



Nikolaj Sajko je diplomiral iz violončela v razredu Cirila Škerjanca na Akademiji za glasbo v Ljubljani, kjer je končal tudi znanstveni magistrski študij, podiplomsko pa se je v solistični igri izpopolnjeval na Univerzi Antona Brucknerja v Linzu. Je dobitnik Klasinčeve diplome in nagrade Antonia Tarsie, pomembne uvrstitve pa je dosegel tudi na državnih in mednarodnih tekmovanjih mladih glasbenikov v Gorici, Lieznu, Zagrebu in Ljubljani. Bil je član mednarodnega mladinskega orkestra Gustav Mahler in član Svetovnega orkestra glasbene mladine. Od leta 2006 je namestnik soločelista v Simfoničnem orkestru SNG Maribor ter poučuje na Konservatoriju za glasbo in balet v Mariboru. Od leta 2012 programsko vodi cikel komornih koncertov Carpe artem.

Maja Gombač je študij klavirja z odliko zaključila na Akademiji za glasbo v Ljubljani pri prof. Hinku Haasu, leta 2018 pa še na Univerzi za upodabljačo umetnost v Grazu pri prof. Markusu Schirmerju, kjer je prejela najvišjo oceno s pohvalo. Tekom študija se je v okviru mednarodne izmenjave eno leto izpopolnjevala tudi pri prof. Imreju Rohmannu na Mozarteumu v Salzburgu. Kot solistka je prvič nastopila s komornim orkestrom Slovenske filharmonije ter z njimi izvedla Bachov koncert v f - molu. Sledile so izvedbe mnogih drugih klavirskih koncertov: Griegov koncert (Simfonični orkester RTV Slovenija, orkester SNG Opera in balet Maribor, Jenska filharmonija), Beethovnov koncert št. 5 (Orkester SNG Opere in baleta Ljubljana), Mozartovi koncerti št. 2, 3, 4, 21 in 23 (Luksemburški komorni orkester) in Beethovnov trojni koncert (Ruski filharmonični komorni orkester). Kot del zasedbe je pet let sodelovala tudi s Salzburško filharmonijo. Je nagrajenka številnih mednarodnih tekmovanj (Paul Harris, Davorin Jenko, Antonio Salieri, Rotary Club Valencia, Karlovac, Martha Debelli) in državnega tekmovanja TEMSIG, kjer je prejela dve zlati odličji kot solistka in kot komorna glasbenica. Za svoje umetniške dosežke je prejela Prešernovo nagrado Akademije za glasbo v Ljubljani. Od marca 2020 je redno zaposlena na Univerzi za glasbo in upodabljačo umetnost v Gradcu, kjer poučuje klavir.



Nikolaj Sajko graduated in cello performance at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana, where he also completed his Master's degree, and postgraduate studies in solo performance at the Anton Bruckner University in Linz. He has won the Klasinc Diploma and the Antonio Tarsia Prize, and has also achieved important rankings at national and international competitions for young musicians in Gorizia, Liezen, Zagreb and Ljubljana. He was a member of the Gustav Mahler International Youth Orchestra and a member of the World Youth Orchestra. Since 2006 he has been the assistant principal cello of the Symphony Orchestra of Slovene National Theatre in Maribor and teaches at the Maribor Conservatory of Music and Ballet. Since 2012 he has been the programme director of the chamber concert series *Carpe artem*.

Based in Austria, **Maja Gombač** belongs to the new generation of Slovenian classical pianists. She is an accomplished piano pedagogue currently teaching at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz. Maja has already appeared in a wide range of concert venues, including international festivals in Austria, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, France, Luxembourg, United Kingdom and Croatia, where she performed as a soloist or in various chamber ensembles. In addition to her concert activity, she frequently recorded for the Slovenian National Radio and Television. She debuted as a soloist with the Slovenian Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, performing the Concerto No. 5 in F minor by J. S. Bach. Later on, she gave performances of many other Piano Concertos; Edward Grieg Concerto op. 16 (RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra, Slovenian National Opera Orchestra), L. Van Beethoven Concerto No. 5 (Slovenian National Opera Orchestra), Mozart Concertos No. 2, 3, 4, 21 and 23 (Luxembourg Chamber Orchestra), Beethoven Triple Concerto (Russian Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra KLASSIKA). Maja is a multiple prize-winner at international music competitions and an awardee of two Gold Medals at the Slovenian national competition TEMSIG, along with numerous Special Prizes. She was a recipient of scholarships awarded by Slovenian Ministry of Culture, Slovenian State Merit Foundation, Rotary Club, Martha Debelli Foundation, Josef Dichler Foundation and University of Music and Performing Arts Graz. Furthermore, she received the "Preseren Prize" for her outstanding academic achievements. Maja started to study piano performance at the Ljubljana Academy of Music with professor Hinko Haas and continued at the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz with professor Markus Schirmer, where she finished her Master's Degree in 2018 with distinction. She also attended numerous masterclasses, including some held by Robert Levin, Imre Rohmann, Klaus Helwig, Cyprien Katsaris, Igor Latzko, Vladimir Viardo and Konstantin Bogino.