

The name of Jiri Laburda is well-known in the world of music. Laburda is active both as a composer and a social activist, whose works are published and constantly performed in lots of countries of the world. In Russia Jiri Laburda's music was first played in the capital of Karelia - Petrozavodsk. A conservatoire trumpet tutor Leonid Petrovich Budanov (1946-2000) - an outstanding Russian performer and a teacher, Petrozavodsk Conservatoire professor, Honoured Artist of Karelia - was directing the then famous performing ensemble - brass quintet where junior tutors played. Some time later the ensemble took the name of *Karelia- brass*. Jiri Laburda and Leonid Budanov got acquainted in 1983 which was the result of the composer's initiative. After hearing about Budanov's ensemble Laburda sent some of his works to his Conservatory Chair hoping that they would be performed there. In his letter the composer noted that his music was becoming to be performed by Czechoslovakian and European musicians more and more often and he expressed his hope for the Russian audience to hear it.

Now, at the beginning of the XXI century Jiri Laburda's music has been performed in Karelia many times, lots of musicians and concert-goers are familiar with it and love it. Annual festival PIANO DUO, which has been held in Petrozavodsk since 2002, plays an important part in promoting Jiri Laburda's music. Festival's concerts offer the audience modern music, not limiting themselves to piano duos and giving the audience opportunity to broaden their musical horizons. Premiere performances of Russian and foreign composers are a traditional part of the festival programme.

Along with that, the list of the cities, educational establishments and musicians performing Jiri Laburda's music is not only limited to Petrozavodsk. His works are becoming more and more popular. The list of Jiri Laburda's music recordings found on the Internet proves that fact. Among them you can see small plays together with works for large instrumental ensembles being performed by young and professional performers from different parts of Russia.