

Balázs Sudár started his musical studies with the kobza (Romanian and Hungarian plucked folk instrument) at the Folk Music School Óbuda with Tamás Kobzos Kiss. Here he also took part in a one-year masterclass on the Turkish classical instrument, the saz, with Erdal Şalikoğlu from Istanbul. Later, on journeys to Istanbul, he took private lessons from Yusuf Benli who is a master of the saz (baglama) as well as teacher of music theory. After graduating from Secondary School Teleki Blanka in 1990, he studied history and turkish culture at the Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. He worked there as an assistant teacher until 2003. Since the autumn of 2003 he is a member of the Institute for Historiography at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences as a recipient of a scholarship for young scientists. His researches are on Turkish asik poetry, the classical Islamic music theory, the cultural relationships of the areas of Turkish occupation, and in particular, the medium role of the bektashi dervish order between the two cultures, and the history of Middle-Asian instruments. Author and co-author of several books, both his treatises and translations have been published. PhD (2004). He was a member of the Musica Historica ensemble since 1990 till 2011. Apart from playing music, he directed the medieval french comedy Aucasin and Nicolette (1993) and has made several reconstructions and copies of early instruments. In 1997 he founded the Ensemble Canlar which is specialized in turkish classical and folk music. He occasionally guests with other groups as well.

