



Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium Denijs Dille Collection

NEWSLETTER #1 September 2022

This is the first newsletter of the non-profit organisation "Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium - Denijs Dille Collection" (BBA). With this newsletter we want to inform you about the activities of the archive (symposia, concerts, publications...). We also invite scholars to explore the archive for their research into the life and work of Béla Bartók and Denijs Dille, the 'pioneer of Bartók research'.

The newsletter will be published twice a year (September / March) and on special occasions. For instance, in 2024 we will organise a one-day symposium on Denijs Dille's (born in 1904) impressive legacy. In 2025, an international Bartók Symposium is planned on occasion of Béla Bartók's 80th death anniversary.

We welcome reactions to this newsletter!
Subscribe / unsubscribe: carl.v.e@skynet.be

Béla Bartók

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Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium

The non-profit organisation Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium aims to promote the Denijs Dille Collection. The archives stand out as a center of documentation and research that encourages performance and scholarship on the music of Béla Bartók. In addition, the center strives to fill out its collection and to commence publication of its own research. Finally, it endeavours to develop an international scientific collaboration with other Bartók archives. The Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium were created in 1996.

Visit our [web page](#) on the site of the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR).



Denijs Dille Collection

The Denijs Dille Collection was created out of the library and private archives of the musicologist and philologist Denijs Dille (1904-2005). Following his encounter with Béla Bartók in 1937, Dille began a thorough study of the work and life of the Hungarian composer. He was a cofounder of the *Bartók Archivum* in Budapest in 1961, and he served as director this institution until 1971.

The Denijs Dille collection, which contains numerous precious items related to Bartók,

constitutes the fundamental part of the Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium. It also contains abundant sources on the subject of musical life in the twentieth century, in particular a unique collection concerning Flemish music (scores, letters, manuscripts and reviews).

The Denijs Dille Collection is an invaluable source for the study of the life and work of Bartók. The collection contains about 6,000 printed works. The collection also contains 77 folders with various documents mainly related to Bartók (press articles, concert programmes, photographs, letters and sketches of the composer) and 43 folders with a collection of reports, texts of radio broadcasts and articles which Dille devoted to Bartók. In addition to several miscellaneous items, the collection contains 55 magnetic tapes (some of which were taken from old cylinders that Bartók himself made during campaigns of systematic collection of traditional oral music in Eastern Europe) and 440 33 rpm records.

Search the Denijs Dille Collection!

Under the impulse of Dr. Marie Cornaz, head of the music department at the KBR, already 6203 items from Dille's extensive archive have been entered in the KBR's General Catalog. These items are easily accessible via the search function of the KBR's General catalogue. They reveal a wealth of documents which bear witness to Dille's enormous work as a Bartók scholar, as well as his contributions to School Radio, of which he was one of the pioneers. In addition, there is his extensive correspondence with Flemish and international composers, musicologists, etc.

Enter 'Denijs Dille' in the [General catalog](#) search field of the KBR and start your (re)search!

Refine your search




- Base**
 - General catalog KBR 500+
 - E-books & e-journals 0
 - Content from e-resources 50+
- Digitised?**
- Type of document**
- Period**
- Year**
- Classification Bibliography of Belgium**
- Person / Collective**
- Publisher**
- Language**
- Subject**
- Collection**

Search results

My search: **Denijs Dille**

Results 1 - 50 / 6203 50 v by page

Sort: **Relevance**

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	Denijs Dille : gids voor het "Bartokjaar" Heughebaert, Hugo (1932-2018) - muzikdoecnt Gent : Spectator, 1981. - [2] p : portr. ; 30 cm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

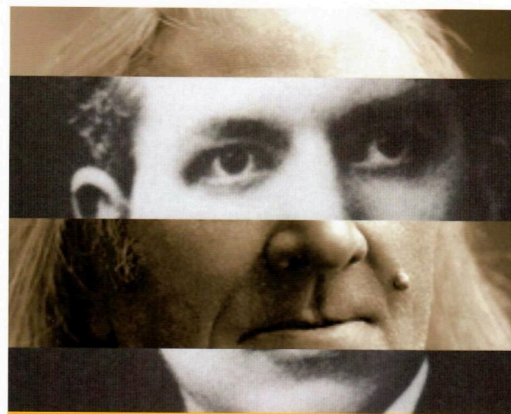
Doctoral Research by Levente Kende

On Sunday, 13 June 2021, Levente Kende (Concert Pianist, former Professor of the Royal Flemish Conservatory of Antwerp and member of the General Assembly of the BBA-FDD) presented and defended his doctorate. His doctoral research focuses on the late piano works of Ferenc Liszt and the early piano works of Béla Bartók. These works by Liszt and Bartók completely break with the Romantic idiom of the works that preceded them. For both composers, they herald a new style of composition. The central research question is therefore: what prompted Liszt and Bartók to break with their Romantic style and to embark on a similar path of early modernity?

