

CAKA

(Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends)

Cihat Aşkın “The Man who Endeared Violin to Turkey”

NAME OF THE PROJECT

CAKA

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Cihat Aşkın “The Man who Endeared Violin to Turkey”

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CIHAT AŐKIN – BIOGRAPHY

Cihat AŐkin was born in İstanbul. At a very young age, he was enrolled in a conservatory by his parents who explored his interest in music. Having a successful education due to his extraordinary skill and disciplined studies, AŐkin graduated from Prof. Dr. Ayhan Turan's class. Performing his first recital at the age of 12, AŐkin could play all of the Paganini Caprices by the time he was 15 years old. He continued his music education with Rodney Friend at Royal College of Music and with Yfrah Neaman at The City University in London. After some short-term studies with the masters Ruggiero Ricci and Dorothy Delay, AŐkin returned home having finished his master's and doctoral program studies. He became an Associate Professor and later Professor in 1998 and 2006 respectively, at İstanbul Technical University (İTU). Continuing his academic duties and artistic activities as the founder and co-head of Graduate School of Advanced Studies in Music (MIAM), at İTU, since 1999, AŐkin was appointed to be the Directorate of the Turkish Music State Conservatory in October, 2008. Recognized and introduced as one of the prominent violin virtuosos by music authorities, AŐkin has shared the same stage with world-renowned musicians including Cobos, Dmitriev, Yoel Levi, Shlomo Mintz and Ida Haendel. He has given concerts at many art centres and attended festivals around the world: America, Europe, Middle East, Asia and Africa. He has been invited to act as a judge at international competitions carried out in countries such as Bulgaria, Serbia, Poland, Israel, and Switzerland. AŐkin, who is a virtuoso of Kalan Müzik, performed the first CD recordings of concertos by our esteemed composers U. C. Erkin and N. K. Akses. He has made recordings of both Modern Turkish pieces and many other pieces which were composed by AŐkin. His album titled *Kreutzer 42 Etüd*, released in 2006, was the world's first violin literature. He has made musical arrangements for violin and other instruments, works for films and has performed recordings on television and radio. He has worked with Warner Classics and CPO companies as well as Kalan Müzik. Having received many awards from competitions including Menuhin and Flesch, AŐkin was deemed worthy for the awards of Roma Foyer des Artistes and The J. F. Kennedy Center For the Performing Arts – Gold Medal in 2002 and 2009 respectively. He has started to give national and international concerts to fulfil today's need for qualified music by founding The Istanbul Chamber Orchestra and AŐkin Ensemble in March 2007. Actualizing his project named Cihat AŐkin and Little Friends (CAKA), in 2004, in order to convey his experiences to next generations, AŐkin has started to organize violin master classes and mini concerts to support music education and to improve the talented children waiting to be discovered throughout Turkey. Moreover, he has been working as a faculty member of Keshet Eilon

Violin Master Classes in Israel since 1999. Yalçın Tura, Ertuğrul Oğuz Fırat, Arda Ardaşes Açoşyan and Oğuzhan Balcı dedicated the violin concertos that they composed to the artist who was honoured as “The Violinist of This Land” by the press.

The artist plays Jean- Baptiste Vuillaume (1846) and Joseph Gagliano (1796) violins in his concerts.

CAKA INTRODUCTION

CAKA (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends) Basic Approach

CAKA is based on life-long learning and is student centred. In its educational system, children are included into the program regardless of skill level. Education continues through the cooperation between child-family and educator. In this educational system, courses are sometimes conducted individually or collectively. During the 12 week programs, there is a masterclass and a concert. Cihat Aşkın listens and trains CAKA students at regular intervals. Through internal rotation, CAKA branch educators provide tuition assistances in other branches once every three months. In CAKA project, both folk music and concerto are played.

CAKA (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends) Principles and Aims

For violin training, starting age is not important. Social environment of the student, interest of the student and family members, and level of preparedness are considered. CAKA pays attention to skills for critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, inquiry, investigation, problem solving, information technologies, entrepreneurship, and correct, delicate and effective linguistic performance in the Turkish language. The concert activities performed as a part of this project are significant. The students are expected to do research and to be creative. The fact that the students have different learning styles and types of intelligence is taken into account. A great importance is given to days and weeks having national importance. It is substantial to adopt and internalize national, ethical, moral, and cultural values. The students are not scored through exam or competition criteria but rather evaluated by their talents. The students' performances in public are considered important. Theoretical and general knowledge and audition trainings are provided to the students. In the process of selecting works and study times, teachers consider students' talents and learning styles.

