

Buğra GÜLTEK

LLCM TD – M.A.Ed.



Buğra Gültek was born in Ankara in 1972. He started his piano lessons with composer Melih Kibar when he was eight years old. After his approval to Middle East Technical University's Mechanical Engineering Faculty in 1989, he became a student of the Department of Fine Arts and continued his piano studies as well as his engineering career under the tutelage of Assoc. Prof. Sibel Özgün from Ankara State Conservatory. During this time, he participated in university's spring festival concerts and was invited to play

in Turkish Radio and Television (TRT) to accompany his tenor cousin in two separate live broadcasted culture programs.

After his graduation as an engineer in 1995, he decided to continue his career in music. After applying music schools mainly in Eastern Europe, he was accepted to Franz Liszt Academy's Debrecen and Szeged Conservatories (Hungary), Prague Conservatory and Janacek Academy of Music (Czechia).

His decision to continue his studies at **Janacek Academy of Music (JAMU)** of Czechia opened up a new horizon to both his piano performance and pedagogy career. Between 1996 – 2000 he had lived and studied in Brno, Czech Republic, in the piano class of Prof Josefa Hlouskova and pedagogy class of Prof Alena Vlasakova. In 2000, he graduated from the **Metodics Centrum of Janacek's Academy of Music** as a piano teacher with the highest mark of "1 - Excellent". Since then, the degree he earned from JAMU let him work as a piano teacher in many different positions.

After his return to Ankara, he made his **Masters Degree** on music education in Gazi University's music faculty while in his last year, he had a chance to teach piano to undergraduate students at the same faculty.

Between 2004-2006, he had worked as a piano teacher in Sevda Cenap And Music Foundation.

In 2006, Gültek founded **Epilog Music Publications** and two years later, **Gultek Piano Studio** in Ankara. In 2007, his first book "**Piyano: Bir Calgının Biyografisi** (Piano: A Biography of an Instrument – Epilog, 453pp)" was published. This book has been one of the very few books in Turkish language about the history of the piano and since then it has been used as the primary reference book in the music schools and conservatories.

In 2008, he edited and published "**Czerny: op. 599 – The First Teacher of the Piano**" exercises. The first edition's success made the second edition possible as a bilingual book, both in Turkish and Czech. Schott – Panton company showed an interest to the edition and undertook the responsibility to distribute the book in Czechia and Slovakia. This achievement was received with great favor by the music environment in Turkey since it was the first time that a classical music edition fully edited and printed in Turkey was distributed to Europe by an internationally known music publishing company.

In the same year Gültek became the editor of Schott's book of "**The European Piano Method** by Fritz Emonts", specially designed for Turkey, Hungary and Czech Republic. The book was designed, translated, edited and published in Ankara by his Epilog Music Publications and exported to Europe since then. On 2014 the second printing run was published and the 3000th book was sold to Czechia in 2015. The book has been mainly used in music schools and conservatories of Czechia, Slovakia and Turkey and distributed by Barenreiter Praha.

These two international achievements brought Gültek one of the most prestigious classical music awards of Turkey, the so called "**Donizetti Award**" in 2013. In 2014, he was chosen as a jury member in this competition.

Gültek also edited, translated and published Usborne's "**First Book of the Piano**".

In 2013, Bugra Gültek authored the children's book, "**Müzik Dedektifleri: Mozart'ın İzinde** (The Music Detectives – In Search of Mozart)", aiming them to solve a detective story while learning the basics of Mozart's life, music and personality.

Gültek, with Assoc. Prof. Ozlem Omur of Ankara University Conservatory, was a co-writer of two articles published in international scientific journals. In 2011 - "*The Analysis of Masters Thesis on Piano in Turkey Between Years 2000 – 2010*" and in 2012 - "*Mental Processes on Piano Performance*"

Since 2008 - 2018, Gültek had been a column writer in Turkey's well known classical music magazine "**Andante**". His articles are mainly about piano performance and pedagogy.

Since 2011, Bugra Gültek was invited to give seminars and conferences about the piano and its education to many institutions, as well as the prestigious **Antalya International Piano Festival**.

In 2017 Gültek achieved **University of West London, London College of Music's** pianoforte teaching litentiate diploma and was awarded to use the title of **LLCM TD**.

In the same year Bugra Gültek finished writing his book of "**Piyano Nasıl Öğretilir? – How to Teach Piano?**" designed as two volumes with 135 short videos recorded by himself, aiming to fulfill the gap of the piano pedagogy education in Turkey.

Between 2011-2014 he attended International Piano Summer Courses of Prague Conservatory to follow the courses and pedagogical approaches of the head of the piano department of the conservatory, **Prof. Milan Langer**.

As a piano teacher, he has been continuously teaching piano to all levels for almost 20 years. Gültek's pupils have had dozens of ABRSM and LCM certificates from prep to the highest Grade 8 level. As well as the certificates, his pupils earned both piano performance and teaching diplomas from these two exam boards.

Gültek Piano Academy was chosen among as one of the best private music education institutions of Turkey by Andante Music Magazine. (2016 – issue 122)

Buğra Gültek is currently in the list of registered piano teachers of University of West London, the London College of Music. He is also an international member of Canada's Nova Scotia Registered Music Teachers' Association (NSRMTA) and the Canadian Federation of Music

Teachers Associations (CFMTA). He was certified as “Advanced Expert Piano Teacher” by Canada’s Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) in 2019.

Having two children, Boran and Yonca, Bugra Gultek is married to piano teacher Sezil Gultek (LCM TD). They both teach and manage Gültek Piano Academy in GOP, Ankara.