

**Current activity:**

Darius Klišys is one of the most innovative birbynė players in Lithuania (birbynė or reedpipe is an original Lithuanian woodwind instrument). Since 1997 he has recorded and released 14 albums: baroque, contemporary and experimental electronic music.

In 2008, Darius performed solo with his project “Water Serpents” at the 17th International Electroacoustic Music Festival “Primavera en la Habana” in Cuba. In April 2009, he won the YouTube Symphony Orchestra contest and was invited to the YTSO summit to perform at Carnegie Hall under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas.

In recent years he has been playing with such outstanding musicians like Marek Toporowski (harpsichord/organ, Poland), Bozhena Korczyńska (sopilka, Ukraine), Sonata and Rokas Zubovas (piano duo, Lithuania), Darius Polikaitis (conductor, US) etc.

Aims:

One of the main Darius’s goals is to adapt birbynė to chamber music (renaissance, baroque, contemporary music, etc.). Darius pursues his studies in early music. His repertoire, however, includes not only the 15th – 18th century composers, but also those from the 19th and 20th – 21st centuries: Gabriel Faure, Enrique Granados, Carl Nielsen, Niels Gade, Feliksas Bajoras, Vytautas V. Barkauskas, Makoto Shinohara, Bernhard Kroll, Bronius Kutavičius, Michael Blake, Jonas Tamulionis, Pierre Max Dubois, Francis Poulenc, Jurgis Juozapaitis, Janis Medinš.

Other activities:

In 2003, Darius founded an ensemble Reversio (early music). He played with the ensemble and solo in the US, Belgium, Germany, France, Poland, Cuba and other countries. Darius is very active in musical life, gives solo concerts and also performs with the ensemble Reversio, continues his research work in baroque music, gives birbynė lessons, composes music for the theatre, teaches at workshops. Since 2015 Darius Klišys is a director of international woodwind festival “Medynės”.

Education:

Darius Klišys (b. 1969, Lithuania) completed a birbynė course at Kaunas J. Gruodis Conservatoire in 1988 where he acquired a speciality of birbynė and gained experience as a performer and chamber ensemble/orchestra leader. In 1992-1994, he studied audio engineering at the Audio Institute of America. Darius received a B.A. in 2003 and an M.A. in 2005 from the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy where he studied under the tutorship of Professor Romualdas Apanavičius and Dr. Kastytis Mikiška. It was during these studies that Darius became interested in baroque music, its interpretation and history, and in how the birbynė could be employed in its performance. His research was summed up in the final Master’s thesis “The Principles Of the Articulation Of Wind-Instruments In the Baroque Epoch and Their Application To Birbynė”.