CAKA (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends)

Educational Philosophy and General Purposes

The CAKA project intended to create a new music education system in Turkey. “It aims individuals who are free from scholastic mentality, creative, productive, and who protect and respect local culture and features.

Through violin education, CAKA aspires for students to develop: competency in perception, recounting, listening, and creativity; knowledge of types of music, particularly the Turkish and Western; awareness of the fact that music is a common language around the world, personal development, culturally and socially, contribution to the cultural life of their society, creating a repertoire of various music types particularly the Turkish and Western music, knowledge of time, getting into the habit of joining individual and group performances, attending to the institutions providing professional music education when they are willing to have vocational training; representing themselves, their families and their country in national and international extent; having the conscious of unity and solidarity through the education that they receive; internalizing such morals and manners as interdependency, indulgence, love, respect, sensitiveness, patriotism, peace, aesthetics, responsibility, statue, patience, discipline, honesty, kindness, motivation, success, and cooperation, and internalizing the culture policies of Atatürk and the Republic.

Aşkın clarifies the basic philosophy as “It is never too late to play violin as it is not too late to be happy.”

The Role of the Teacher

in the Philosophy of CAKA (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends)

The teacher knows the students and considers their personal differences. The teacher produces projects, follows the latest developments, uses social media and information-education technologies, carries out CAKA education philosophy, and paves the way for the education and the presentation of the learned performances (concerts etc.).

The Process of the Courses of CAKA (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends)

The classes take place in line with the course system and a course is a three-month period. The students attend to the classes individually or in groups. In the 11th week of each course, rotation masterclasses are carried out with prominent violin educators of Turkey and with CAKA Branch violin educators. In the 12th week, the students give a concert to their families. Cihat Aşkın listens and guides the students at certain periods. At the end of the 12th month a year end concert is given. In this concert, students must play a work with piano accompaniment. The educations of orchestra, music theory, audition, and solfege are carried out together with the courses. The students have to attend all the courses. If there is a valid reason for discontinuity, a compensation course is certainly conducted. But if there is not any valid reason for discontinuity, the students are accepted as attending the class and no compensation course is conducted. Family members can attend the classes and they can even promote the students. There is no age limitation. Each member of a family (father- child, mother-child and so on) can have education.

The Vision of CAKA (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends)

CAKA provides encouragement and development of violin playing in the national and international field and through discovering talented young violinists it enables career opportunities to them in the international field. The young people are chosen from all cities of Turkey, schools of music or conservatory, or among the candidates who have not had any musical education. The young people are supported in international performance and music settings through this project aiming at converting their competence in violin playing into talent in violin playing.

CAKA BRANCHES AND EDUCATORS

Name of the Branch	Educators
AFYON	Uğur Türkmen Filiz Yıldız Gonca Yerlikaya Gonca Görsev
ANKARA	Semra Fayez Şebnem Yıldırım Orhan Murat Gök Meral Mete İlknur Özal Göncü
BEŞİKTAŞ	Pınar Tezişçi
BOLU	Senem Acay
BURSA	Mesut Çaşka Ozan Sari Aslı Erden Hasan Kızmış Özkan Çavuşoğlu Rasim Paşaoğlu
İZMİR	Gürkan Güleç
KAYSERİ	Fikret Eren
KONYA	Zafer Kurtaslan Z. Seçkin Gökbudak Korhan Koyuncuoğlu H. Serdar Çakırer O. Kürşad Çakır Yunus Çağlak Mete Burubatur Zülfükar Avcı
KÜÇÜKÇEKMECE	Bahar Büyükgöneç
MANİSA	Gürkan Güleç
MERSİN	Ebru Yunkuş İrem Yunkuş

Head of Afyon CAKA Branch - Uğur TÜRKMEN

Uğur Türkmen was born in 1971 in Kütahya. He completed his primary, secondary, and high school educations in Kütahya. He graduated from the Department of Music Education of Education Faculty of Uludağ University in 1993. He had the degree of “Science Profession” from Selçuk University in 1996 and the “Doctoral Degree” from the Department of Music of Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal University in 2005. He took up a position as Assistant Professor in the State Conservatory of Afyon Kocatepe University in 2006. He became an Associate Professor in 2010. He took up a position as a Music Instructor in Niğde University in 1993. He resigned from this position in the university in 2000. He was appointed as a teacher in Kütahya in 2001 and assigned to Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Anatolian Fine Arts High School). He started to work as an Assistant Professor in the Music Department of the State Conservatory of Afyon Kocatepe University in 2006. He was appointed as an Associate Professor in 2011. Türkmen is married and he has three children.

