**PROF. EROL PARLAK** (1964 - Eleşkirt)

He went to Istanbul Technical University Turkish Music State Conservatory in 1982. He finished his education in academic year of 1985-1986. In 1986, he completed his education.

He worked as an academic in that institution in between 1986-1990.

Between 1986-1990, he worked as a lecturer at ITU Turkish Music State Conservatory.

In 1986, he entered TRT İzmir Radio as an "educated artist". In the same year he resigned from this position.

He completed his Master’s Degree, which he started on 1987, in 1990 with his thesis about “Bozlaklar” in Institute of Social Sciences in ITU.

He started to TRT Istanbul Radio as “”educated artist” in 1988 by an exam. He left that job that he continued for 10 years by resigning in 1998.

He completed his education of “Proficiency in Art” (Art Doctorate), which he started on 1992 in Institute of Social Sciences in ITU, with thesis entitled “Tradition of Playing (without plectrum) Baglama with Hand and Playing Techniques in Turkey” in 1998.

He appeared in researches in various regions of Anatolia in particular to Middle Anatolia, Teke Region, East and Southern-East approximately for 10 years, he made researches and examinations especially on “Techniques of playing baglama; attitudes about saz (a stringed instrument) and strain”. He also compiled around 1000 melody.

He joined concerts in various regions of the world with Arif Sag Baglama Trio within baglama beginning from 1995. In Köln Philharmonic stage with Köln Philharmonic Orchestra in the care of Roman Herzog, German president of the republic, in 1996, afterwards in the Philharmonic stages of Berlin and Strasbourg are some of those concerts. He also took to important stages of Netherlands and Belgium as part of “Mızraplı Sazlar Festival” at same period. He gave solo concerts in June 10, 2003 in Amiens National Stage, and June 12, 2003 in “Theatre de La Ville”, which is one of the most important ethnic music concert stages, in Paris. In June-July 2013, within the project titled "Turkish Musician Masters-Road", Kutsi Erguner and Pierre Rigopoulos and Germany's Franz List Music Academy etc. participated in concerts with "breathes" in various concert halls.

He performed a lot of concerts and joined TV and radio programs in both domestic and foreign regions with “Erol Parlak Baglama Quintet” that he established with his students by the beginning of 2000s. The concert held in Essen Philharmonic Hall in 2008 is among them.

The group broadcasted album named “Eşik” in 2004. He carried on many concerts, conferences, seminar,

workshops etc., which are still continuing in private schools, university, academy and conservatory, and joined symposiums, congresses; all started by 1990s in various places in the world in particular to Europe, he presented notifications and published articles.

He worked as an academic in Yıldız Technical University in the Faculty of Art Design in between 2002-2006.

He was assigned as Assistant Professor to the department of Musicology of ITU Turkish Music State Conservatory in

2006. He received the title of Associate Professor in 2008, and Professor in 2014.

He designed many pacesetter projects and lead the actualization of those like “Baglama Days of ITU” that started at 2005 and still continuing, “Nida Tüfekçi 1. International Baglama Symposium” that was in April 2012.

He actively took part in the studies of taking part in Anatolian Traditional Music Culture and saz (Baglama) in various parts of the world, especially in Europe within the body of universities and so on.

Between the dates October 2015-July 2016 he conducted a field-research about Anatolian Traditional Music and Baglama among Turkish people living in England as part of the cooperation of ITU and Kings College Universities with Prof. Dr. Martin Stokes and gave concerts.

In both the artistic and the scientific field, he received various awards for the contributions to the country's cultural heritage. “Culture & Art Great Award” (2016) of Presidency of the Republic of Turkey, “Neşet Ertaş Golden Baglama Reward” (2013) of Ministry of Culture of Presidency of the Republic of Turkey, “Turkish Folk Music Anthologhy Award” (1989) of Turkish Radio and Television Association, “Service to Turkish Folk Music Award” (1999) of Foundation of National Education, “Best Artist of the Year Award” (2004) of Truva Art-Culture Association, “Service to Turkish Folk Music Award” (2005) of Turkish Music Counsil and Society, “Service to Turkish Folk Music Award” (2006) of International Motive Folk Games Education and Institution Foundation, “Service to Turkish Folk Music Award” (2008) of Samsun Ondokuz Mayıs University are among them.

He has 20 albums composed of 8 solo, 3 instrumental and 9 mixed.

He made a cultural-art program called “Usta İzler”, which was featured on TRT Music Channel, with 39 episodes between 2011-2013.

His book “Tradition of Playing (without plectrum) Baglama with Hand and Playing Techniques in Turkey” was published from Ministry of Culture of Presidency of the Republic of Turkey (2000), other book “Method of Selpe Technique 1” was published from Ekin Yayınları (2001), “Method of Selpe Technique 2” was published from Aktüel Yayınları (2005), Erol Parlak Baglama School “Systematic Guide for Finger Technique (Selpe)” was published from Acoustic Music Books (Germany / 2010) and “Garip Bülbül Neşet Ertaş” (2013) was published from Demos Yayınları.

He produced many poems and folk songs with the nick name of "Pervâne" in the direction of the poetry tradition and the Turkish folk poetry.

These works, which he shared some through social media, appeared on the albums of various artists.

In June of 2017, he led the establishment of "Ankara University of Music and Fine Arts" which was established in Ankara. In the same year he was appointed to this university as a rector.

Erol Parlak always emphasizes cultural wealth of the Anatolia in his studies, and has an attitude that ground on human and express cultural variety. He continues to transfer the spirit and cultural wealth of Anatolia to the world.

He has two children.

He is still working as a lecturer in ITU Turkish Music Conservatory, Department of Sound Education and continueshis artistic and scientific studies.