

WELCOME TO THE PRESS CONFERENCE
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BIOGRAPHIES



Ingo Titze

Director of the National Center for Voice and Speech, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA, Comet Member

Ingo R. Titze is a University of Iowa Foundation Distinguished Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and the School of Music. He also directs the National Center for Voice and Speech, an institute of the University of Utah located in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah, and at the University of Iowa.

Although he was formally educated as a physicist (Ph.D.) and engineer (M.S.E.E.), Dr. Titze has applied his scientific knowledge to a lifelong love of clinical voice and vocal music. Specifically, his research interests include biomechanics of human tissues, acoustic phonetics, speech science, voice disorders, professional voice production, musical acoustics, and the computer simulation of voice.

Dr. Titze has published over 300 articles in scientific and educational journals, authored three books, Principles of Voice Production, The Myoelastic-Aerodynamic Theory of Phonation, and Fascinations with the Human Voice, as well as co-edited two books in a series entitled Vocal Fold Physiology. He has recently completed, with his colleague and co-author Katherine Verdolini-Abbott, another book entitled Vocology. He is an associate editor of the Journal of Singing and has written a

bimonthly column in this Journal for over 20 years.

Dr. Titze is the father of vocology, a specialty within speech-language pathology. He defined the word and the specialty as “the science and practice of voice habilitation.” In many ways, it parallels audiology. The discipline focuses on the sound-producing organ rather than the sound-receiving organ in terms of prevention and care. A Summer Vocology Institute is ongoing, in which speech language pathologist, otolaryngologist, speech trainers, and singing teachers can get intensive, graduate level training in voice.

Most recently, Dr. Titze has formally begun to address the vocal problems of teachers, which

comprise about 4% of the working population. Because of the many hours of vocal engagement with students, many teachers fatigue after three to four hours of talking. They don't recover from day to day, or week to week. Research is underway in Dr. Titze's laboratories to study the effects of long-term vibration on cells and extra-cellular tissues in the vocal folds. Also underway is the development of therapy techniques to improve the economy of sound production in teachers.

An outgrowth of Dr. Titze's research on voice physiology, biomechanics, and acoustics has been a singing and speaking robot, Pavarobotti. He has used it widely for creating entertaining lectures on the human voice and Dr. Titze and Pavarobotti have performed operatic arias together. It is expected that, in time, this technology will be widely used for assistive devices in speech communication, in speech training, and in education. The unique feature of his approach is that all the computer simulations are done on the basis of anatomy and physiology, rather than sound processing.

Dr. Titze is a recipient of the William and Harriott Gould Award for laryngeal

physiology, the Jacob Javits Neuroscience Investigation Award, the Claude Pepper Award, the Quintana Award of the Voice Foundation, and the American Laryngological Award. He is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America, the American Speech Language and Hearing Association, and the American Laryngological Association. He and his work have been featured in several well-known television programs, including Innovation, Quantum, and Beyond 2000.

Dr. Titze has served on a number of national advisory boards and scientific review groups, including the Scientific Advisory Board of the Voice Foundation and the Division of Research Grants of the National Institutes of Health. He is currently on the Advisory Council of National Institutes on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. In addition to his scientific endeavors, Dr. Titze continues to be active as a singer, giving several recitals a year in the U.S. and Europe. His wife, Kathy, is a piano teacher and his daughter is a speech-language pathologist; and his three sons are all pursuing college degrees.

Elisabeth Kulman

Mezzosoprano, foundress of „The Artist's Revolution“

Elisabeth Kulman is one of the leading mezzo-sopranos of her generation. After studying with Helena Lazarska at Vienna's University of Music, she made her professional stage debut in 2001 as Pamina at the Vienna Volksoper and for the next four years enjoyed great acclaim as a soprano, most notably as Mozart's Countess and Donna Elvira as well as in the concert repertory. Since 2005 she has sung leading mezzo-soprano and contralto roles. That same year she joined the Vienna State Opera and soon became a great favourite with local audiences in a repertory that includes Marina (Boris Godunov), Mistress Quickly