Head of Ankara CAKA Branch - Semra FAYEZ

Semra Fayeze was born in Ankara. After her high school education, she began studying at the Department of Music of Education Faculty of Gazi University in 1982. She took violin classes from Prof. Dr. Nuray Özen for four years. After graduating from the university in 1986, she continued violin lessons with Ömer Can for two years and with Prof. Dr. Oktay Dalaysel for six years. She provided training for violin at various private and state elementary schools for six years. During these years, she continued teaching violin voluntarily. Then she was assigned to Ankara Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Ankara Anatolian Fine Arts High School) after passing “The Teacher’s Examination for Anatolian Fine Arts High Schools” in 1992. In 1995, she became a master’s student at the Department of Music Education of Institute of Science of Gazi University and studied under Prof. Dr. Ali Uçan for three years. She completed her master’s thesis titled “The Analysis of Practices of Violin Classes of Preparatory Class at Ankara Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Ankara Anatolian Fine Arts High School)” under the counselling of Prof. Dr. Saadettin Ünal. She gave “Music Teaching” courses at the Department of Primary School Teaching of Education Faculty of Hacettepe University between 2000- 2002. In order to observe, analyze and research violin teaching, she went to various European countries with the Chamber Orchestra of Ankara Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Ankara Anatolian Fine Arts High School) and she studied at Russian Violin School at the State Conservatory of Moscow. She had a part in the foundation of MÜZED

(Müzik Eğitimcileri Derneği -Association of Music Teachers), which began in 2010, and she served as a **leader-violinist** for a year. Fayez retired in August 2010 after working as a violin and orchestra teacher for 18 years at Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Ankara Anatolian Fine Arts High School). Semra Fayez continues her studies at CAKA Ankara violin school.

Head of Beşiktaş CAKA Branch - Pınar TEZİŞÇİ

Pınar Tezişçi started violin studies with Ludmilla Sirotina after attending the Department of Violin of Ankara State Conservatory at Hacettepe University in 1996. Graduating in 2006, Pınar Tezişçi started her master's studies with Prof. Dr. Cihat Aşkın at MİAM, at İTÜ in 2007. After graduating in 2010, she started doctorate studies with Prof. Dr. Cihat Aşkın. She attended masterclasses conducted by some violinists including Mincho Minchev, Alexander Shustin, Alexander Markov, Hagai Shaham, Pierre Amoyal, Oliver Charlier, Stephan Picard, and Michael Vaiman. Performing various national and international recitals, chamber and orchestra concerts, Pınar Tezişçi served as an educator at CAKA Bursa International Winter Music School in 2011. She worked with Stephan Picard at "The International Academy of Cagliari" in Italy in 2012. She worked with Michael Vaiman at The Mozarteum Summer Academy in Austria in 2013. Conducting studies on performance psychology and physiology, Pınar Tezişçi had courses of "Musician's Yoga" from Stephan Maria Karl and "Alexander Technique" from Sibylle Havemann in Salzburg. Pınar Tezişçi who continues her mastership studies with Ayla Erduran is a member of Aşkın Ensemble and is responsible for the İstanbul CAKA Education Project. Currently continuing her doctorate studies at MİAM, at İTÜ, Pınar Tezişçi works as an instructor at the İTÜ Conservatory of Turkish Music.

Head of Bolu CAKA Branch- Senem ACAY SÖZBİR

Senem Acay Sözbir was born in 1980 in Akşehir. After completing her primary and secondary school education in Konya, she attended Ankara Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Ankara Anatolian Fine Arts High School). She continued learning violin that she started at Ankara Anadolu Güzel Sanatlar Lisesi (Ankara Anatolian Fine Arts High School) at the Department of Music Education of Gazi University. During her education, she studied violin with Prof. Dr. Nuray Özen, as well as Prof. Dr. Oktay Dalaysel and Levent Kardaş, the artists of Presidential Symphony Orchestra, and educator Ömer Can, an Artist of the Ankara State Opera and Ballet Orchestra. She had chances to work with Prof. Dr. Cihat Aşkın and Toğrul Ganiyev at CAKA Ordu Summer School in 2008. In 2004, she started work as a research assistant at the Department of Music Education of Abant İzzet Baysal University. In the same institution, she completed her master's and doctorate education in 2007 and 2013

respectively. Receiving the degree of Assistant Professor Doctor in 2014, Acay Sözbilir continues her studies at the same institution.

