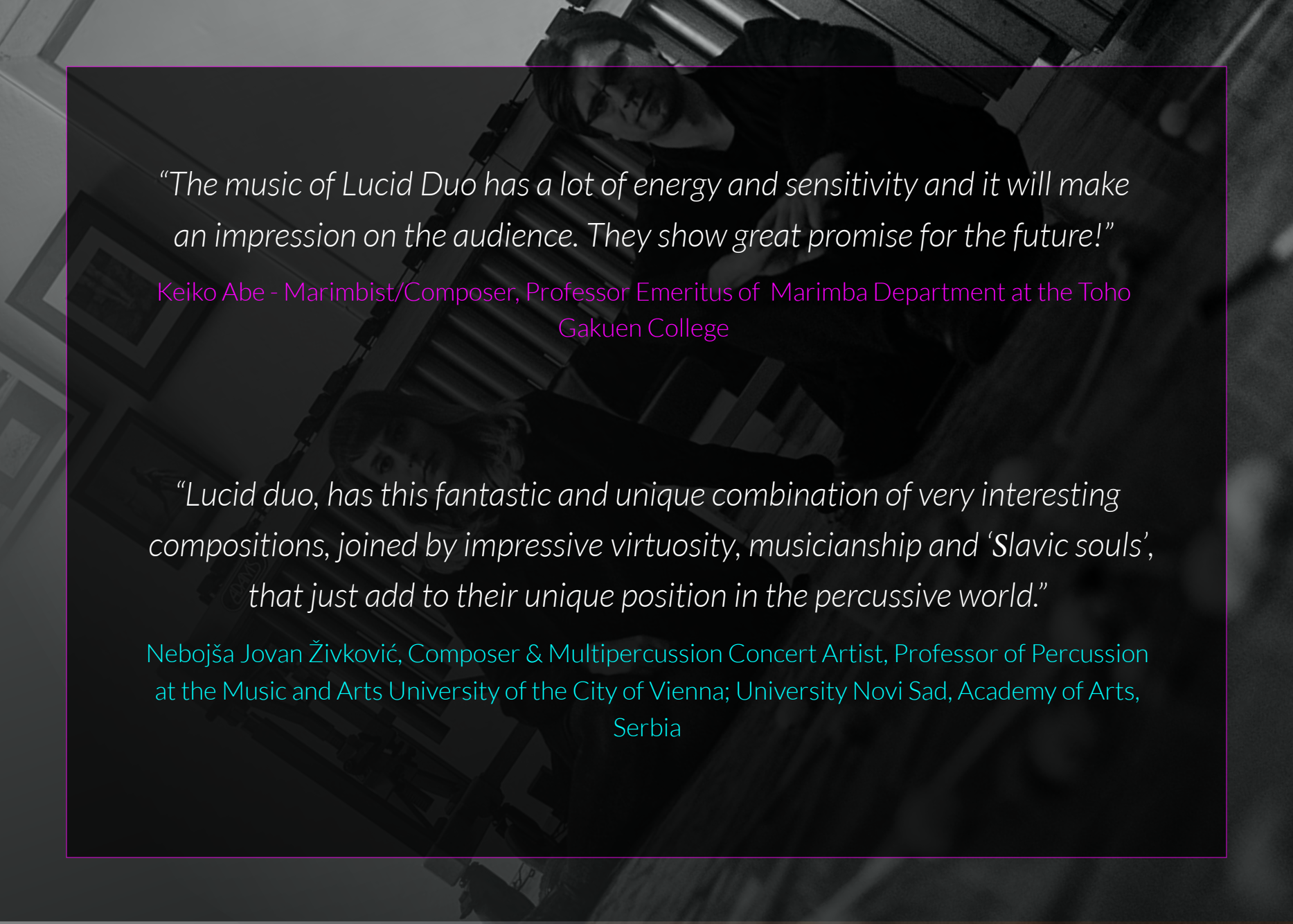




Lucid Duo

marimba artists





“The music of Lucid Duo has a lot of energy and sensitivity and it will make an impression on the audience. They show great promise for the future!”

Keiko Abe - Marimbist/Composer, Professor Emeritus of Marimba Department at the Toho Gakuen College

“Lucid duo, has this fantastic and unique combination of very interesting compositions, joined by impressive virtuosity, musicianship and ‘Slavic souls’, that just add to their unique position in the percussive world.”

Nebojša Jovan Živković, Composer & Multipercussion Concert Artist, Professor of Percussion at the Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna; University Novi Sad, Academy of Arts, Serbia



Lucid Duo

The ensemble was formed in 2009 by Irena Manolova (Bulgaria) and Tomasz Goliński (Poland) in Antwerp, Belgium. After graduating Europe's first Marimba Master Degree at the Royal Conservatory of Antwerp, the duo believes in bringing the instrument to a further development as a solo concert musical instrument. Lucid's performance is an introduction to the wide spectrum of the marimba virtuosity. Irena and Tomasz want to share their vision about this unique instrument and convince the audience to perceive it as a standard classical instrument. They mainly perform with a technical proficiency and above all passion and excitement a repertoire with selections of Japanese music, own compositions and arrangements in a variety of musical styles.

