

BARTU ELCI-OZSOY



“Bartu is an extraordinary human being that is needed at a time when we need people to do special things. The immense gifts that he has for creating music, playing, and conducting is a treasure trove that symbolizes the great capacity of the human experience. Bartu’s gifts awaken peoples’ internal awareness to manifest their own talents and life’s mission which is critical in today’s world.”

Wayne Shorter, American musician, winner of 11 Grammy Awards and the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award

“...He is an excellent musician... A talented violinist, he approaches conducting with the right commitment, modesty, sensitivity and rigor!”
Jean-Claude Casadesus, Conductor, Founder of Orchestre national de Lille

Gifted with perfect pitch, Bartu, conductor, violinist and composer, had shown signs of great interest in classical music at a very young age. His talent was discovered at the age of 3 when he was heard singing the entire Pastoral Symphony of Beethoven by heart and in tune. He deliberately chose to play the violin at the age of 4 and said in his first lesson that he wanted to “*start playing baroque pieces*”. Before his 5th birthday, Bartu began studying music theory and composition as he said “*his head is full of music waiting to be written*”. Two of the first pieces he composed when he was 5 were presented to the U.S. President in 2010 at the Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship.

When he was 11, he was invited to study classical music in France by the French Government and moved from Ankara, Türkiye to Paris.

Highlights of achievements and recent artistic activities

2019-2020

Bartu made his Paris orchestral debut in May 2019 at the age of 15 by appearing as a conductor, violinist, and composer at the same concert in the prestigious Théâtre des Variétés. At this concert, he played Mendelssohn's 2nd Violin Concerto under the baton of Dominique Fanal, and then conducted his 1st Symphony as well as Mozart's 29th Symphony with the Sinfonietta de Paris Symphony Orchestra. The concert was attended by a large audience including the former French Prime Minister Bernard Cazeneuve. The audience acclaimed the concert saying “a moment of *grace, rarely seen in a lifetime*” and described Bartu as a “*genius*” and “*a prodigy whose every particle of being is filled with music*” and “*one of the greatest future musicians of the world*”.¹

- MAGIC 🎭

A moment of grace, as very little happens in a life! What a privilege to have been able to hear, see this prodigy, one of the future great musicians of our planet. I cried with happiness listening to his creation while he himself conducted the orchestra. I would never find words strong enough to translate my emotion and those of those around me.

¹ <https://www.billetreduc.com/234986/evtcrit.htm>

After the concert, Maestro Jean-Claude Casadesus began to teach and mentor him. He said, "*Bartu is an excellent musician... A talented violinist, he approaches conducting with commitment, modesty, sensitivity and rigor...*".

In August 2019, Bartu was invited to the 5th 'Festival des Étoiles Symphoniques' where he conducted the largest youth orchestra in Europe ("Petites Mains Symphoniques Orchestra") in front of an audience of nearly 2,000 people. He then continued to support the Petites Mains Symphoniques Association, which provides music education to children and young people, including those from disadvantaged communities, by voluntarily playing at the fund-raising concerts, including one at the La Seine Musicale and another one at the French National Assembly, which were followed by several other concerts and recitals.

In 2020, during the pandemic, Bartu continued his activities by generating solidarity ideas and implementing them with musicians and artists across the world through which he was also connected with Wayne Shorter and other great musicians.

2021-2023

In 2021, Bartu won the music competition ("Tremplin Pulsation") of the "Centre régional des œuvres universitaires et scolaires de Paris" (Crous) with his three compositions.

In 2021-2022 period, he was invited to the Centenary Festival of the American Fontainebleau Schools of Art where he also played with Martha Argerich and then won the "Audience Award" and "Second Prize" at the Ravel Competition organised together with the Maurice Ravel Foundation; the 20th Rencontres Musicales Festival near Cannes; the 18th Festival de Musique in Rochefort and the 21st Festival du Jeunes Talents.

Bartu was also invited to attend the LEAD! Fiskars Conducting Festival in Finland organized by Jukka-Pekka Saraste in August 2022, where he followed the workshops and sessions of Esa-Pekka Salonen, Jukka-Pekka Saraste and Hannu Lintu. He was also invited to attend in a session of Sakari Oramo's (Principal Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra) conducting class at the Sibelius Academy for one week in September 2022.



On February 15, 2023, Bartu's performance of Ravel's Tzigane was featured on New York classical music radio station WQXR's Young Artists Showcase, hosted by Midge Woolsey.²

Bartu has recently been commissioned to compose and perform pieces for solo violin alongside the actor Emmanuel Houzé at the inauguration of Musée Bourdelle in March 2023.³ He is also the invited musician to play the violin at various events organised in 2023 to pay tribute to Sarah Bernhardt for the centenary of her passing.⁴

He was recently selected by the Paris Conservatoire as one of the three musicians and the only violinist to represent France in the chamber music ensembles to be formed by the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna in May 2023 with the musicians from the Royal Conservatoire The Hague, the Netherlands and the Norwegian Academy of Music, Norway.