Head of Bursa CAKA Branch- Mesut ÇAŞKA

Mesut Çaşka started music with “ud” at the Department of Classical Turkish Music of Bursa Metropolitan Municipality Conservatory in 1990. In the same institution, he worked as a teacher of theory Turkish Music and of the ud and as an udi in the group of musicians between 1996- 2000. He studied ud and Composition of Turkish Music with Cinuçen Tanrıkorur between 1998- 2000. He started playing violin after attending the Department of Music of Education Faculty of Uludağ University in 1998. He graduated from the class of Bayazıt Ahundov in 2002. He completed his master’s studies of chamber music with Prof. Dr. Aminbay Sapayev and of violin with Prof. Dr. Zuhra Mansurova at the State Conservatory of Trakya University in 2008. He played as **leader-violinist** in the Nilüfer Chamber Orchestra between 2003- 2006. He participated in various festivals as an udi (ud player) and a violinist in Greece, Italy, Germany, France, Finland, Sweden, and Denmark. He studied violin with Prof. Dr. Cihat Aşkın between 2006- 2010. He is still a member of The Aşkın Ensemble and Art Director of The Bursa Ensemble. He conducted his first radio recording within the scope of Studio Concerts at MİAM, at İTÜ, in May 2012 and has continued his chamber music studies with pianist Aleksandr Mekaev. He has been organizing CAKA summer and winter schools together with being the head of CAKA since 2011.

Head of Kayseri CAKA Branch - Fikret EREN

Fikret Eren was born in 1988 in Kayseri. He completed his elementary, secondary and high school education in Kayseri. He finished at the Department of Music of Faculty of Fine Arts of Erciyes University in 2010. He received Pedagogical Education in 2011. He completed his master’s degree in the Institution of Fine Arts of Erciyes University in 2014. He started to work as a music teacher within The Ministry of National Education in 2012. He worked as a music teacher at TED College in Kayseri during 2011. After leaving his job at the college, he started to work within The Ministry of National Education in 2012. He taught violin in a private course between 2011- 2014. He continues his education activities.

Head of Küçükçekmece CAKA Branch - Bahar BÜYÜKGÖNENÇ

Bahar BÜYÜKGÖNENÇ was born in İstanbul. She started her violin education at the age of 11 at the State Conservatory of Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University. After finishing her high school education graduating from the class of Prof. Dr. Nuri İyicil, she started studying with Venyamin Varşavski at the State Conservatory of İstanbul University. She graduated from university by promotion- without having the fourth year education. Immediately after, she completed her master's degree education with Varşavski. Between 2002- 2005, she participated in various national and international concerts serving as **leader-violinist** in the Cemal Reşit Rey Symphony Orchestra, that she entered in 1997. In 1999, she won the İstanbul Music Festival which led to her performance with chamber music group. She passed the examinations of İstanbul State Symphony Orchestra in 2003. In 2007, she started to work as the 2nd violin member in "Aşkın Ensemble" founded by Cihat Aşkın. She attended concerts and masterclass activities through conducting studies with Cihat Aşkın and his "CAKA" (Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends) project in 2008. She has been working as an instructor at the Turkish Music State Conservatory of İstanbul Technical University since 2007. She became the head of "Küçükçekmece CAKA Branch" in January 2012, and she still teaches students in this Branch. During the 2014-2015 season, she has become the **leader-violinist** at Cemal Reşit Rey Jazz Band. Delivering various solo performances during her education, Bahar BÜYÜKGÖNENÇ continues her doctorate studies with Varşavski at the State Conservatory of İstanbul University.

