

YAHYA GEYLAN

Master Vocalist | Choral Conductor | Composer | Cultural Entrepreneur

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Affiliations: MESAM, MÜ-YOR-BİR

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Distinguished Turkish classical music artist, multi-instrumentalist (Oud, Tanbur, Piano), master conductor, and composer with over 30 years of premier institutional leadership at the Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT) and historic musical bodies. Artistic Director of CYModalMusic Inc. and CYMusicHub in Toronto. Renowned for headline diplomatic collaborations with the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye, prestigious Canadian institutions including the National Arts Centre (NAC) Orchestra in Ottawa, Labyrinth Ontario / Labyrinth Ensemble, the University of Toronto (Hart House & CCAST Academic Seminars), the Aga Khan Museum, and Yunus Emre Institute. Dedicated to delivering high-impact cultural entrepreneurship, academic lectures, and masterclass choral education across Canada.

CANADIAN ENGAGEMENTS & CULTURAL IMPACT (SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT)

- **National Arts Centre (NAC) Orchestra Collaboration (Ottawa):** Guest soloist in a prestigious collaborative performance with the world-renowned National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, upon the official diplomatic invitation and auspices of the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye to Canada.
- **University of Toronto — CCAST Music & Culture Seminar:** Keynote presenter and educator delivering specialized academic seminars and workshops on traditional Turkish makam theory, aesthetics, and cultural heritage at the University of Toronto in collaboration with CCAST.
- **Concerts & Residencies with Labyrinth Ensemble (Labyrinth Ontario, Toronto):** Featured artist and ensemble collaborator across Labyrinth Ontario concert seasons and workshops, including “*Folios of Turkish Makam*” at East End United Church and the Toronto Makam Music Forum intensives.
- **Yunus Emre Institute Concert Series:** Headline performer and artistic contributor in cultural concert programs organized by the Yunus Emre Institute to promote Turkish classical music, heritage, and intercultural dialogue in Canada.
- **Aga Khan Museum Concert (Toronto, June 2026):** Artistic Director and Lead Soloist in a high-profile classical makam concert production.
- **Hart House Performance (University of Toronto, February 2026):** Choral conductor and soloist leading educational and cultural performance initiatives.
- **Artistic Director, CYModalMusic Inc. & CYMusicHub (2025 – Present):** Directing weekly 50-member choral masterclasses, seasonal concert tours, and community arts programming.

INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

TRT (Turkish Radio & Television Corporation) — Istanbul & Izmir, Turkey

Senior Vocal Artist & Repertoire Board Member (1992 – Present)

- **TRT Central Repertoire Board Member (2019 – Present):** Official evaluator and adjudicator for national musical archives and broadcast repertoire.
- **Principal Staff Vocalist (2002 – Present):** Performed as principal soloist across hundreds of nationwide live television and radio broadcasts.
- **Producer & Host:** Produced and hosted signature cultural series including “*Stüdyo İstanbul*” (156 live broadcasts on TRT Nağme), “*Bir Yay Bir Mızrap*” (TRT Müzik), and “*Gönüller Bir Olsun*”.
- **Contract Soloist (1992 – 2002):** Featured artist on landmark programs including *Akşam Sefası*, *Sazdan Söze*, and *Yıldızların Altında*.

CHORAL CONDUCTING & ARTISTIC DIRECTION

- **Founder & Chief Conductor, Istanbul Health and Technology University (İSTÜN) Choir (2023 – 2024):** Established the university choir program and directed major concert showcases.
- **Artistic Director & Conductor, Neva Classical Music Ensemble (2019 – 2024):** Directed seasonal concert seasons and vocal masterclasses.
- **Chief Conductor of the Performance Ensemble, Historic Üsküdar Music Society (ÜMC) (2016 – 2024):** Led Turkey’s most historic classical music institution’s performing body.
- **Guest Conductor, Zurich Classical Turkish Music Choir (Switzerland & Austria, 2022):** Conducted gala concerts featuring master soloists Münip Utandı and Çiğdem Yarkın.

DIPLOMATIC & INTERNATIONAL CONCERT TOURS

- **European Diplomatic Cultural Tour (2022):** Commissioned by the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and TRT across Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Belgium.
- **ABU Radio Song Festival (Astana, Kazakhstan, 2018):** Represented Turkey/TRT with original composition “*Masum Bebek*”.
- **Festival Sesc de Música de Câmara (Brazil, 2016):** Soloist with Pera Ensemble.
- **“Sazlı Cazlı” US-Turkey Jazz Fusion (2015 – 2016):** Soloist in diplomatic project with the US Embassy and Virginia Commonwealth University.
- **600th Anniversary of Polish-Turkish Diplomatic Relations (2014):** Soloist in “*Ali Ufki Bey*” project with Saz-ü Söz Ensemble.

PEDAGOGICAL LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

- **Master Trainer, Istanbul Provincial Directorate of National Education "Teacher Academies" (2016 – 2019):** Trained educators in choral leadership and vocal pedagogy.
- **Master of Arts (M.A.) in Music Performance:** Okan University Conservatory, Istanbul (*Final Thesis Stage*)

- **Bachelor of Music (B.Mus.) in Vocal Performance:** Ege University State Turkish Music Conservatory (1991 – 1996) — **Graduated Valedictorian (Ranked 1st in Department)**
- **Holistic Business Management Diploma (544 Hours):** Comprehensive 36-month institutional management certification (2013 – 2015)
- **Discography & Awards:** “*Arşiv Serisi: Yahya Geylan*” (Solo Album, TRT, 2014); “*Aşkın Dansı*” (Duet Album, 2015); *3rd Prize in Avni Anıl Composition Contest for “Rüyamsın” (2007).*