

Fact Sheet

Members:	Matej Zupan (flutes), Jože Kotar (clarinets), Mihael Šuler (trombone), Franci Krevh (percussion), Luca Ferrini (piano), Katja Krajnik (viola), Igor Mitrović (cello)
Conductor:	Steven Loy
Artistic Director:	Pavel Mihelčič
Based in:	Ljubljana, Slovenia, Europe
Active since:	2001
Number of World Premieres given:	63
Number of works composed for the ensemble:	62
Number of works composed for the ensemble by Slovenian composers:	37
Number of works composed for the ensemble by non-Slovenian composers:	25
Number of works composed for the ensemble that have been recorded for CD:	21
Number of CDs Commercially Available:	4
Cities visited:	Bucharest, Dublin, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Ljubljana, Seoul, Trieste, Vienna and Zagreb
International Music Festival performances:	Zagreb Biennale, Trieste Prima, International Week of New Music (Meridian) Bucharest, Dimension Festival Seoul, Studio 20/21 Seoul, Ljubljana Festival, Unicum Festival

Biography

The ensemble MD7 is Slovenia's only standing ensemble devoted entirely to the performance of contemporary music. From the very beginning, its mission has been to perform works composed exclusively for the ensemble and its unique instrumentation, which can be described as a darker variation of the standard 'Pierrot' ensemble: flute, clarinet, trombone, viola, cello, piano and percussion.

Since its first performance in Vienna in 2001, the ensemble has commissioned and premiered nearly 70 works from composers both in Slovenia and around the world. In addition to giving annual performances in Ljubljana, MD7 has also toured widely throughout Europe and Asia, and performed on noted international contemporary music festivals such as the Meridian Festival in Bucharest, the Dimension Festival in Seoul and Trieste Prima.

The group has been equally active in the studio. Their first CD, titled "Music of Our Time" and featuring works by Slovenian composers, was released in 2006. This was followed in 2010 with two more discs, "Moderno" (with a more international program) and "Color Circle", which explores more pieces by Slovenian composers.

MD7 has been praised for their virtuosity and broad-minded flexibility, allowing the composers they work with the freedom to find exactly the right way to express their ideas. The ensemble has worked closely with numerous composers, including Lojze Lebič, Harue Kunieda, Chan Wing Wah, Sukhi Kang and Jean-Luc Darbelley. Other composers who have written for the ensemble include Zygmunt Krauze and Giampaolo Coral.

The artistic director of the ensemble is Pavel Mihelčič, one of the most notable figures in Slovenian music life for decades. A composer, music critic and professor of composition, he is also the artistic director of the Unicum contemporary music festival and has served for years as the president of the Slovenian section of the International Society of Contemporary Music (ISCM) among other positions of distinction. His music is characterized by clarity and musical conviction and many of his works are charged with folk motives. He was the dean of the Academy of Music in Ljubljana from 2001-2009.

The ensemble takes their name from the Musica Danubiana festival, an event devoted to contemporary music from the Danube Basin region, where the group made their debut.

The seven permanent members of the ensemble are all highly-skilled instrumentalists and principal players in Slovenia's top orchestras: Matej Zupan, flutes; Jože Kotar, clarinets; Miha Šuler, trombone; Katja Krajnik, viola; Igor Mitrovič, cello; Franci Krevh, percussion; and Luca Ferrini, keyboard instruments. The conductor of the ensemble is Steven Loy.

Members



Matej Zupan is professor of flute at the Academy of Music (University) in Ljubljana and formerly principal flutist of the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra. He has performed throughout Europe as well as in both Americas. He has released five solo CDs.



Jože Kotar has been principal clarinetist of the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra since 2007 after serving in that role at the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra for more than 10 years. A tenured professor at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana, he has recorded eleven CDs and is a member of various chamber groups.



Katja Krajnik pursued her studies with Nobuko Imai at the University of Music in Detmold after graduating from the Academy of Music in Ljubljana in the class of Svava Bernhardsdottir. She has been the principal violist of the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra since 2000, additionally appearing with chamber groups such as the Rožmarinke String Quartet and as a soloist.



Igor Mitrović was born in Beirut and graduated from the Academy of Music in Ljubljana in the class of Miloš Mlejnik. Currently he is co-principal cellist of the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra and frequently appears as a soloist or member of other various orchestras and chamber groups.