Head of the Branch in Konya- Zafer KURTASLAN

Zafer Kurtaslan graduated from the Department of Music Education in Education Faculty in Selçuk University in 1997. At the same university, he finished his MA in 2001 and his PhD in 2010. He worked as a music teacher in Meram Primary School and Meram Anatolian High School, as a specialist in the [Chamber Orchestra](#) in the Departments of Fine Arts in Erciyes University, and as an instructor in the Department of Music Education in the Department of Fine Arts Education in the Faculty of Education in Ondokuz Mayıs University. Between the years of 2010 and 2011, he worked as a visiting fellow in the Music Education Department at Mississippi State University and in the Music Department at Long Island University CW (New York) in order to search for music education and violin training. During the period that he lived in the US, he played as the first violin member in Long Island University CW, Post Symphony Orchestra, Starkville Symphony Orchestra and Mississippi State University Symphony Orchestra and Calvary Baptist Church Orchestra. He appeared in many violin-piano concerts with the Pianist Terrel Jackson. He has been working as an instructor in the Department of Music Education in the Department of Fine Arts Education in A.K.??? Faculty

of Education in Selçuk University since 2004. He has established Selçuk Chamber Orchestra and Selçuk Ensemble has been the leader of these orchestras and a general music director. In 2009, he was a violin trainer at the CAKA International Summer School. He has worked with many violin trainers including Mehmet AKPINAR, Ömer CAN, Cihat AŞKIN, Suna KAN, Lukas DAVID and Dale STUCKENBRUCKER. He became an Associate Professor in 2014.

Head of the Branch in Manisa and İzmir- Gürkan GÜLEÇ

Gürkan Güleç was born in Tekirdağ, in 1981. He started his first violin training with Metin Batur in Diyarbakır Anatolian Fine Arts High School in 1996. He continued his training at the undergraduate level with Bayezid Akhundov, an instructor in Uludağ University, in 1999, and at the graduate level with Professor H. Tahsin Kılıç in Institute of Educational Science in Dokuz Eylül University, in 2004 after receiving acceptance for the MA program. He graduated from this program in 2007, and was accepted for a PhD degree at the Institute of Educational Science in Gazi University in 2009. He finished his training at the level of PhD with Professor Şeyda Çilden. He has been carrying out his works on Improvization in Violin Training, and he is working as an instructor in the Department of Music Education in Dokuz Eylül University.

Head of the Branch in Mersin- Ebru YUNKUŞ

Ebru Yankuş was born in İstanbul in 1966. She studied at the State Conservatory in Mimar Sinan University as a student of Professor Nuri İyicil. Following her MA in the class of Professor Nuri İyicil in the State Conservatory in İstanbul University, she attended the masterclasses of O. Kagan, V. Spivakov, A. Erduran and I. Galati. Since 1992, Yankuş who has been studying with V. Varsawski and his new Russian school, has become members of singing society in the order of 19 Mayıs Chamber Orchestra, Mimar Sinan Soloists, Chamber Orchestra in State Conservatory of İstanbul University, and Boğaziçi Chamber Soloists. Between 1986 and 1998, she gave violin courses and trained many students at the State Conservatory of İstanbul University, and with students receiving awards in various music competitions. She has been working at Mersin University State Conservatory, as a trainer of violin since 1998. Moreover, she became one of the founders of Mersin University Academic Chamber Orchestra, 2nd violin group leader and is leader for orchestra. Since 2011, she has been the head of the Mersin branch of CAKA.

What did CAKA Branches say?

Afyon CAKA

Education is a system. Many factors in this system influence its success. The person who creates the system is an artist, a trainer and an academician recognizing our country and the world, and considering nearly every detail, plays the most crucial role in the success of CAKA in violin training system. For us, one of the reasons that the training system of CAKA has gained a lot attention is that both students and their families believe in it. Now, it is seen that you will walk together if you show a way to a society sincerely and frankly. The CAKA project is important not only for our country but also for instrument training in the world and music culture. As an Afyon team, we are delighted to be in this period.

Ankara CAKA

Art training is not only a "luxury" for the training of talented individuals but also a personality training required for everyone. Training of a person through art is an aesthetical training. There is a music training system in CAKAs helping people to reveal their creative powers and aims to help them improve their personality. Music training is a kind of moral training. CAKAs have an important mission in the enlightenment of Turkey.

Beşiktaş CAKA

In my opinion, CAKA is the most important violin training project in Turkey to train large numbers of students, and enabling them to perform in concerts on both national and international platforms in accordance with their abilities. It is based on a philosophy adopting our local culture, and aims to develop students' abilities one step further at every level.

Bolu CAKA

I think CAKA is a highly positive project for music education and instrument training for our country. It is always mentioned that it is pleasant to carry out the work without losing amateur enthusiasm. CAKA realizes this in the best way. It enables children, young people, and everybody from 7 to 70 meet with music and improve themselves at various levels. We are glad to be a part of such a beautiful and comprehensive project.

