc Sánta Jr. And His Gypsy Band - The Famous Prímás - A Híres Prímás, Qualiton
- Ne Mogu Ti Ništa Osim Cvijeća Dati (as Á. Balázs)*, Various - *Prošlo Je, Prošlo...* (Romance), Jugoton
Órizzétek A Lángot (as Balázs Árpád), Various, *Éneklő Ifjúság* (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Rácsos Kapu, Rácsos Ablak (as Balázs Á.) S. Bura Et Son Ensemble Tzigane, S. Vörös, L. Szalay, G. J. Kozák Et Leurs Tzigane, K. Oláh Et Leurs Tzigane - Budapest Et Son Danube, Qualiton
Ružmarine, Moj Zeleni (as Á. Balázs) Zlatni Dukati - Lakše, Lakše, Moj Konjiću - Starogradska Pjesmarica, Croatia Records
Song on the Water, Szeretem A Szílesz Utcát Friss Csárdás Zigeunerorkest Tatta Mirando, Nello Mirando Jr. - Een Avond In Budapest *En Boekarest*, Classical Record International
Szeretnek Majus Ejszakajan Gjertruds Sigøynerorkester, Bente Kahan, Elias Akselsen - Jeg Er På Vandring, Lærdal Musikkproduksjon
- Tavaszesen (Gyermekkantáták) (as Balázs Árpád)*, Various, *Éneklő Ifjúság* (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Three Choruses To Poems By Gyula Juhász - I) Song, II) Spring Landscape, III) Carillon, Hungarian Radio And Television Chorus, Ferenc Sapszon - Contemporary Hungarian Choral Works, Hungaroton
Two Works For Female Voices: I) Farewell, II) Dancing Tune, Various - Éneklő Ifjúság (Singing Youth), Hungaroton
Variations for Wind, from Duo to Symphonic Band, Hungaroton
Volim Te Divne Majske Noći (as Á. Balázs) Zvonko Bogdan - Pesmo Stara, Ljubavi Moja, PGP RTB
Volim Te Divne Majske Noći (Szeretnék Május Éjszakákon) (as Balázs Árpád) and Zvonko Bogdan, PGP RTB
Vörösbe Fordult A Világ (as Balázs Árpád) and Magyar Állami Népi Együttes Ének- És Zenekara - Zengjük A Dalt! (Lassen Wir Das Lied Erklíngen), Qualiton
- WASBE 2015, San Jose, USA, July 17th Repertoire Session, New Edmonton Wind Symphonia, Various*, Mark Records
Yesterday The Doctor Enlisted Me, Various - Old Tunes, Famous Songs, Qualiton
Zar Ti Ne Kaže Pisma Stara (as B. Árpád) and Radmila Bakočević - Najlepše Gradske Pesme, Jugodisk
20 Bagatelles Two Clarinets Performance Score Series, Editio Musica Budapest