

Radboud OOMENS - violin

Radboud Oomens was born in Breda in 1953 and completed his studies with Herman Krebbers at the Sweelinck Conservatorium in Amsterdam in 1977 with the 'Prix d'Excellence'.

In 1971, at the Oscar Back Violin Competition, he won the 'Prize of the City of Amsterdam' and the 'Donemus Prize', and in 1976 the first prize in the Iordens National Violin Competition in The Hague.

After an early entry into the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of 18, he was appointed first concertmaster in the Gelderland Orchestra a year later and performed as a soloist on radio and television.

His passion for chamber music took him to Heilbronn in 1980, where he became concertmaster in the Württembergische Kammerorchester.

After many tours around the world, Radboud Oomens was able to realise his dream of founding the Trio Kairos in Hamburg in 1992. The piano trio quickly enjoyed great success and recorded several CDs.

He founded the Geza Frid Foundation in 1998 to bring the work of this Hungarian composer (1904-1989), who lived in the Netherlands, out of oblivion.

He continued his long-standing orchestral experience to students of the music academies in Germany in master classes 'OrchesterPro' at the Orchesterzentrum Nordrhein Westfalen (since 2007) and at the 'Landesmusikakademie Rheinland-Pfalz' in Neuwied-Engers (since 2009). In the German music magazine 'Das Orchester', he published an article with the theme 'Simultanes Orchesterspiel' (issue 10/i2007).

Since 2010, he engaged in the 'Dirigentenwerkstatt', the workshop for conductors of the 'Hans-Eisler-Musikhochschule' in Berlin, where he not only collaborated as a violinist, but also gave lectures on the various possibilities of violin technique, suitable for application in an orchestra.

Since his retirement in 2017, he has concentrated mainly on chamber music, with his partners, the great violinist Mark Lubotsky (+2021), pupil of Jampolski and Oistrach, the violinists Harim Chun (Hamburg), Valentina Paetsch (Berlin) and Jeewon Lee (Amsterdam), the cellists Christopher Franzius and Christoph Rocholl (Hamburg), Johann Paetsch (Lugano), Honorine Schaeffer (Amsterdam), Raphaela Paetsch (Berlin) and Olga Dovbusch (Hamburg), the violists Jan Larsen (Hamburg), Erik Wenbo Xu (Hamburg), Micha Rothenberger (Zurich) and Jean-Baptiste Brunier (Avignon), as well as the pianists Yoko Yamada (Hamburg), Irina Kolesnikova (Hamburg), Olivier Lechardeur (France, Luberon), Ulrike Payer (Berlin) and Cosima Favier (Avignon).

His passion for Bach's solo works has been further enhanced by contact with musicologist Prof. Dr. Helga Thoene (1930-2021, Düsseldorf), who has analysed these works for hidden choral quotations. Since 2019, Radboud Oomens has regularly played the Chaconne and the sonatas in A minor, A minor and C major. with various singers and vocalists in France and in Germany. Performing these works with vocal soloists is a great passion for Radboud Oomens, which recently led him, together with Dutch conductor, singer and musicologist Johan Riphagen, to initiate the project Sei solo, the performance of all three Bach solo sonatas and the Chaconne with the choral quotes at a high level with four professional baroque singers. Premiere was in May 2024 in Pertuis, Avignon and Villedieu.

After 47 years of playing on a beautiful violin by Nicola Amati (1650), this violin has recently been put at the disposal of a young talent.

Radboud Oomens has been playing a modern violin, built by Alain Carbonare in Mirecourt, 2017, since 2017.