Luca Ferrini studied piano, harpsichord and organ in his native Italy. For twenty years he has been performing as a soloist and with chamber groups and orchestras on all three instruments in cities across Europe and Asia. He has participated in international seminars as guest lecturer for piano and harpsichord and is also active as a composer.



Franci Krevh studied at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana and is a member of various ensembles including the Slovenian Philharmonic Orchestra, the MD7 contemporary music ensemble, the KOS DSS Chamber Orchestra and the SToP percussion ensemble.



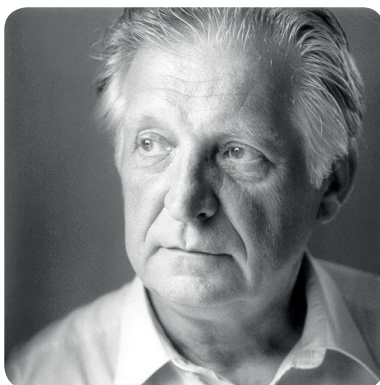
Mihael Šuler graduated from the Freiburg University of Music where he studied with renowned trombonist Branimir Slokar, completing his studies two years later at the Bern College for Music and Theatre. Currently he is co-principal trombonist with the RTV Slovenia Symphony Orchestra.



Steven Loy studied composition and conducting in Philadelphia, Paris and Budapest, and since 1997 has lived in Slovenia where he has conducted the premieres of numerous major 20th and 21st century works. He is the artistic director of the Predihano contemporary music series.

MD7 | contemporary music ensemble ■ Melikova 10, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia ■ telephone: +386 1 427 45 92 ■ mobile phone: +386 64 123 720 (Pavel Mihelčič)

Artistic Director



Composer, music critic and pedagogue Pavel Mihelčič received his diploma in composition from the Academy of Music in Ljubljana in 1963, where he later completed post-graduate studies with M. Bravničar in 1967. In addition to his work as a composer, he is also recognized as a balanced music critic and as a concert organiser (the Musica Danubiana Festival / UNICUM). He taught at the Ljubljana Secondary Music School (1963-1982) and was a longtime program editor for classical music at Slovenian Radio. Since 2003 he is the artistic director of the UNICUM festival, as well as president of the Slovenian Section of the International Society for Contemporary Music (ISCM) and a member of the advisory board of the Society of Slovene Composers. He is professor of composition and theoretical subjects at the Academy of Music in Ljubljana, where he also served as Dean.

Pavel Mihelčič composes for diverse ensembles, primarily for chamber groups and for orchestra, where thoughtfulness and musical conviction come to full expression. Many of his pieces are rich with folk motives. His body of work comprises orchestral, theatre, vocal-instrumental, chamber and solo works.

He has been awarded numerous prizes for his work, including the Prešeren Fund Prize (1979), the Zupančič Prize (1984), the Order of Service (which he was awarded in 2006 by Slovenian president Janez Drnovšek for his preparation and leadership of the international World Music Days in Slovenia in 2003) and the Kozina Prize of the Society of Slovene Composers (2007) for his symphonic works inspired with the Bela Krajina region.

Repertoire List

The following works have been commissioned and premiered by MD7.

2002

David Beovič (b. 1977)	Dež v pratiki ("Rain in the Almanac")
Giampaolo Coral (b. 1944)	Ablutio vel modificatio mundi
Jani Golob (b. 1948)	Danubiana
Sorin Lerescu (b. 1953)	Sailing
Ivo Petrič (b. 1931)	Danubian Septet

2003

Stefano Bonetti	Primo Piano - ES
François Bousch (b. 1946)	Dragon
Jani Golob (b. 1948)	Gymnopedie 2 (trans.- Satie)
Sungji Hong (b. 1973)	* Impetuoso (fl/cl/vla/vcl/pno)
Dmitry Lybin (b. 1963)	Brought to the Coast
Pavel Mihelčič (b. 1937)	Sensibile
Kokoras Panayiotis (b. 1974)	* Friction (cl/fl/vcl/pno)
Črt Sojar Voglar (b. 1976)	The Angel of Love

2004

Dušan Bavdek (b. 1970)	Intermezzo
Jani Golob (b. 1948)	Ivana
Pavel Mihelčič (b. 1937)	Twin - Chorus 7
Bojana Šaljić Podešva (b. 1978)	Kalejdoskop

