

Selman Ada (b.1953)

Selman Ada was born in Adana, in 1953. He began composing at the age of seven and has given various concerts and recitals around the world. In 1965, he traveled to Paris to study with Pierre Pasquier, Anette Dieudonné, Christian Manen, Roger Boutry, and Elsa Barraine at the Paris Supreme Conservatory, graduating in 1971. Following his return to Turkey, Ada began working as an assistant and student of general music director, Robert Wagner, at the Istanbul State Opera and Ballet. In 1975, Ada conducted Mozart's "*Don Giovanni*" and his success on the stage led him to be an orchestra conductor. In 1979, Ada became the general music director at the Ankara State Opera and Ballet where he worked for two years. After his return to Paris, Ada served as a professor in the Department of Opera Korrepetitor and Orchestra Conductor at the Ecole Normale Superieure de Musique.

Some of his well known operas which have been performed in Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia are: *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*, *Oratorio Mavi Nokta* and *Herakülesalle*. The world premiere of his last opera *Aşk-ı Memnu* was at the Mersin State Opera and Ballet in 2003.

Selman Ada is a member of German Composers Society "Gema". All of his works are published in five languages; Turkish, English, German, Flemish, and French by the Strube Verlag München-Berlin edition. Since 2002, he has worked at the Mersin State Opera and Ballet as general music director. He also serves as an orchestra conductor in the Istanbul State Opera and Ballet.

—Program note by Gözde Çakır

Reference:

TCM Turkish Cultural Foundation. "Selman Ada." Accessed on May 23, 2020.

<http://www.turkishculture.org/whoiswho/selman-ada-1150.htm>