



Our colleague and friend, András Kotschy – or Bandi, as we all knew him – passed away. He died peacefully on the night of 25th October at home, among his beloved family: wife Beáta, children and grandchildren. He kept working until the very last days. He was 82 years old.

This is a great loss for many of us, his family, friends and colleagues throughout the world. During his more than half century long career, he has made many-many friends both in- and outside of Hungary. You all knew him from the numerous conferences and events he participated at or organised. Thanks to his dedication to acoustics and organisation skills, Inter Noise '97, Active '97 and Forum Acusticum '05, as well as the 7th ICA in 1971 and several national events could become not only professionally useful symposiums, but also memorable gatherings.

But not only acousticians benefited from his skills: as a music enthusiast and president of the Art Ensemble of Eötvös Loránd University since 1957, he organised their concerts and trips regularly.

Beside acoustics, the Eötvös Art Ensemble was his other main passion and beloved occupation. He also met his future wife, Beáta, there with whom they lived together in love, raising two children and enjoying being grandparents of many grandchildren.

He was the member of EAA, member of the Hungarian Chamber of Engineers and founding member of its Section for Acoustics, member of OPAKFI (the Hungarian Scientific Society for Optics, Acoustics, Film and Theater Technology) and member of its presidential board for several years, member of MMA – Hungarian Artistic Academy, and honorary member of INCE-USA.

He graduated as a physicist in 1963. Before starting his career as an acoustician, he travelled with famous artists and actors throughout the country as sound engineer of their performances. He remembered this as one of the most beautiful periods of his life. He started working as an acoustic consultant after this short period, and continued it for almost 60 years. He was a researcher, he published regularly, mainly in English and Hungarian. His most important works include subjective and objective evaluations of concert halls and opera houses – the results of which Beranek used in his famous book –, measurements of lateral fraction and diffusivity. He spent half year working with Vilhelm Lassen Jordan, where they laid down basics for LE parameter, he worked with Alec Burd on scale models, etc, and he was the first to employ computer aided modelling and auralization in his work in Hungary. After 2001 he continued his work in his private company.

He designed several important concert halls, theatres, sport arenas, office and residential buildings: Kölcsey Centre in Debrecen, Kodály Cultural Centre in Pécs, Budapest Arena, Groupama Arena, Ferenc Puskas Stadium Budapest, ELTE University buildings, Szeged University Science and Informatics Centre, Kisfaludy Theatre Győr, New National Theatre (3 versions), just to name a few.

Bandi was a warm-hearted, open man, with a positive, optimistic attitude. He selflessly helped anyone who asked – a rare virtue in a selfish, cruel world.

Bandi lived for his family, for acoustics and for music. With his passing an era has ended.

Attila Nagy