

# Moisei Boroda

*Dr. of musicology, writer, composer*

## Biography

Born on 15 April 1947 in Tbilisi, Georgia.

From 1954 to 1965 he studied the violin at the Central Music School in Tbilisi. From 1965 to 1967 he continued his violin studies at the Tbilisi State Conservatory, and from 1968 to 1971 he studied musicology at the Conservatory's Faculty of Music Theory and Composition. In 1979, he was awarded a PhD in Art History, and in 1989, he received the Alexander von Humboldt International Research Fellowship for his research of the interrelations between natural language and music. Since 1989 he lives in Germany (Herne, North Rhine-Westphalia).

## Family

He is married to Sofia Chkonია.

## Career

Since 1967, his research has focused on the relationship between natural and musical language, the general principles of musical text organisation, the trends in the development of the European musical language over the last three centuries, and the rhythmic processes in text organisation. He is the author of over 60 scientific papers. From 1973 to 1987 he was a Research Fellow, and since 1987 - a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Aesthetics and Art Sciences at the Tbilisi State Conservatory. In 1985, he founded the international research series *Musikometrika*, published by the Universitätsverlag Dr. N. Brockmeyer in Bochum, Germany. He was also a member of the editorial board of the *International Journal of Quantitative Linguistics*.

## Literary activity

Short stories in Russian, German and Georgian. Essays on political subjects. Six books. Poetry in Russian, German and English. Literary translations from Italian and Georgian. Publications in magazines/on literary websites in Germany, Israel, USA, Switzerland, Georgia, etc.

Interviews with outstanding representatives of Georgian culture (all interviews were published in the publications of the International Guild of Writers):

*Prof. Givi Gambashidze* (historian, archaeologist, Director of the Museum of Jewish History in Georgia); *Makvala Gonashvili* (poet, prose writer and playwright, chairman of the Union of Writers of Georgia); *David Shemokmedeli* (poet and prose writer, President of the All-Georgian Rustaveli Society); *Prof., academician Giorgi Batiashvili* (architect, author of the project for the restoration of Old Tbilisi, as well as of the project of Presidential Palace of Georgia); *Merab Kokochashvili* (film director and actor); Five-time world chess champion

*Nona Gaprindashvili; Temur Chkheidze (theatre director and actor); Manana Doidzhashvili (pianist, Tbilisi State Conservatory rector and organiser of international piano competitions); Vladimir Sarishvili (poet, translator and sonnet scholar); Chief Rabbi of the Georgian Jews, Rabbi Yaakob Gagulashvili.*

## **Musical activity**

Compositions for violin, clarinet, guitar, cello and piano, as well as vocal cycles.  
Performances at concerts, as well as radio broadcasts (WDR 3, SWR 2, Swiss Radio DRS 2, Radio Sefarad, Madrid).

## **Reviews of the book(s) (in fragments):**

On the book "Здравствуй и прощай" ("Hello and Goodbye") | Stella-Verlag, 2018

*Moisei Boroda is endowed with a rare gift: his masterful pen embodies amazing fantasies in words and carries the reader into these worlds with a full effect of presence. Together with the writer, we delve into the consciousness and subconsciousness of Stalin, or see the world through the eyes of a dying lion. Moisei Boroda is also known as a remarkable translator of fiction from Italian and Georgian. I highly recommend the new book by this outstanding writer.*

Boris Kushner, writer, poet, essayist.

*Comparisons between literature and music are almost always controversial and subjective. And yet, I will venture to compare the lyrical prose of the author of this book with Gustav Mahler's famous Adagio from his Fifth Symphony. Filled with emotional and intellectual quests, the plots of Moisei Boroda's lyrical short novels, tenderly and sadly draw the heroes sometimes into the distant past, sometimes into the foggy future. They conclude without offering any resolution; they promise nothing but to pierce the heart with disquiet..*

Yuri Okunev, writer, essayist, scholar of Jewish culture (USA)

*As with any real writer, Moisei Boroda's works are often happily and talentedly dissimilar from each other. However, the author's question, which explores the souls of his heroes, remains unchanged: what is a man capable of in his struggle against his own egoism, cruelty and the chaos of life? The answers in M. Boroda's prose often sound tragic. But, as the author asserts in his remarkable story "The Little Tiger" , even the saddest truth is important in our search for truth.*

Evsey Zeitlin, writer, literary scholar (USA)

*After hearing him read the story that gave the book its title, I realised that I wouldn't be able to rest until I had read the whole book. I said this out loud, and I was lucky. Finally, the book was in my hands. Without stopping, I "swallowed" story after story, feeling a mixture of trepidation and excitement as I read, and my mind was flooded with associations... So, the book is read. Now, it is on my bookshelf as one of my favourites, and I know that I will return to it more than once, because in each story I feel the soul that Moise Boroda has put into it..*

Irina Yavorovskaya, poet (Russia)

## Social activities

Chairman (since 1998) of the regional section of the German Musicians' Association (DTKV).

Founder (since 1999), organiser and author of the recital series *Denn Dein ist das Reich*, dedicated to the memory of priests who were victims of National Socialism..

Founder (since 2003), organiser and author of the recital series *The Righteous Among the Nations - Saviours of the Jews during the Holocaust*.

Organiser (since 2000) and moderator of concerts of works by Georgian composers, as well as evenings of German-Georgian music.

## Awards/Honorary titles:

Akaki Tsereteli Prize (2018), Ivane Machabeli Prize (2019). Nodar Andguladze Prize (2022); August Benninghaus Prize (2019). Honorary titles: Envoy of Georgian Culture, 2016. Guardian of Georgian Culture, (2021). Diploma of the Society for the Revival of Jewish Culture (2018).

## Membership in creative organizations

Member and representative in Germany of the Writers' Union of Georgia. Member of the Union of Georgian Composers; Member and representative of the International Writers' Guild; Member and special representative in Germany of the All-Georgian Rustaveli Society.

## Personal statements, quotes, aphorisms.

(From the series "Useful Tips"):

*Don't create idols. They are usually vain, demanding, vindictive, and they won't let you get rid of them.*

*Don't prostrate yourself before the authorities! If you do so once, you will never forgive either yourself or them, and the thirst for revenge born of your fall will wither your soul.*

## Bibliography (books/publications)

“Мы наш, мы новый мир построим” (“We will build a new world, our world”; under the pseudonym Michail Baratov; 2005, Tbilisi); “Очарованный остров” (The Enchanted Island; 2008, Tbilisi); “Нам этот мир близкий, и чужой” (This world is close to us, and yet alien; 2012, Tbilisi); “Подарок вождя” (The Gift of the Leader) (Aletheia, St. Petersburg, 2012), “Здравствуй и прощай” (Hello and Goodbye) (Stella, Germany, 2018). “Die Parabel des Lebens”, (Königshausen & Neumann Publishing House, 2024).

Short stories, translations of literary works (especially of Italian writers of the XX century) and publicistic articles on the portals <https://7iskusstv.com>, and <https://z.berkovich-zametki.com> (Germany); <https://gostinaya.net/?p=18702> (ORLITA, USA); in the magazines Литературный Европеец (Germany), МОСТЫ (Germany), Shalom (USA), *Zeitschrift für Begegnung* (Deutschland), *Theologisches* (Swss); Interviews (<https://ingild.com/tag/moisej-boroda/>; kath. Journal “PUR”, kath. Journal “Der Fels”), etc.