(Falstaff), Herodias (Salome), Ulrica (Un ballo in maschera) and Orlofsky (Die Fledermaus). After appearing as Carmen in Berlin and Vienna she will sing the role in a new production in Hamburg in 2014. She is also in demand all over the world as Fricka and Waltraute in Wagner's Ring. In the course of the bicentenary celebrations she appears in performances of Wagner's works in Lucerne, Bucharest, Baden-Baden, Tokyo, Munich and Vienna. Elisabeth Kulman works closely with Nikolaus Harnoncourt, under whose direction she sang Boulotte in Offenbach's Barbe-Bleue in Graz in 2013 and will appear as Despina in *Così fan tutte* at the Theater an der Wien in 2014. She came to international attention in the world premiere of Aribert Reimann's *Medea* and also as Smeton in *Anna Bolena*, which she sang alongside Anna Netrebko and Elīna Garanča in Vienna and Tokyo. She made her acclaimed Salzburg Festival debut in 2010 as Gluck's *Orfeo* under Riccardo Muti, a role she had already sung at the Paris Opéra. As an internationally sought-after concert artist, Elisabeth Kulman has been heard in a wide-ranging repertory under such conductors as Gielen, Jordan, Thielemann, Weigle and Mehta. She is particularly committed to the lieder repertory, which she has also performed in unconventional ways with other musicians, including "Mussorgsky Dis-Covered" with an international jazz quartet and "Mahler Lieder" with the ensemble Amarcord Wien. Both of these projects are available on award-winning CDs. Her recording of Liszt lieder appeared in 2011.

Josef Schlömicher-Thier

Festival doctor Salzburg, Boardmember of CoMeT

Josef Schlömicher-Thier grew up in a musical family on a small farm in Styria; apprentice as brewer, then studied medicine and voice in Graz (baritone). Contract for Don Carlos in Graz; Masterclass with Walter Berry. Head of the cultural

and education platform „Die Kuppel“ at the LKH Graz (1987-1991); Member of the initiative „Artists make music for the ill“, regular concerts. Specialized ENT studies in Salzburg (1991-1995). Headed the development of the voice and speech clinic at the LKH Salzburg. Specialization in industrial medicine 1995/96. ENT specialist in Neumarkt am Wallersee; festival doctor for the Salzburger Festspiele since 1996.

Member of international professional organisations, founder of the Austrian Voice Institute; since 1996, extensive travel to congresses and lectures, organiser of voice symposiums, choir directors seminars and workshops for voice professionals.

Professional focus: practice for professional speakers and singers in Salzburg and at the Festspielhaus Salzburg since 1996; prevention, consultation the teaching for voice professionals, especially teachers, vocal prevention programs at pedagogy colleges and choir academies; lecturer at the Institut für Sprachwissenschaft Salzburg University and at the Pädagogische Akademie Salzburg since 2000; research into psycho emotional causes of vocal problems; Ursachen von Stimmstörungen; surgeon in a private clinic in Werle.

Dr. med. Matthias Weikert

Voice specialist and theatre doctor, Regensburg, Boardmember of CoMeT

Born in Traunstein, Germany, raised and educated in München and Regensburg. State exam in medicine 1975 at Clinical Centre r.d. Isar of TUM (Technical University Munich) Germany.

Postgraduate fellowship in the Department of experimental Neuropathology of MPI Munich (Prof.G.W. Kreutzberg) 1972-1977

Postdoctoral professional medical training in internal medicine, anesthesia, and general surgery in Klinikum r.d. Isar TUM Munich and Catholic Hospital Barmherzige Brüder Regensburg till 1979

ENT specialization in the Department of ENT in the University Clinic Munich (Prof.H.H. Naumann), Klinikum Grosshadern of LMU from 1979-1984 and in the same clinics additional specialization in the department of phoniatics and pediatric audiology (Prof F. Martin) till 1986.

Consultant of Phoniatics and Pediatric Audiology since 1993

Consultant ENT -surgeon at the Department of head and neck Surgery of Clinic St .Hedwig in the General Catholic Hospital Barmherzige Brüder Regensburg, Germany since 2004

Medical practice in the health centre (GesundheitsForum) of Regensburg for ENT and Phoniatics / Pediatric audiology .

Member of the Regensburger Ärztenetz e.V and delegate of the Ärztlicher Kreisverband Regensburg

Member in some scientific and medical associations f.e. Dt Ges. HNO, DGPP, DGSS, DG, DGfMM, DGD, AVI and CoMeT , of these last two associations member of the board.

Member of board of the biennial-conference for singers and professional voice users in Salzburg/Austria (AVI)

Visiting lecturer at the of the University of Catholic Church Music and Pedagogy Regensburg (HfKM)

Consultant voice doctor of city-theatre Regensburg

Amateur violinist and member of the Bavarian Medical Symphony-Orchestra and of the Orchestra "am Singruen" Regensburg