Ladislav Bilan (\*1994) was born into a family of musicians. "Already at the age of three I started to play percussion instruments, at first by imitating my father, who was the first timpanist of the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra in Olomouc," Bilan recalls his childhood. Later, under the guidance of his father, he successfully participated in a number of competitions, including the World Championship of Performing Arts in Los Angeles, where in 2011, at the age of 17, he won two 1st places and one 2nd place + 2x division winner at the competition. Ladislav Bilan Sr. was also his teacher at the Conservatory in Olomouc.

In 2009, at the age of thirteen, he successfully auditioned for the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra in Olomouc and became its youngest ever member. At that time, he had already won three first prizes in the national competition and twice received the Talent of the Olomouc Region award. In 2014, he was selected by Jiří Bělohlávek and representatives of the orchestra to perform a part of Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra No. 1 by Ney Rosauro at an open air concert on Hradčany Square as part of the "Play with the Czech Philharmonic" project. In a demanding audition he succeeded in competition with 120 other young talents, of which six were selected. In addition to the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, he also performed solo with the PKF and MFO orchestras.

In 2020 he successfully completed his Master's degree at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague and was accepted for doctoral studies at the same university. During his studies, he was awarded the Bauša Ruysová Prize by the HAMU Foundation in 2019, which is awarded to an exceptionally gifted student, and two years later he was also awarded the Dean's Prize. At the same time, he is completing his studies with the distinguished Belgian professor Dr. Ludwig Albert. The Music Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts counts on him as a serious candidate for a teaching position in the near future.

He was a member of the Orchestral Academy of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, "Thanks to this I had the opportunity to perform with the orchestra in New York's Carnegie Hall, London's Royal Albert Hall or Vienna's Musikverein, for example, and I also played in an extraordinary concert with Sir Simon Rattle and Magdalena Kožená", Bilan sums up his experience. In the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, he proved to be, among other things, a very flexible player, when he successfully completed an entire tour of China as a replacement timpani soloist with minimal preparation.

Bilan has also successfully launched a career as a soloist, and is a member of the Young Artists List published by the Czech Music Fund for concerts of the Society of Friends of Music. He made his debut at the Prague Spring Festival in 2020 as part of an alternative programme broadcast live from the Liechtenstein Palace. A solo concert was held on 23 May 2022 at the National Technical Museum.

Currently, in addition to his engagement with the Czech Radio Symphony Orchestra, he continues to collaborate regularly with many equally important Czech orchestras, such as the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, the Prague Symphony Orchestra FOK and the Czech Sinfonietta.

In addition to his solo and orchestral career, he is also active in chamber ensembles such as Radek Baborák Orquestrina or The Affogato.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 2006 : 1st place in the Central round of the ZUŠ competitions (melodic percussion)

- 2009 : 1st place in the Central round of the ZUŠ competitions (melodic percussion)

- 2009: 1st place in the Central round of the ZUŠ competitions (percussion ensemble)

- 2009: 3rd place Talent of the Olomouc Region

- 2009: official member of the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra in Olomouc

- 2011: two 1st places and one 2nd place + 2x division winner at the World Championship of Performing Arts competition in Los Angeles.

- 2011: 1st place Talent of the Olomouc Region

- 2012: solo tour of five concerts under the baton of Petr Vronsky (Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra No.1 by Ney Rosauro)

- 2013: as part of the International Organ Festival, I performed the composition Ground II for organ and percussion together with the composer Thierry Escaich.

- On the occasion of the 440th anniversary of Palacký University I performed with my father the Concerto for two percussionists Témbres and Rhythms by Pavel Čotek (conductor Petr Vronský and MFO)

- 24 June 2014: Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra No.1 by Ney Rosauro with Jiří Bělohlávek and the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra. Open air concert on Hradčany Square within the project "Play with the Czech Philharmonic", 6 selected from 120 applicants, live broadcast by Czech Television, 4000 listeners.

- 2014: recorded two marimba concertos (In Sixths and Da Chiesa) by composer Alan Beeler for the American company PARMA RECORDS.

- 2014: commencement of studies at the Academy of Musical Arts in Prague

- 2015: guest appearance at the Days of New Music; K. Stockhausen - Gruppen; conducted by Johannes Kalitzke

- 2016: graduation from the Conservatory of the Evangelical Academy in Olomouc

- 30 March 2017: 1st place in the audition for the Orchestral Academy of the Czech Philharmonic

- September 2017: start of studies at the marimba department in Leuven, Belgium. Collaboration of Dr. Ludwig Albert and Chin Cheng Lin.

- 8 December 2017 : as special guest at Ludwig Albert's "Marimba Christmas Fantasy" concert at CC Mozaiek; Kortessem, Belgium

- May 25, 2018 : my first, pure marimba solo concert at LUCA Chapel, BE

- June 11, 2018 : marimba exam, highest score of the whole marimba department 19/20b

- 4 October 2018 : Concerto for marimba and strings by Emmanuel Sejourne with conductor Tom Stanček and Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra Olomouc

- 28 October 2018 : with the Czech Philharmonic and Semyon Byčkov, performance of Mahler's Second Symphony at Carnegie Hall, New York

- 27 November 2018 : with the Czech Philharmonic and Semyon Byčkov, performance of Mahler's Second Symphony at the Musikverein in Vienna

- 8 December 2018 : premiere of my arrangement of the Concerto for Marimba and Strings (version for percussion ensemble) in the presence of the composer, Brno Percussion Festival

- January 25, 2019 : I received the Bauša Ruysová Prize 2019, awarded by the HAMU Foundation

- 11 April 2019 : performance of my arrangement of Concerto for Marimba and Strings (version for percussion ensemble) in Pardubice

- 10 September 2019 : with the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and Semyon Byčkov, a performance of Shostakovich's Eighth Symphony at the Royal Albert Hall in London for 6,500 people.

- 22 May 2020: debut at the Prague Spring Festival (live broadcast)

- 3 September 2020: solo concert accompanied by PKF

