

## Jul Levi And His Daughter Simona



These are the first steps in music of my daughter Simona. She is one year old in this photo. We are in front of the piano in the living room in the apartment where we both live now (unfortunately my wife died of cancer). At the moment Simona works at the New Bulgarian University where she does some administrative tasks. The photo was taken in 1975 in Sofia. My wife Sabina and I got married in 1963. My wife is a Bulgarian. We married before the registrar and we didn't have a religious wedding. Our daughter Simona was a gift from Heaven to us because both Sabina and I weren't very young. Simona was born on 12th August 1974. From the moment she learned to speak, she started saying everything that came to her mind. She also had an acute sense of logic. I remember

a lot of funny stories about her. For example, the first time I took her to the Musical Theater. That was our theater: her mother worked there as an actress, and I as a conductor and composer. I took her to see the children's comic opera 'King Midas has Donkey's Ears' by Parashkev Hadjiev. Sabina played the part of Pam: a mischievous man with horns. At the end of the first act Sabina put on a mantle and disappeared. Then there was an interval and after the interval a second act. Suddenly Sabina's head appeared from the curtains of the fore-stage and she shouted, 'Children, do you recognize me?' And they all said, 'Yes!' 'I'm Pam,' she said. But suddenly a voice was heard from our box just above the orchestra, 'No, this is mum!' The whole audience burst into laughter, and the orchestra stopped playing. It was very funny!