² <https://www.wqxr.org/story/fontainebleau-conservatory-centennial-celebration/?tab=summary>

³ <https://www.paris.fr/evenements/lectures-en-musique-autour-d-apollo-au-combat-d-antoine-bourdelle-33470>

⁴ <https://www.theatredelaville-paris.com/en/spectacles/projets-passerelles/recontres/hommage-a-sarah-bernhardt-sarah-dans-tous-ses-etats>

Bartu gave a solidarity concert on April 10, 2023 under the high patronage of Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the Republic, to raise funds for UNICEF to help children affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Organized by the Jeunes Talents, the concert was broadcast live on RecitHall.⁵

For the second half of 2023, Bartu was also invited to play in different countries such as US and Italy.



Community and social engagements

A socially engaged musician, Bartu implemented solidarity projects since the outbreak of COVID-19 by developing project ideas, finding and engaging musicians and artists from different parts of the world, managing projects, and producing videos. For instance, he created virtual musical ensembles for the Eurobalcon initiative of the Paris Conservatoire, Lyon Conservatoire and the “Centre de musique baroque de Versailles” with 19 musicians from all over Europe;⁶ produced videos to raise funds for Médecins

du Monde,⁷ and played for nursing homes.

In August 2020, Bartu led a project in which he composed and performed a piece for six violins to raise awareness of the challenges facing the Amazon Rainforest in collaboration with Emil Lidé, a Swedish designer.⁸ He then became a ‘Artist for Amazon’ of the US-based Amazon Aid Foundation.⁹ He also provided the theme music for a short animation project about environmental issues and the COVID-19 crisis implemented by a group of visual artists from Nordic countries.

Bartu is currently working on a long-term project to combine art and science around the theme of "*the challenges and threats to the Amazon, and, thus, to the global ecosystem and lives*". He is also working on his Master thesis at the Paris Conservatoire on a topic that concerns raising awareness of environmental sustainability through cooperation between classical music and other art forms. His study also includes extensive field research, including online surveys and interviews at the international level. The outcome of it will be used to organize international events that will be designed based on the findings.

He is also working on his master thesis around the question "How classical music and other art forms can work together to address environmental issues through community engagement".

Education

At the age of 15, Bartu was admitted to the Paris Conservatoire in the violin class of Alexis Galpérine, a professor and soloist, who studied with Ivan Galamian at Juilliard School in New York.

Bartu graduated from the Conservatoire in 2022 with the highest honour. He was then started his Master’s studies at under Sarah Nemptanu, the solo concertmaster of the Orchestre National de France.

⁵ <https://www.jeunes-talents.org/concerts/concert-de-soutien-avec-lunicef-aux-enfants-victimes-des-tremblements-de-terre-en-turquie-et-en-syrie/> <https://theviolinchannel.com/frances-jeunes-talents-hosts-unicef-benefit-concert-in-support-of-turkey-and-syria/>

⁶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IC5lAHzLGks>

⁷ <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x7u2fi5>

⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AlnQqp3ghU>

⁹ <https://amazonaid.org/artist-for-the-amazon-spotlight-violinist-composer-conductor-bartu-elci-ozsoy-16-inspires-connects-with-the-power-of-music/>

Bartu started his conducting studies with Maestro Dominique Fanal at the age of 14. He then continued studying with Maestro David Molard Soriano while he was at the same time taught and mentored by Maestro Jean-Claude Casadesus.

In 2020, he was admitted with a scholarship to the Conducting Department of École Normale de Musique de Paris in the class of Maestros Dominique Rouits and Julien Masmondet. He received his 'Diploma in Orchestral Conducting' from École Normale in June 2021 at the age of 17 as the youngest graduate, and was selected to continue "Diplôme Supérieur" studies in the same department.

In 2021 and 2022, Bartu was invited to study at the American Conservatory in Fontainebleau with a full scholarship. In 2022, he graduated from the Conservatory where he also won three awards: "Audience Award" and "Second Prize" at the Ravel Competition organised by the Maurice Ravel Foundation and the Conservatory, and "Marion Tournon Branly Award" of the Écoles d'Art Américaines de Fontainebleau.

As a violinist, Bartu participated in masterclasses with renowned musicians such as Vadim Repin, Shlomo Mintz, Alexander Markov, Régis Pasquier, Yair Kless, Stefan Kamilarov and Gérard Poulet.

Before moving to France in 2015, Bartu studied violin with Suzana Bezhani, Elshad Amrahov, and Rasim Bagirov and composition with Nino Skhvitaridze, professors at Bilkent University, and with Ildiko Moog, a pupil of Tibor Varga, at the Ankara State Conservatory in Türkiye.

Between 2015 and 2019, he studied violin with Thierry Huchin and chamber music with Karen Daniau at the Conservatoire Marcel Dadi; violin with Nicolas Miribel, improvisation with Pascal Amoyel, and chamber music with Dominique Barbier at the Conservatoire Rueil-Malmaison; harmony and composition with Isabelle Duha at the Conservatoire Niedermeyer and with Jacques Saint-Yves at the Conservatoire Paul Dukas, and piano with Caroline Cren at the Conservatoire Gabriel Fauré. He then continued to study piano with Luc le Provost at the Conservatoire Rueil-Malmaison.

Bartu is fluent in English and French and has working knowledge of German, in addition to his mother tongue Turkish.

Email: contact@bartu.fr

Twitter: @ElciBartu

Web: <https://bartu.fr>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/bartuelciziozsoy>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bartu-elci-ozsoy>

Instagram: @bartu.elciziozsoy

Facebook: @Bartu