

## Curriculum Petrit Çeku

Petrit Çeku was born in 1985 in Prizren, Kosovo, where he received instruction from Luan Sapunxhiu. In 2002, he moved to Zagreb, Croatia, where he continued his music education under the instruction of Xhevdet Sahatxhija and later entering Darko Petrinjak's class at the Music Academy in Zagreb, from where he graduated in 2008.

Çeku has won top prizes in numerous competitions. Among them first prize in the All-Croatian Competition in Dubrovnik in 2003 as well as first prize in the international guitar competition Anna Amalia in Weimar, Germany. The following year he won the Emilio Pujol guitar competition in Sassari, Italy, as well as the Andrés Segovia in Velbert, Germany. Also in 2004, he represented Croatia in the European Music Prize for Youth in Dubrovnik winning first prize and the Croatian Composer's Union prize for the performance of a work by a Croatian composer. At the end of a very successful year, which includes winning the international competition Ferdo Livadic among all instruments, he was awarded with the annual prize of The Croatian Music Youth in the year 2005.

Petrit Çeku received the Silver Medal in The Parkening Competition in Malibu, California, and second prize in the Printemps de la guitar in Charleroi, Belgium in 2006. By winning the Pittaluga Competition in Alessandria, Italy (2007), Petrit Çeku established himself as one of the leading guitarists of the young generation. In 2008, Petrit Çeku was awarded the annual prize of The Zagreb Philharmonic Orchestra as the Best Young Musician of the Year 2008, and his first solo CD was released on the Naxos label.

He currently studies with the legendary guitarist, Manuel Barrueco, at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, USA.

Petrit Çeku plays on a Ross Gutmeier guitar.