

GHEORGHE ZAMFIR

(1941-present)



Gheorghe Zamfir was born in 1941 in a village from Romania. At the age of 14, he began to study the panflute at The Special Music School in Bucharest. He attended The Ciprian Porumbescu Conservatory and at the present he is known as "The Master of the Panflute".

The composer Vladimir Cosma brought Zamfir with his pan flute to Western European countries for the first time in 1972 as the soloist in Cosma's original music for the movie *Le grand blond avec une chaussure noire*. This was very successful and since then, he has been used as soloist in movie soundtracks by composers Francis Lai, Ennio Morricone and many others. Largely through television commercials where he was billed as "Zamfir, Master of the Pan Flute", he introduced the folk instrument to a modern audience and revived it from obscurity. Later, in 1966, Zamfir became the conductor of the Ciocîrlia Orchestra where he performed for a time. After a few years, his desire was to improve his techniques and progress in his musical career starting a small band where he discovered the much greater freedom for artistic adventure. At the present, Gheorghe Zamfir performs at many concerts in Romania and Europe, resides and teaches pan flute in Bucharest.