2005

Harry Crowl (b. 1958)	Tenebrae et stellae
Jean-Luc Darbellay (b. 1946)	Postojna
Lars Graugaard (b. 1957)	Plunge
Pavel Mihelčič (b. 1937)	Film
Marko Mihevc (b. 1957)	Kodeks
Nina Šenk (b. 1982)	Trois couleurs

2006

Nenad Firšt (b. 1964)	...at the moment I first stopped...
Jani Golob (b. 1948)	Invokacija
Martin Marek (b. 1956)	I sette girangoli
Pavel Mihelčič (b. 1937)	Strunam (To the Strings), after a folk theme
Andrian Pertout (b. 1963)	Aequilibrium
Ivo Petrič (b. 1931)	Metamorphoses concertantes
Corrado Rojac (b. 1968)	Goga
Peter Šavli (b. 1961)	Equinox
Chan Wing Wah (b. 1954)	Into immensity (Immensum ad antrum aditus)

Repertoire List

2007

David Beovič (b. 1977)	Ekipa iz cvetličarne ("The Team from the Flower Shop")
Giampaolo Coral (b. 1944)	La luna esce di scena - Notturmo
Dmitry Lybin (b. 1963)	Pas-de-sept
Pavel Mihelčič (b. 1937)	Beams
Urška Orešič (b. 1981)	Caprice for 7
Günther Zechberger (b. 1951)	Von oben tropft das Licht
Alexander Zimmermann (b. 1974)	M4 (cl/vlc/trbn/pno)

2008

George Balint (b. 1961)	Zoom in, within a peaceful mood
Grant Davidson Ford (b. 1966)	*Helicotrema (cl/vla/vlc/pno)
Bojan Glavina (b. 1961)	Capriccetti
Tomaž Habe (b. 1947)	Slavček in vrtnica ("The Nightingale and the Rose")
Sukhi Kang (b. 1934)	Myth
Zygmunt Krauze (b. 1938)	Voices for Ljubljana
Lojze Lebič (b. 1934)	Colour Circle
David McMullin (b. 1971)	A Still Small Voice

2009

Franjo Đurovič (b. 1971)	Let's Talk About Daksa
Nenad Firšt (b. 1964)	Violab
Tina Mauko (b. 1982)	Shadows
Pavel Mihelčič (b. 1937)	Bucina for trombone and ensemble
Urška Pompe (b. 1969)	Warp and Woof
Karmella Tsepikolenko (b. 1955)	The Lift of Desires
Vito Žuraj (b. 1979)	Drop Shot

2010

Rok Golob (b. 1975)	Sinai
Janez Gregorc (b. 1934)	Small Talk
Aldo Kumar (b. 1954)	And the Cows Were Enchanted
Harue Kunieda (b. 1958)	Recitation III
Daniel Perlongo (b. 1942)	Settimana Ljubljana
Corrado Rojac (b. 1968)	V noči ("at night")
Helena Vidic (b. 1987)	In the Birch Grove
Črt Sojar Voglar (b. 1976)	Journey
Larisa Vrhunc (b. 1967)	Sound Images Between the Fingers

note: works with an asterisk ("") were performed by MD7 but not written specifically for the ensemble.*

In the Press

The closely-knit ensemble sounded as one, demonstrating their professionalism, precise playing and unanimity in a demanding program, confirming the excellent reputation they have earned for their convincing performances before Trieste audiences.

Rossana Paliaga, *Primorski dnevnik* (Slovenian daily), Nov. 2010

The seven-member group from Slovenia under conductor Steven Loy know how to make contemporary music fascinating for the audience (...) And with all these Austrian first performances the musicians also proved themselves brilliant soloists.

Helmut Christian, *Kleine Zeitung*, Klagenfurt, Austria, 2010

The evening offered a wonderful portrait of both the exceptional creativity of Slovenian composers and the admirable state of the ensemble playing. One was pleasantly surprised by flutist Matej Zupan, clarinetist Joze Kotar, trombonist Miha Suler, pianist Luca Ferrini, violist Katja Krajnik, cellist Igor Mitrovic and percussionist Franci Krevh. With engaged playing the highly motivated musicians radiated a wish and desire to explore each of the works on the program in order to present their individual compositional approaches and bringing the audience closer with an optimal sound.