Seeking technical challenges and pushing the limits of the instrument has led Irena and Tomasz to unite two forces. Since Tomasz is one of the leading composers of his generation on the international marimba and percussion scene, the duo premieres many of his new works, such as marimba duo pieces; marimba duo with electronics or double marimba concertos. These new compositions are being performed further by other marimbists around the world. Tomasz's duo works give Lucid duo an own, unique voice and recognition on the international scene.



Irena Manolova and Tomasz Goliński created an unseen chamber music concept with their unique sounding instruments, innovative repertoire and virtuoso skills. Lucid Duo is the first prize winning laureate of the prestigious Universal Marimba Competition 2011 in Belgium under the High Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Paola, praised for their amazing degree of sensitivity to sound. Among others they were also recognized as Prizewinners of the Fidelio Chamber Music Competition 2015 in Vienna and were chosen to perform as one of the top three finalists at the Gala Concert of the Contemporary Music Competition De Linkprijs 2012 in Tilburg, The Netherlands.

Their success allows them to perform on international festivals and events in Europe and Asia, such as: The International Percussion Ensemble Week Festival 2012 in Croatia; The Universal Marimba Festival 2013 in Belgium;



Prizewinners Gala Concert of the Fidelio Chamber Music Competition 2015 in ORF Radiokulturhaus in Vienna, Austria; Marimba Duo Recital and Masterclass in 2016 at the renowned Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo, Japan; International "Schlagwerk Wien!" Symposium 2017 at the Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna, Austria; Marimba Duo Recital and Masterclass during the Festival de Música Contemporánea de Tenerife 2017 in Auditorio de Tenerife, Spain; Celebration of Keiko Abe Festival 2017 at the BCV Hall in Lausanne, Switzerland etc. In October 2017, Lucid Duo held their marimba academy and festival "Marimba Duo Days", followed by the performance of "The Wave Impressions" for two marimbas and orchestra by Keiko Abe and the premiere of Tomasz Goliński's "Double Marimba Concerto No.2" with Koszalin Philharmonic, under the baton of Maestro Simone Zuccatti in Koszalin, Poland. In 2016 the duo specialized with the primary figure in the development of the 5 octave marimba and Lucid's biggest inspiration and idol – the Japanese composer and marimba virtuoso - Keiko Abe, at the Toho Gakuen School of Music in Tokyo, Japan with the help of the "Startstipendium" Scholarship given to young successful artists awarded by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture. Lucid Duo is currently based in Vienna, Austria and is an Innovative Percussion Endorser.

After graduating the National Music School 'Lubomir Pipkov' (2008) in Sofia, Bulgaria, Irena obtained with the greatest distinction her Bachelor degree of Percussion (2011), Marimba Master degree (2013) and Master of Percussion degree (2014) at the Royal Conservatory of Antwerp, Belgium, guided by her teachers Ludwig Albert, Lin Chin-Cheng and Nando Russo. As a continuation, Irena specialized with the composer and multi-percussion concert artist Nebojsa Zivkovic exclusively on his percussion and marimba works at the Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna in 2014, followed by performing together with him and Vojvodina Symphony Orchestra in 2015 the Serbian premiere of his Double Percussion Concerto 'Obsesiones' during the Nomus Festival in Novi Sad.

Irena gained her experience as an orchestral percussionist with Ensemble Kontrapunkte Vienna, Royal Flemish Philharmonic Antwerp, Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra and the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra Amsterdam.

As a pedagogue, Irena presented her marimba and percussion educational workshops at the Amadeus International School of Vienna in 2015 and 2016. Irena is currently based in Vienna, completing her pedagogical studies Master of Arts Education at the Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna.



Irena Manolova

The Bulgarian-born Irena Manolova (89), internationally acclaimed marimba and percussion artist, started playing percussion at the age of six. In 2016 Irena got awarded the "Start Stipendium" Scholarship by the Federal Chancellery of Austria for her project 'Popularization of Marimba' and became laureate of "Yordan Kamdzhlov" Foundation's Competition for Instrumentalists, Composers and Conductors in Sofia, Bulgaria, which allowed her to complete her studies with the Japanese composer and marimba legend Keiko Abe at the Toho Gakuen School of Music, Tokyo. The marimbist is a winner of numerous solo and chamber music competitions such as: Fidelio Chamber music competition in Vienna, Austria (2014&2015); ARTos Music prize in Antwerp, Belgium (2013); First Prize for Chamber Music at the Universal Marimba Competition under the High Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Paola in Sint-Truiden, Belgium (2011); Marimba Solo laureate of the International Marimba Competition in Fermo, Italy (2010) and of the International Competition Music and Earth in Sofia (2008);

Award for artistic achievements by the Ministry of Culture in Bulgaria (2005); Grand Prix Prize at the Balkan Festival Art Amphora in Sofia (2004) etc.

