

## SONA HOVHANNISYAN

### Senior lecturer of Komitas Yerevan State Conservatory, Conductor and Artistic Director of Hover Chamber Choir of Armenia

- 1963 Born in 1963 in Yerevan, into a musical family
- 1970-1980 Studied at the Yeghishe Charents secondary school and Sayat-Nova musical school; was a founding member of A. Veranyan's "Yerevan" choir
- 1977 Participated in a concert tour of Poland with the "Yerevan" choir
- 1980-1984 Studied in the Conducting faculty of the Romanos Melikyan musical college in Yerevan (A. Poghosyan's class); graduated with honors
- 1984-1989 Studied at the Komitas Yerevan State Conservatory (Prof. R. Mangasaryan's class);  
**Graduated with honors**
- 1984-1988 Worked in N 119 secondary school as a music teacher, lead the school choir, which became a laureate of the all-republican competition of children choirs
- 1986-1989 Lead the Hayren Chamber Choir, founded by S. Ter-Ghazaryan
- 1987-1988 Lead the Children's Choir of Yerevan Palace of Pioneers
- 1988-1989 Lead the Chamber Choir of the Yerevan Center of Esthetic Education
- 1987-1996 Worked in the Conducting faculty of the Romanos Melikyan musical college in Yerevan, as a teacher of choral studies, choral literature and the choral profession
- 1990-1993 Studied at post-graduate course in the Komitas Yerevan State Conservatory
- 1992–present Established Hover Chamber Choir, and is the permanent artistic director and conductor for this choir. The choir has a rich and varied repertoire of Armenian and Western sacred and classical works, folk songs, and popular music
- 1993 Hover presented its first big concert – A.Honnegger's cantata-oratory, "Dance des Mourants"
- 1996–present Works at the Komitas Yerevan State Conservatory: first as Prof. R. Mangasaryan's assistant and conductor of student choirs, later – teacher of choir conducting. Many of her students lead different choirs within Armenia  
Hover participated in a Benjamin Britten festival in Yerevan, performing Britten's "Cantata Misericordium"
- 1997 Hover participated in the 45<sup>th</sup> International Polyphonic Music Festival and won a diploma. It also presented concerts in Vi Gonza and Venice, Italy
- 1998 Hover performed "John Passius" of Bach for the first time in Yerevan  
Ludwig Basil's "Spiritual Choir Music" CD by Hover was produced in Venice, Italy.  
Hover presented a performance consisted of Christmas songs of different epochs and cultures.
- 1999 Hover participated in an International Choir Competition in Tours, France.
- 2000 Hover was awarded a gold medal and a diploma at the First International Choir Olympiad in Linz, Austria, where 300 choirs from 60 countries participated
- 2001 The male staff of Hover were recorded for Atom Egoyan's film, "Ararat" (Canada)
- 2002 Hover performed Stepan Rostomyan's "Entrance" alongside the London Sinfonietta  
Boston-based studio, "Pomegranate Music" recorded the first complete CD of Hover ("Armenian Voices: Chamber Choir of Armenia Hover), containing 21 European and Armenian choral songs  
Sona Hovhannisyan became a senior lecturer of the Komitas Yerevan State Conservatory
- 2003 Hover performed "Fables," a choral performance composed by Stepan Babatorosyan, which has been characterized as a new genre in music culture  
"Pomegranate Music" produced "Six Fables" CD  
Hover toured Great Britain, performing concerts in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cambridge, and London, to critical acclaim