

Izem GÜNER biography

Izem Güner was born in Istanbul in 1999.

She started to study piano with concert pianist Birsen Ulucan at the age of eight. She took solfeggio and harmony lessons from Turkish composer Asst. Prof. Mehmet Nemutlu.

In 2012 Izem won the first prize in the International Young Pianist Competition in Kosovo and honorary jury prize from an Albanian composer Fahri Beqiri. In June 2013, she has performed Mozart concerto KV 271 accompanied by the Kosovo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Izem has attended a number of masterclasses which was organized by Liszt Academy's piano Professor Marta Gulyas in Bekescsaba Hungary, where she also worked with concert pianist Luis Fernando Perez.

Izem has also been a frequent participant in Musical Odyssey masterclasses summer course in Greece and studied there with Professor Yekaterina Lebedeva (Trinity Laban Conservatoire), Professor Vanessa Latache (Royal College of Music), Brazilian concert pianist Cristina Ortiz and Russian concert pianist Nikolai Demidenko. She was three times Musical Odyssey prizewinner with prize recitals in London (City Lit Institute, Talent Unlimited prize at St James Piccadilly) and at the International Festival in Greece.

In 2013 Izem has been invited by virtuoso pianist Prof. Dmitri Bashkirov to study with him in Escuela Superior de Musica Reina Sofia in Madrid.

Later in the year, Izem has participated in Kamuran Gündemir National Piano Competition in Mersin, and rewarded with the second prize and "Best Turkish piece performance Award". Subsequently she was invited to perform a solo recital at the Antalya International Piano Festival, organised under the artistic guidance of a renowned Turkish composer and concert pianist Fazıl Say. She has also been awarded the first prize in Hacettepe National Piano Competition in Ankara in 2015.

Apart from her solo studies, Izem has a keen interest in playing chamber music and has been studying with Özcan Ulucan, who was one of senior students of violinist Maxim Vengerov. Izem is enjoying a considerable success in her chamber music career too and namely: the first prize in International chamber music Competition Arnuero/Santander as well as an award-prize for the best chamber music group of the year by Marta Gulyas.

In 2017 Izem has been recognised as an outstanding young musician of the year, an achievement prize personally awarded to her by the Queen Sofia of Spain.