[PhD thesis](#) (EN) by Levente Kende

"Endlich etwas wirklich neues"
(Ferruccio Busoni over Béla Bartóks 14 Bagatellen / 1908)
versus
"Darf man solch ein Ding schreiben oder anhören?"
(Ferenc Liszt over zijn Csárdás macabre / 1882)

Levente Kende



Promotoren **prof. dr. Henk de Smaele** | **Luc Van Hove** | **dr. Stephan Weytjens**

Proefschrift voorgedragen tot het behalen van de graad van Doctor in de Kunsten
Faculteit Letteren & Wijsbegeerte (onderzoeksgroep ARJA) | Antwerpen, 2021



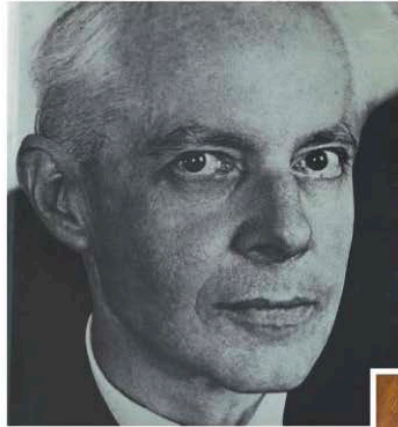
"During my research I have not only gathered a lot of interesting and enlightening information about Liszt and Bartók but I have also discovered many piano works by both composers that were unknown to me until then"

"The tonal experiments of Liszt and Bartók are closely connected with the reformulations of their deepest human problems concerning life and philosophy".

Bartók Inspired

III. Bartók International Symposium

14-15-16.12.2021



Béla Bartók (Photo by Kata Kálmán)



Denijs Dille by Prosper De Troyer (Private collection)

4 Concerts - 6 Lectures

KBR

Auditorium Arthur De Greef
Kunstberg – B-1000 Brussels
kbr.be

Liszt Institute

Hungarian Cultural Center Brussels
Treurenberg 10 – B-1000 Brussels
culture.hu



KBR



Liszt Institute
Hungarian Cultural Center Brussels

III. Bartók International Symposium

From 14 to 16 December 2021, the BBA-FDD, in cooperation with the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR) and the Liszt Institute Brussels, organised for the third time an international Bartók Symposium. The symposium focused on the question of how Bartók evolved through his youthful works to become an autonomous composer with his own (meaningful) musical language.

There were impressive concerts by Levente Kende, the Dohnányi Quartet and Julien Libeer. During six lectures, the theme of the symposium - "Bartók Inspired" - was explored. These lectures will be published in January 2023 by

the Belgian Musicological Society in 'Belgisch tijdschrift voor muzikwetenschap / Revue belge de musicologie' :

Francis Maes

Twentieth Century Music: How does Bartók fit in?

Péter Tornyai

"Does Bartók Quote Méliande's Death In His 2nd String Quartet?"

An Attempt to Correct a Semicentennial Inaccuracy

László Vikárius

Bartók's Bach Borrowings

Viola Biró

"...to reflect the spirit of peasant music"

The dance music of Bihar and Maramureş in Bartók's compositions

Malcolm Gillies

"Influence, inspiration and intrigue: Bartók's knowledge of his contemporaries' music"

Carl Van Eyndhoven

"You are not going to publish this opinion, are you?"