Tatjana Gregorič, *Primorski dnevnik*, Sept. 2009

The ensemble MD7 performed with the artistic accomplishment that characterizes each of their concerts. This is really an exceptional group that glitteringly presents the Slovenian compositional scene.

Primorski dnevnik, May 2008

Recordings

Audio samples may be listened to at <http://www.md7.org/Eng/audio.html>
Please contact us at contact@md7.org for access to listen to entire pieces or albums online.



moderno

RTV Slovenia Založba kaset in plošč, 2010

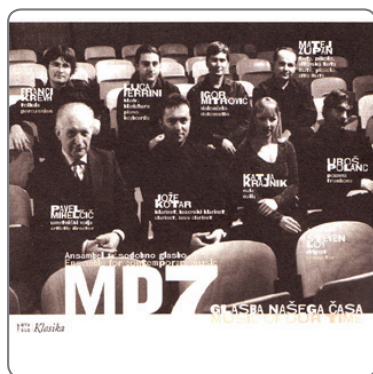
- [1] **Giampaolo Coral:** Ablutio vel mundificatio mundi
- [2] **Marko Mihevc:** Codex
- [3] **Pavel Mihelčič:** Beams
- [4] **Urška Pompe:** Warp and Woof
- [5] **Chan Wing Wah:** Into immensity (Immensum ad antrum aditus)
- [6] **Zygmunt Krauze:** Voices for Ljubljana



Colour Circle

Society of Slovene Composers Editions, 2010

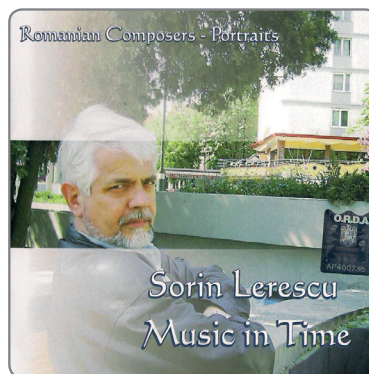
- [1] **Jani Golob:** Invocation
- [2] **Tomaž Habe:** The Nightengale and the Rose
- [3] **Nenad Firšt:** ...at the moment I first stopped...
- [4] **Pavel Mihelčič:** Film
- [5] **Bojana Šaljić Podešva:** Kaleidoscope
- [6] **Pavel Mihelčič:** Strunam, po motivih ljudske pesmi 'Godec pred peklom' ("To the Strings, after motives from the folksong *The Fiddler Before Hell*")
- [7] **Lojze Lebič:** Colour Circle



MD7: Music of Our Time

RTV Slovenia Založba kaset in plošč, 2006

- [1] **Ivo Petrić:** Danubian Septet
- [2] **Pavel Mihelčič:** Sensibile
- [3] **Jani Golob:** Danubiana
- [4] **Dušan Bavdek:** Intermezzo
- [5] **Črt Sojar Voglar:** Angel ljubezni ("The Angel of Love")
- [6] **Pavel Mihelčič:** Twin - Chorus
- [7] **David Beovič:** Dež v pratiki ("Rain in the Alminac")



Sorin Lerescu: Music in Time

Editura Muzicală, 2008

- [4] Sailing (2002) MD7

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photo: Mira Herak Usenik



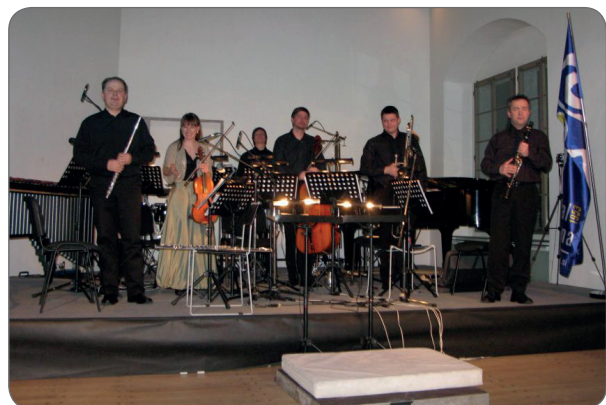
photo: Mira Herak Usenik



photo: Mira Herak Usenik



photo: Kroma



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