

## Efim Jourist

### - Biography -

**Efim Jourist** was born on 13 January 1947 in Kamenez-Podolski (Ukraine). From 1966 to 1971 he studied at the Music Academy in Gorki, where he became acquainted with the well-known composer Nikolai Chaikin. This encounter had a long-lasting influence on his artistic development as a bayan player and composer.

He soon became soloist with the Krasnoyarsk Philharmonic and began active concert activity which led him to many of the former Soviet republics and also to Europe, Australia, Latin America and the USA.

In 1992 the artist moved to Germany with his family. Alongside numerous solo performances at the Hamburg Music Festival and the Weilburg Castle Concerts, among other festivals, he also enjoyed great success with his "Efim Jourist Quartet." Russian concert tangos as well as compositions and arrangements by Efim Jourist were created for this ensemble, consisting of bayan, violin, guitar and double bass. A further development of the Quartet was the "Efim Jourist Ensemble" (accordion/bayan, violin, guitar, double bass, marimba/vibraphone and percussion) for which he wrote an adaptation of Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," among other works.

He was repeatedly a guest with his ensembles at festivals including the Kissinger Summer, Rheingau Music Festival and MDR Music Summer, at the Dortmund Konzerthaus, in Berlin, Hamburg, Bremen and Cologne. But Efim Jourist also made a name for himself outside Germany through performances with his Quartet at the Kuhmo Festival, Carinthian Summer, the Meran Music Festival Weeks and the Delft Chamber Music Festival. Efim Jourist wrote compositions and arrangements for concert programmes by Ulrich Tukur (Brecht, Heine) and Dominique Horwitz (Brel), also directing the music ensembles.

Efim Jourist was also the composer of various works for bayan and symphony orchestra which he performed with orchestras including the RSO Frankfurt, the MDR Chamber Philharmonic at the Leipzig Gewandhaus, the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg, the Stuttgart Philharmonic, the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra and the Munich Symphony Orchestra.

On 13 January 2007, exactly on his 60th birthday, the accordionist and composer died of cancer in Hamburg.