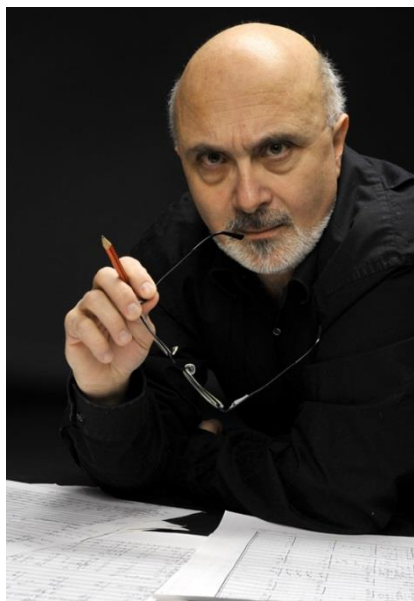


## BIOGRAPHY



**HAIG VARTAN**  
COMPOSER

Passionate about philosophy and history, Haig Vartan studied composition and piano in Basel, Budapest, Paris, Sofia and Venice.

The Swiss composer of Armenian origin has been composing for more than thirty years. His work is inspired by the great European musical tradition and the Oriental culture of which he originates. At the crossroads between two worlds, his music associates western rationality and oriental mysticism and transmits a spiritual strength that is distinctive of his entire work.

In 1995, he received the UNESCO prize in Paris for his opera **Prométhée XII** – *Dramma per musica* that was presented in 1994 in *Teatro Goldoni* in Venice.

### SELECTED WORKS

**Prométhée XII** – *Dramma per musica*, opera in two acts, presented in a world première in 1994 in *Teatro Goldoni* in Venice and recorded on CD the same year. Following the UNESCO distinction it was played at the Conservatoire of Erevan in Armenia.

**La Fenice** – *Sonata for piano* written in 1997, it was played several times in Europe, during the piano recitals of the Spanish-Italian master Brenno Ambrosini.

**Cellissimo-1999** is an original composition for four cellos, especially written for the world famous ensemble of the same name. The world première at the Kronberg Music Festival was recognized as « a creation that fulfilled all our desires » by the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

**Requiem**, a monumental 90-minute fresco, was composed in 1996 and was performed in 2001 in Geneva and Zürich by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Prague and the Czech Radio Choir. It received the most positive comments from the conductor Maestro Fracasso who wrote: « This work qualifies itself by its expressive, structural and thematic great cohesion ».

**Les Chants Grenats** – *ritournelles contre la guerre*, a musical piece of theatre was composed between 2005 and 2008.

**Phantasia** – for four-handed piano, was written for Duo Fresco (Budapest) and recorded on CD in 2010.

**Mister Money** – *Opera Buffa*, with texts by G. Chevrolet, is inspired by the novel “Honorable Beggars”.

**EpitaphE**, composed in 2010 for a chamber orchestra.

**II. Symphonia Concertante**, composed in 2012 for violin, cello and orchestra.

**III. Symponia Requiescat**, composed in 2014 for soprano, baritone and orchestra.

*IV. Symphonia Shakespearean*, composed in 2015.

*Gomidas Quartet*, composed in 2015.

#### CRITICS AND REVIEW

« Haig Vartan, a man of absolute music, an analyst. »

*Nordbayerischer Kurier*, Bayreuth

« Vartan cannot be in any condition, identified by the statement « L'Art pour l'Art ». For him, the inspirational themes must have a relation with life and the world around us. His works are indeed always related to his own story. In his music, Vartan emphasizes on what's on his mind, what moves him and makes him think. »

*Linda Gysin, Excerpt from Mémoire d'histoire de la musique, April 2007. Conservatoire de Musique de Neuchâtel, Switzerland.*

« In the kingdom of « L'Infinito » silence reigns like a king who imposes his presence. Silence becomes a note and the unsaid evokes everything. Infinity is immaterial, evasive as the skyline. It belongs to the phantasy of the first love, the romantic and irrational love. Infinity is close to human spirit, and to art. The music of my friend Vartan falls within this world of immaterial desire. »

*Prof. Dr. Willy Pasini, University of Milan*

«...splendid «Requiem»: it is a requiem characterized by a great expressive, structural and thematic cohesion. »

*Maestro Giuliano Fracasso. Artistic Director, Vincenza Orchestra and Choir*

« Venice...Attended yesterday a rehearsal of "Prométhée XII". It was a highlight...I listen to Haig Vartan's music and I am happier than anyone...» *Jean-Jacques Varoujean, «La quadrature du siècle».*