

İlhan Baran (1934-2016)

İlhan Baran was born in Artvin, in Turkey in 1934. He first started to play the double bass with Heinrich Fromme at the Ankara State Conservatory but a year later he changed it to composition major and started to work with Ahmet Adnan Saygun. In addition, he also took piano lessons from Selçuk Gündemir'den, and Turkish classical music lessons from Muzaffer Sarısözen in the same school. He also took private lessons on harmony of Turkish music from Kemal İlerici. In 1960, he finished his composition education at the Hacettepe University.

In 1962, İlhan Baran earned a scholarship to go to Paris to study with Henri Dutilleux and Maurice Ohana at the *Ecole Normale de Musique*. After finishing his education in Paris, he returned to Turkey and became the composition professor at the Ankara State Conservatory. Some of his students include well-known Turkish pianist and composer Fazıl Say, and also Muhiddin Dürrüoğlu, and Toros Can. He dedicated himself to music and intellectual research. His compositions style blends elements of both Turkish and Western music.

Some of his famous compositions include: *Üç Bagatel* (Three Bagatelle) for piano, *Dört Parça* (Four Songs) for two flutes, *Demet-Suite* (Miracles) for woodwind quintet , “*Alla Turca*” *Monophonic Songs*.

—Program note by Gözde Çakır

Reference:

Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSŞV). “İlhan Baran.” Accessed on May 27, 2020.
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