Bursa CAKA

The most important side of the CAKA training system is based on the geography where we live and the cultural backgrounds belonging to the people living in that geography. Moreover, a student trained through the CAKA system has information related to both national and international culture on account of the fact that its educational understanding is determined according to international principles. Additionally, it draws attention as the distinctive feature of CAKA that students solve their problems on their own starting from the first day of training, they present their work in front of a group, and they express themselves easily.

İzmir and Manisa CAKA

As Sihirli Kapı Akademi , we are proud to work with Cihat Aşkın, a valuable artist and trainer for our country. On account of the training program provided in a variety of cities, people from our country are happy to learn to play the instrument with Cihat Aşkın, who is a lover and envoy of making people of all ages love violin. In our school, we are glad to provide an academic training with our esteemed trainer and the other qualified trainers. In this way, violin has become an instrument coming closer and addressing to everyone.

The most important property that makes CAKA special for me is its training model overcoming the problem to be alone coming with individualization through instrument training and using all the dynamics of learning in the group with people of all ages with the instrument training understanding that it based on. Moreover, the idea of national violin training school is something that has always excited me since the first years that I started working as a trainer. I know that it can only be realized with an understanding of training having its roots in and being supported with our own national music culture. At the moment that I talked with Cihat Aşkın about CAKA, I understood that CAKA has a great importance in terms of our school of national violin training and of our school of national violin

that will be developed depending on this. I would like to thank Cihat Aşkın who included me in this project and I am glad to be a part of this project.

Kayseri CAKA

As an encouraging project for Turkey, CAKA has been in 11 areas in the country. To be part of this project and expanding our energy in this way is maybe the best work that we have had up to now. It is not possible for us to stop when the future is standing there waiting for us to start this project. I thank Cihat Aşkın for providing all of these opportunities and opening this road to us.

Konya CAKA

CAKA is the most important music training project that has been brought by Cihat Aşkın to Turkey. He appreciates his past, is aware of the importance of training children in integrating to the modern world, an important artist, trainer and intellectual producing ideas and putting them into practice. With its 11 branches in Turkey, CAKA provides hundreds of children learning music, sharing it and having a musical identity. CAKA is an important step for the construction of an illuminated future for Turkey.

Mersin CAKA

I believe that the CAKA project is a very important social responsibility project. I strongly support it for defending the belief that everyone should play an instrument. I consider that CAKA project is to reach a better level, to change the world view, to teach the importance of working for patience and success, and, the most importantly, to teach students to believe in themselves by loving music. I also believe that the importance of sharing should be emphasized in the works that are carried out together.

CAKA projesinin müziği sevdirerek, daha güzele ulaşmak, hayata bakışı değiştirmek, sabrı ve başarı için çalışmanın önemini öğretmek ve en önemlisi de kendine güveni öğretmek olduğunu düşünüyorum. Birlikte yapılan çalışmalarda da paylaşmanın ne kadar önemli olduğunun vurgulandığı inancındayım.

What did Cahit Aşkın say?

Vocational Music Education

One of the oldest occupations in history is music. Music is a very practical subject. For this reason, a master-apprentice relationship and project-based “learning by practice” should be the basis of vocational music education.

Republic

A republic means that the public take part in government directly and have equal rights. The unity constituted by those people is essential. However, people could not take part in government directly today and the provision of equal rights is not possible. The authority of political party leaders and hegemony of rich people are taken as the basis, and the public is compelled to vote for these people.

Atatürk

You should acknowledge him as a human being and give up idolizing him. Thus, you can understand easily that he is a genius having for Turkish nation once in a millennium. Getting him idolized signifies hiding his reality from the nation.

Culture

Forming its territories for thousands of years, Anatolia is the midpoint of the old and new worlds.

Life

To live is the reason of coming to the world and life is the school that we train our soul.

Management

A manager and an administrator are two different things. I do not like managing. Administrating is accepting events as all faults and adapting your situation according to this and relieving yourself. Management refers to changing events according to the idea in our head, giving direction to the events foreseeing them, and changing the flow of history in the ideal sense. Managing is a divine art. Administrating belongs to human beings.

Turkey at present and in the future

Today, the young generation has degenerated, lost their cultural identities, and needed their history in the process of actualizing themselves. Anatolia has a combination of culture and every civilization has become a part of this combination in this area. People should have respect for the area. For respect, there is a need for faithfulness, honesty, and telling the truth to ourselves. The people who stick to realities can develop themselves.