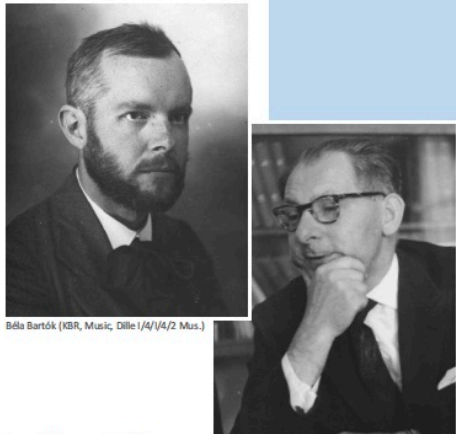
Dille's reflections on influence and inspiration in Bartók's music.

Belgian Musicological Society, [click here](#)

Programme of the 2021 symposium, [click here](#)

Rediscover the Ist and IInd Bartók Symposium!

BÉLA BARTÓK: from Youth to Early Maturity
International Symposium & Concerts
6-7-8.11.2014



Béla Bartók (KBR, Music, Dille 1/4/1/4/2 Mus.)
Denijs Dille (Private collection)

Royal Library of Belgium
Auditorium De Greef
Kunstberg - B-1000 Brussels

Balassi Institute, Cultural service of
the Embassy of Hungary
Treurenberg 10 - B-1000 Brussels

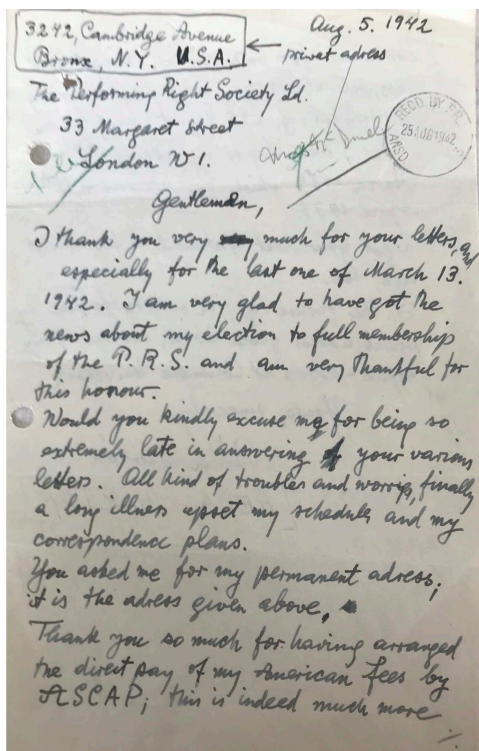
"Bartók and Kodály, so close and so different"

II. Bartók Festival in Brussels

Bartók-Kodály International Symposium

11-12.03.2016

Programme 2014: [click here](#)



New acquisitions

Through the intermediary of Ms. Laura Hennings (former assistant of the late Peter Bartók), we received some beautiful photographs of Bartók, taken by the internationally renowned, Belgian photographer and musician Charles Leirens (1888 - 1963), as well as an original letter from Bartók, dated 5 August 1942, addressed to "The Performing Right Society Ltd." in London. In it Bartók expresses his gratitude for 'my election to full membership of the P.R.S.!

In Search of Bartók's *Symphony in E-flat major*...

III. Scherzo - *Bartók's Scherzo* 67

[d. = 92] *Allergo vivace*

2 Clar. B.

2 Fag.

Celli.

Bassi.

Allergo vivace

Cl. in D.

Fag. II.

Tbc.

Cl.

Vcl.

Cl.

Oboe III.

C. In.

Bassoon B.

Vcl.

Cl.

Bartók's orchestration of the beginning of the Scherzo from the Symphony in E-flat (DD 68 / BB 25) (1902)

In the 1960s, after thorough research and at the request of Zoltán Kodály, Denijs Dille was able to reconstruct an exceptional youth work by Béla Bartók: **the Symphony in E-flat**. According to Dille, it is "the first attempt to write for a large orchestra by the student Bartók at the beginning of his third year at the Conservatory (autumn 1902)" According to Kodály's words, this work allows "**to measure the distance that exists between the pupil and the 'master'**".

For a long time, only the manuscript of the third movement, the Scherzo, was known. This Scherzo was orchestrated by Bartók and performed at a school concert in 1904. Eventually Dille also found the manuscript of the other three movements which were not orchestrated by Bartók. Dille did this himself, a work which he completed in 1966 and which culminated in a performance by

the orchestra of the Hungarian Radio in early January 1968.

