Florijan Balaž, the violinist, was born in 1971 in Novi Sad, where he completed his primary and secondary music school. He studied in Novi Sad and Ljubljana, then spent a year specializing in Vienna. He finished the postgraduate studies at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad, in professor Uros Pesic’s class.

He currently holds a position of Full professor at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad (subject violin), simultanously acting a s a Head of Department for Strings. He has won numerous awards and accolades the most significant of which are: the first place at the Federal Competition in the Violin Category in 1986, first place at the Federal Chamber Music Competition in the Piano Trio Category and the first place award at the International “Petar Konjovic” Competition in the Piano Duo Category in 1996.  For the achievements achievements in studying and music work, he received the highest recognition of the city of Novi Sad, “The Maturity Award” in 1988. He represented Yugoslavia as a member of the Mediterrain Youth Orchestra in the XN Provence – France in 1989 and successfully passed the concert-master audition for the Youth Orchestra “Gustav Mahler”, which was conducted by the famous Caludio Abado for years. In the season 1992 – 1993 he was a member of the “Ciudad orchestra de Malaga” orchestra in Spain. Since 1993 until the end of 1995, he was a regular member of the Symphonic Orchestra in San Galen and a concert-master of the Chamber Orchestra of Gosau, both in Switzerland.

He is the founder and concert-master of the “Novi Sad Soloists” Chamber Orchestra. In the season 2004 – 2005 once again he was engaged by the San Galen Symphonic Orchestra. During his time in Switzerland, Florijan Balaz performed at the concerts of the Europian String Orchestra.

Florijan Balaz pays special attention to his solo career and starts an intense collaboration with the lady pianist Vanja Pritz, together being recognized by the audiences of Novi Sad for their traditional “Valentines day” concerts, given on 14 February. Their performances were recorded by many radio stations and television houses RTV BG, RTV NS, TV CG, SRT – Banja Luka, as did the many local radio and television stations. Beside the numberous soloist concerts, the performances at the renowned international festivals, such as NOMUS, A-fest, “Little BEMUS”, “Kotor Art”, “Winter of Sarajevo” and “Spring of Zenica” clearly stand out. As a soloist, he performed with the accompaniment of the Symphonic Orchestra of the Academy of Arts, Novi Sad, the Symphonic Orchestra of Nish, the RTV CG Symphonic Orchestra, the “Stanislav Binicki” artistic ensemble, the “Novi Sad Soloists” String Chamber Orchestra, the Novi Sad Chamber Orchestra, the Subotica Chamber Orchestra and the “Arion” Chamber Orchestra of Banja Luka.

In April 2004, he recorded his first independent sololist CD, playing Fritz Crysler pieces. As one of the most outstanding artist of the younger generation, he got the honour to be the representative of Vojvodina at the International meeting of the Danube countries in Ulm – Germany, June 2004. Beside the classical repertoire, Florijan Balaz also actively promotes pieces of modern composers. Some of these projects are permanently recorded on CD: the “Ritual nova” ensemble for new music and the Neorenaissance “V.I.T.R.I.O.L.” ensemble. As a soloist, he performed throughout the former Yugoslavia and at the music centres of Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Italy, Spain, France, Hungary and Slovenia. Florijan Balaz has been the concert-master of the Symphonic orchestra of Vojvodina since its foundation, and performed with it as a soloist in 2013. MIOMIR SIMONOVIC was born on 28/10/1965 in Leskovac, where he finished primary and secondary music school in the class of Professor Tahir Kulenović. He graduated and got his M.A. at the Faculty of Musical Arts in Belgrade, in the class of the same professor.

During his school days he won numerous awards in state and country competitions. He won third prize on the 23rd Annual Competition of Young Yugoslav Artist in Zagreb and second prize at the competition of the Federation of Paris Conservatories in 1989. He went to H. Berlioz Conservatory as a scholar of the Foundation for Scientific and Artistic Youth of Serbia.

He has held over 50 recitals so far, some in Belgrade and Serbia, some in France and Spain. He performed as a solo artist with the Symphonic Orchestra of Niš, the Military Symphonic Orchestra and Serbian Radio Television Symphonic Orchestra. He has made sound recordings for Radio Belgrade.

He started teaching in 1987 as a professor in secondary music school “Jovan Bandur” in Pančevo, and since 1993 in music school “Živorad Grbić” in Valjevo, and music school “Josip Slavenski” in Belgrade. During his undergraduate studies he was a demonstrator in the class of Professor Tahir Kulenović. In 1997 he was elected Assistant for the flute at the Faculty of Music Arts in Belgrade. He was re-elected for the same position in 2001, and in 2003 he was elected Docent for the flute at the Faculty of Music Arts in Belgrade.

His students have won over 100 awards in festivals, state, country and international competitions. He was awarded several times for his outstanding pedagogical results, once by the Union of Associations of Music and Ballet Pedagogues of Serbia for his pedagogical results over the years, awarded to him as the youngest professor since the award has been established.

14 students have graduated so far in the class of docent Miomir Simonović, some of whom continued their studies abroad, and many of them working in music schools or play in orchestras such as: Belgrade Opera Orchestra or “Madlenijanum” Chamber Opera Orchestra.