CRITICISM TO CULTURAL POLICIES

I am asking your name. When you say your name, you not only say a word consisting of a few syllables but also your past, family, values, current situation, and direction to the future. This is identity. Yet, the whole of a few words including several meaningless letters cannot be identity. This is the same for societies. Culture is an identity. These are the values that have a great role in your life. You have the power to stand in the way of accepting all these values with all their realities. Today, Turkey is deprived of cultural identity. If you cannot complete your identity when you say it, you repeat meaningless words. This is the difference between great powers and the others.

CAKA AND ITS IDEAL

CAKA has an idea not only that respects for national and international values in our country but also that is able present it at an international level. CAKA is a national cultural movement. Bu toprakların ürünlerinin dünyada göğsünü gere gere yürüyebilmesi ve dünya bahçesine bir ağaç dikebilmektir.

THE STUDENTS

Students of Cihat Aşkın should be respectful human at first. Thus, respect for human life, culture, and values of society are primary. The purpose of life is to be a good and mature person. Music is a tool for this. Not having these qualities, disciplines and coming there with different purposes, the individuals cannot scale the wall and will fall down because the students of Aşkın have a high degree_of humanistic qualities and expectations of being equipped. People who have different purposes cannot be a member in this group and they want to leave the group. CAKA is a pyramid. The ones who have high degree of both humanistic and artistic qualities sit at the top of the pyramid as a colleague of Aşkın, and others try to climb upwards by imitating them. At the top are the students who have high self-confidence and leading spirits. Apart from themselves, they are of help to their families, humanity, the local community and society at large.

THE CONCERTS

Wherever there is a violin, Cihat Aşkın is there. There is not a difference for music: Turkish Music, Western Music, Chinese Music, Jazz Music, and so on. It can sometimes be as a soloist in front of an orchestra, and sometimes as a partner among young people. An artist of chamber music is [a concert master](#). It is sometimes backstage for students. In his repertoire, there are tens of concertos, sonatas, and hundreds of long and short pieces, Turkish works, and so on.

THE PRINCIPLES

Honesty, Loyalty, Belief, Love, Independence and Freedom.

REFERENCES

From the perspective of the ones that love him

AHMET SAY

I know Cihat Aşkın, and the first thing I am going to say about him is that he is the best violinist in Turkey of his generation. It is not enough to tell him because there are such historical violinists who were the best of their ages in the world despite being worthless in terms of their personalities.

Therefore, we should describe Cihat starting with regard to his character:

I am 80 years old, I have seen very few people who are so respectable, honest and responsible like Cihat until now. Although he is a respectable artist, he acts as if he is a common human being. He does not speak much, avoids talking about others. He does not speak unnecessarily. When he is met with a situation that he does not like, he leaves. Thus, he does the best.

Like all humble people, he is such a person that, He has been in every part of our country. He goes everywhere whether it is a village or a town and takes part in all activities. You can see him in Van or Dinar. There is a purpose under this movement that is to do something new for his country. He is a selfless, senior, and quiet patriot. Its proof is clear and very easy to see: he has started a crucial project that had not been considered by anyone before: CAKA that is “Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends”. Starting to work perfectly in every part of the country, this wonderful project is the door that the key of patriotism opens in order to spread the art of playing the violin around the country and to foster a love of playing the violin.

I know that he never shrinks from any duty. He can even manage a conservatoire at the risk of being detached from his studies of art. This means that he is a multifaceted trainer. He both manages and tries to develop students deserving it with extra courses. This side also shows his strenuousness. He does not hide from any duty, and is interested in the required works. This is not only “being a good person” but also “being a successful trainer”.

Being a trainer in individual studies does not mean devoting time to every student, but rather being interested in the ones who deserves it and even forgetting his own private matters.

Cihat Aşkın also has another special property which is that he does not match the “portrait of an artist” that we encounter everywhere. He is ready for cooperation with all the musicians of the world. If this one is Turkish, he has a far greater desire. Some musicians who are deprived of the feeling of “cooperation” are confused by his actions.

In brief, Cihat is my esteemed good friend!

NAME OF THE PROJECT

CAKA

(Cihat Aşkın and Little Friends)

Cihat Aşkın “The Man who Endeared Violin to Turkey”

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