

Villads Littauer Bendixen (06.11.2001) is a Danish violinist and composer.

He began playing the violin at the age of five and moved to Berlin at seven to further develop as a musician. From 2011 to 2020 he was a guest student at the Hochschule für Musik “Hanns Eisler” in Berlin with Prof. Michael Erxleben and Zoya Nevgodovska, while at the same time attending the C. Ph. E. Bach Music High School. His education was further enriched by participation in the Young Musicians Academy in Vänersborg, Sweden, where he received guidance from, among others, Olivier Charlier and Alf Richard Kraggerud.



After his time in Berlin, he studied for a year at the Barratt Due Institute of Music in Oslo under A. R. Kraggerud, and then continued at the Royal Danish Academy of Music in Copenhagen with Prof. Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider and Prof. Peter Herresthal as teachers. He has participated in masterclasses with renowned professors and soloists such as Vilde Frang, Milan Vitek, Dora Schwarzberg, Henning Kraggerud, Mark Messenger, Radu Blidar, Maciej Rakowski, Werner Scholz, and Christoph Schickedanz. As a composer, he receives guidance from Prof. Bent Sørensen.

His talent has earned him recognition in the form of prizes in national and international competitions, including 2nd prize in DR's televised competition *Vidunderbørn* (“Wonder Children”), a gold medal in *Berlingske Tidende's Classical Music Competition*, 1st prize in the *Hungarian Games* in Budapest, and 1st prize in *Jugend Musiziert Bundeswettbewerb* in Germany. With his piano trio, Trio Lingo, he has received 3rd prize in the *Rued Langgaard Competition* with music he himself had arranged for piano trio. He also receives a five-year scholarship for his bachelor's and master's studies from the Lysgaard Foundation.

Villads has performed as a soloist and chamber musician in countries including Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Greenland, and the USA. He has served as concertmaster of the Polstjärnepriset Symphony Orchestra in Berwaldhallen, Stockholm, conducted by Esa-Pekka Salonen, as well as of the C. Ph. E. Bach Youth Orchestra in the Konzerthaus Berlin. In Denmark, he has appeared on prominent stages such as Musikkens Hus in Aalborg, Musikhuset Aarhus, and Tivoli Concert Hall in Copenhagen.

A particular interest in contemporary classical music characterizes his artistic activity, and in the coming season he will, among other projects, perform Niels Rosing-Schow's violin concerto *Trees* (2001) with Athelas Sinfonietta in a new instrumentation for violin and sinfonietta.

In addition to his career as a violinist and composer, Villads also teaches at international courses such as Polstjärnepriset in Sweden and Denmark, the Morawa Music Academy in Poland, and the Valdres Sommersymfoni Festival in Norway, where he has also served as conducting concertmaster.

Villads currently plays on a Testore violin from 1735, on loan from the Royal Danish Academy of Music, as well as a Pique violin from 1796, on loan from the Lysgaard Foundation.