

Martin Kaptein

Biography

The Dutch pianist Martin Kaptein approaches music as a means of exploring the deepest questions of human existence. He was a student of Elena Golovinskaya, Michail Markov, Frank van de Laar and Vitaly Samoshko, who helped him to achieve a unique approach to sound.

As Martin finished his Bachelor and Master studies he discovered a deep connection between music and philosophy. After winning several international competitions, most notably the *St. Cecilia Piano Competition* (Portugal, 2015), Martin began to perform internationally. Martin often introduces his pieces with a brief explanation of their philosophical ideas, making them not only technical exercises but emotional and intellectual journeys.

Today, Martin continues to perform and explore the connections between music and philosophy: In the music of the composer Alexander Scriabin he found a unique match, and often makes Scriabin's music the centerpiece of his performances. One of Martin's projects that unites music and philosophy is the [Scriabin Club](#), a place where conversations about art and life happen. In November 2022 Martin collaborated with the Scriabin Society of America in organization of a festival commemorating Scriabin's 150th anniversary.

Next to performing, Martin is also a music teacher and often finds himself giving lectures and presentations. He has also interest in a [wide range of cultures and speaks many different languages](#). As if that was not enough Martin also is highly interested in [Science and Technology](#), and in his free time enjoys working on IT projects.

Martin is currently based in Bolzano, Italy.

Résumé

Studies and Degrees

- From age of 5 student of Elena Golovinskaya, private piano lessons.
- 2008 to 2015 Gymnasium (general qualification for university entrance (*Abitur*)), average grade of 1.8, Missionsgymnasium St. Antonius Bardel, Germany.
- 2015 - 2020 Bachelor Classical Music Performance Piano, ArtEZ conservatory, The Netherlands, student of Michail Markov and Frank van de Laar.
- 2020 - 2022 Masters of Music, Fontys conservatory Tilburg, the Netherlands, student of Vitaly Samoshko. Graduated *cum laude*.

Competitions and Prizes

- 2010 3rd prize "International Piano Competition" in Enschede, The Netherlands
- 2012 2nd prize international EPTA competition in Belgium.
- 2012 1st prize "International piano competition virtuosi per Musica di Pianoforte" in the Czech Republic.
- 2015 1st prize in de "St. Cecilia International Pianocompetition" in Porto, Portugal.
- 2016 first prize Vught klassiek competition in the Netherlands

- 2017 first price Ulvenhart klassiek competition in the Netherlands
- 2017 first price International Music festival in Loutraki, Greece
- 2017 Publieksprijs VriendenCultuurPrijs (price of public), Tilburg
- 2019 first price chamber music competition, Zwolle, The Netherlands
- 2020 finalist Grachtenfestival in Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2022 Winner Fontys (Tilburg) internal conservatory competition.

Masterclasses and Festivals

- 2013 “International Music Festival” in Rhodos, Greece
- 2014 “International Music Academy” in Cremona, Italy
- 2015 Muziekfestival Hernen, The Netherlands
- 2016 “International Piano Festival” in Duzsniky, Poland
- 2017 “International Music Festival” in Athens, Greece
- 2019 Zomerfestival, Helvoirt, The Netherlands
- 2021 Fleisher Winter Academy Baltimore Piano Festival
- 2021 11th International Piano Masterclasses, Katowice, Poland
- 2021 Feuerwerk Piano Academy, Einbeck, Germany
- 2022 PianoLab, Belgium
- 2022 Online Scriabin 150 Festival in collaboration with the Scriabin Society of America

Other experience and interests

- Languages (English, German, Dutch, Russian, French and Italian).
- Founder and organizer of [the Scriabin Club](#)
- [Philosophy](#) (Christianity and Chinese Philosophy).
- [Technology](#) (Programming, Open-Source projects and tutorials).
- [Lectures](#) (Presenting, teaching and exploring).
- [Teaching and coaching](#) (Piano and music theory lessons, language and life coaching).
- [Performing concerts](#) (Solo recitals, chamber music concerts and lecture recitals).

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