

Born in Tbilisi, Georgia, in the family of poets and writers, Elisso Bolkvadze began her musical study at the early age of four and performed her first concert with orchestra at the age of seven.

She's a musician with numerous talents with an outstanding sensibility and brilliant virtuosity. As described by legendary Maestro **Zubin Mehta**, she is a pianist with a "complete control over the instrument".

A superstar in her country of birth, prize winner of many international piano world competitions, Elisso Bolkvadze was awarded with "The Medal of Georgian Government" – one of the most prestigious national honors.

The Georgian artist has established herself as a vivid cultural heritage protector and became UNESCO Artist for Peace in 2015.

Bolkvadze is actively engaged in charity actions in order to help young talents and founded Charity Foundation "**Lyra**" in 2013, in her homeland Georgia.

She began her piano studies at the local Conservatory and continued in Moscow Conservatory with Tatiana Nikolaeva.

Her musical career and development as an artist was greatly influenced by musician and Doctor of Philosophy, Michel Sogny and his unique Piano Method.

Her performance highlights have included collaborations with: Czech National Symphony Orchestra, Santa Fe Festival Orchestra, Lithuanian National Orchestra, National Philharmonic of Ukraine and Lviv, Innsbruck Symphony Orchestra, The Gewandhaus Orchestra, France National Orchestra, Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Krakow Philharmonic, Orchestre Colonne, United Nations Symphony Orchestra, Georgian Opera State Orchestra, Qatar Philharmonic.

She also tours with recital concerts in Asia, America and Europe, playing Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Debussy, Prokofiev and Chopin. As an Artist of Distinction, she will perform Mozart piano concerto N21 for the season opening in Maumelle Performing Art Center in USA with Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Philip Mann as a conductor.

She recorded several albums for Sony BMG and Cascavelle Lable, performing piano concertos by Beethoven, Rachmaninoff and Liszt.

In 2015 Bolkvadze released an album "*Prokofiev, Schubert*" with Lable Audite that had a great critical acclaim and granted the title « Pianist Maestro ».

As an artist actively engaged in cultural and human rights actions, Elisso Bolkvadze gave a charity concert in collaboration with the Embassy of Georgia, in March 2014 at Victoria Hall Geneva, She played Saint-Saens piano concerto N2 with the United Nations Orchestra for supporting Georgian children that have suffered from war. As well as series of charity concerts in Georgia in order to help individual patients and children affected by cancer.

In 2013 she founded Batumi International Music Festival on the shore of the Black Sea. It's an important cultural highlight in Georgia, where artists of different cultures gather to create musical excellence. One of the main inspirations of the festival is to broaden the power of cultural dialogue, unify people around high values and become one of the important bridges of building peace around the world.

For her outstanding contribution to the development of culture and personal commitment to cultural exchanges between France and Georgia, Elisso Bolkvadze received the distinction of *Chevalier des Arts et Lettres* by French Republic in October 2015.