She performed in concert halls and venues such as Musikverein, Konzerthaus, Hofburg, Vienna State Opera, ORF Radiokulturhaus, MuTh in Vienna, Esterhazy Palace in Eisenstadt, Austria; Concertgebouw and Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ in Amsterdam, The Netherlands; BCV Concert Hall Lausanne, Zurich University of the Arts in Switzerland; deSingel Antwerp, Muziekcentrum De Bijloke Gent in Belgium; Auditorio de Tenerife in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain; Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo, Japan; Koszalin Philharmonic Hall in Poland; Bulgaria hall in Sofia, Bulgaria etc. Irena participated in numerous festivals and events amongst which are: The Universal Marimba Festival in Belgium, International Percussion Ensemble Week in Croatia, Vienna Saxfest, Zurich International Saxfest, SGEM Vienna – International Scientific Conference on Social Sciences and Arts, International Percussion Symposium Vienna, Nomus Festival in Serbia, Festival de Música Contemporánea de Tenerife etc.

Tomasz finished in 2011 Master of Percussion at the Gdansk Music Academy with Mirosław Adrjanczyk and Master of Marimba at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Antwerp with Ludwig Albert. Tomasz graduated both schools with greatest distinction. He finished the Postgraduate Marimba solo program with Ludwig Albert in 2013 and obtained his Master of chamber music degree in 2014 at the Leuven University College of Arts with greatest distinction. As a composer, Tomasz started his education in 2009 at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Antwerp, specialized in electroacoustic music with Joris de Laet and graduated the department of Composition in 2013 at the Leuven University College of Arts in the class of Luc van Hove. In 2016 he completed his marimba specialization with the Japanese composer and marimba legend Keiko Abe at the Toho Gakuen College of Music in Tokyo, Japan.

Tomasz receives commissions from Thailand, Germany, Spain, Austria, such as marimba solo/duo works with electronics, marimba and organ, percussion/marimba concertos etc. His "Marimba Quartet No.1" was commissioned and premiered by ensemble Schlagwerk Wien (led by the internationally renowned composer and multi-percussion soloist Nebojsa Zivkovic) at the Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna, where Tomasz held his composition masterclass.



Tomasz Goliński

Tomasz Goliński (86) is a Polish composer, marimbist and percussionist. He is one of the leading composers and performers of his generation on the international marimba and percussion scene.

Only at the age of 28, Tomasz's "Double Percussion Concerto No.1" was premiered in 2015 by Tuopali Duo, The Orquesta Sinfónica de Tenerife and Maestro Eckard Preu (USA) during the International "Festival de Música Contemporánea de Tenerife" at the Auditorio de Tenerife in Santa Cruz, Spain. His "Double Marimba Concerto No.2" was premiered in 2017 by Lucid Duo, Koszalin Philharmonic and Maestro Simone Zuccatti (Italy) in Koszalin, Poland.

Tomasz is a laureate of several marimba and composition international competitions including the First prize of the Universal Marimba Composition Competition under the High Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Paola in Belgium (2011&2012) with his marimba solo pieces "Luminosity" and "Purity"; First prize in the Chamber music category of the Universal Marimba Competition in Belgium (2011);

Second prize in the marimba solo category of the 8th Percussive Arts Society Italy International Percussion Competition in Fermo (2010); Second prize at the 39th Percussive Arts Society Percussion Composition Contest in the USA with his marimba solo piece "The Absurd World" (2011); Prize winner of the Fidelio Chamber Music Competition in Vienna (2015) etc. For his artistic and academic achievements Tomasz received a scholarship from The Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in 2010 and in 2012 a scholarship from the Ministry of the Flemish Community in Brussels, Belgium. In the same year he has been awarded by the President of Koszalin City (Poland) for his outstanding artistic achievements. It is worth to mention that in 2011 Tomasz's first marimba solo piece "Luminosity" was used as a set-piece in the Universal Marimba Competition Belgium in 2013. Since then "Luminosity" is becoming a standard piece in the marimba solo repertoire, being regularly performed in the USA, Asia, Europe, South America and Australia.

His compositions "Purity II" and "Luminosity" has been published by the Danish publishing house Edition Svitzer and "The Absurd World", by Keyboard Percussion Music in the USA.



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Official video



Lucid Duo - Solo with Orchestra Abe's Concerto



Lucid Duo - Solo with Orchestra Golinski's Concerto

