

Short Biography of Irina Vardeli

Irina Vardeli was born in 1973 in Tbilisi. Her both parents are musicians. Predictably, her musical education started at a very early age, but it is the contribution of her high school piano teacher Natela Mchedlishvili that Irina Vardeli considers to have been decisive in shaping her career as a professional musician.

1996 Irina Vardeli has settled in Switzerland. She took bachelor's and master's degrees from the Basel Music Academy, where she studied under Rolf Mäser and Jürg Wyttenbach. She also studied chamber music under Gérard Wyss and accompaniment under Kurt Widmer, and has since been busy performing in ensembles and with singers. Irina Vardeli has attended master classes given by Rudolf Buchbinder, Konstantin Scherbakov, Rudolf Kehrer and Maurizio Pollini. In 2003, she joined Ivan Klansky's master course at the Lucerne Conservatory.

In 2001, she was awarded the Zurich Orpheus Prize in a duo with the singer Michaela Selinger. In 2005, she won the Lucerne Mozart Prize, which enabled her to participate in the 2006 Mozart Days in Lucerne in KKL. She has also performed at the Lucerne festival and twice at the Chopin Festival in Marienbad, the Czech Republic.

Irina Vardeli was a soloist with various domestic and international orchestras, including the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra and Youth Philharmonic in Central Switzerland KKL or the West Bohemian Symphony Orchestra in Marienbad. She is also much in demand as a soloist with orchestras in Switzerland and abroad, and also offers regular solo recitals and chamber music concerts.

Irina Vardeli regularly plays benefit concerts for the improvement of living conditions of Georgian children.

She lives in Zurich with her husband, the sound designer Florian Eidenbenz, and their two children. www.irinavardeli.ch