A recent request from the BBC Music Library concerns the orchestral material of the Scherzo that the Scottish Symphony Orchestra wants to perform this year as part of a series of concerts with all Bartók's orchestral works. Their question led them to the Béla Bartók Archives in the KBR, which is internationally renowned for its many documents on Bartók's early works.

The archive turned out to contain a few manuscripts (or copies) of Dille's 'reconstruction', but no orchestral material. This is when a fascinating search began for the orchestral material (including the score). Apart from the known performance in Budapest in 1968, it soon became clear that the work was also performed and recorded, in early January 1974, by the Belgian Radio Broadcasting Orchestra. A search in the BOO (Belgian State Broadcasting Music Library) did not immediately yield anything. But thanks to the tracing of the recording in 1974 and the subsequent research in the VRT archives (Flemish Radio & Television), the score that was used by the sound engineer could be found. This is definitely an important discovery because it offers the possibility - in case the orchestral material cannot be found - to create the orchestral material of the Scherzo after digitalisation. Moreover, it complements the information already preserved in the Bartók Archives in Brussels, making the history of this Symphony - so significant in the development of the composer Bartók - more and more clear.

[Listen](#) to the Symphony in the orchestration of Dille (I, II , IV) and Bartók (III).

Website of the BOO (Belgian State Broadcasting Music Library): [click here](#).

Upcoming Concerts



Liszt Institute
Hungarian Cultural Center Brussels

**V. Bartók Festival – Violon Duo Concert
by Bence Ábrahám & Tim Breckpot**

Monday, September 26 at 7 p.m.

Liszt Institute, 10 Treurenberg, 1000 Brussels

Bence Ábrahám, first violinist of the Flanders Symphony Orchestra

Tim Breckpot, violinist, violin and chamber music teacher at the academies of Blankenberge and Ypres

Programme:

Solo Sonate for Violin (1944)

44 Violin Duos (1931)

Information and (free) registration: [click here](#)

**BARTÓK
EEN LEVEN IN ZES
STRIJKKWARTETTEN**

COPRODUCTIE / CO-PRODUCTION 30CC/SCHOUWBURG

Zondag / Sunday
09.10.2022 ♦ 11:00 & 14:30

30CC/SCHOUWBURG
TICKETS: RANG 1 € 25 - RANG 2 € 23 (PER CONCERT)

ELK STRIJKKWARTET WORDT INGELEID DOOR EEN ZKF (ZEER KORTE FILM) /
EVERY STRING QUARTET WILL BE PRECEDED BY A VSF (VERY SHORT FILM)

Concert 1 11:00 Béla Bartók: Strijkkwartetten / String Quartets 1, 2, 3
Concert 2 14:30 Béla Bartók: Strijkkwartetten / String Quartets 4, 5, 6

Bennewitz Quartet & Meccore String Quartet

On **Sunday, October 9, Festival 20.21** (Leuven) organises a '**Bartók String Quartets Day**'. The Polish Meccore String Quartet and the Czech Bennewitz Quartet perform all six string quartets of Bartók in two concerts. The string quartets will each be introduced by a VSF (Very Short Film).

Information and tickets: [click here](#).

On the recommendation of Adrienne
Eva Burányi, then director of the

Liszt Institute (Hungarian Cultural Center Brussels), Ambassador Tamás Iván Kovács awarded Carl Van Eyndhoven, chairman of the Bartók Archives, on Tuesday, 7 June 2022, with the '**Golden Order of Merit of the Hungarian State**'. This award is a recognition of the work and commitment of all members of the Béla Bartók Archives of Belgium - Denijs Dille Collection. It also confirms the good, long-standing cooperation between the Bartók Archives and the Liszt Institute (until recently called 'Balassi Institute'), including the organisation of three international Bartók symposia.



Liszt Institute Brussels, [click here](#).

A statue of Bartók in Brussels?

A statue of Béla Bartók stands at the *Spanjeplein / Place d'Espagne*, not far from Brussels' Grand Place. It was designed by Imre Varga (1923-2019), one of the "most skilled sculptors" in Hungary. Brussels received the sculpture in 1995 as a gift from the city of Budapest on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of Bartok's death. Opposite the intimate, modest statue of Bartók is an imposing equestrian statue of Don Quichote, accompanied by his servant Sancho Panza. This sculpture was made by the Spanish sculptors Lorenzo and Frederico Coullaut-Valera.



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