Einar Henning Smebye was born in 1950. After studies with Nicolai Dirdal and Hildegunn Reuter he gave a sensational debut concert in Oslo at the age of 17. Further studies with Bruno Seidlhofer in Vienna and Germaine Mounier in Paris prepared for an extensive career with concerts in several European, Asian and American countries. He has made a series of CD recordings both as soloist and chamber musician and includes contemporary music as an important part of his reportoire. He was elected Musician of the year in 1997 by the Norwegian Composer's Society and received the Fartein Valen Prize 2006. He holds a position as professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music .