

Musicians of the Festival ...

André CAZALET,
French Horn

André Cazalet started his apprenticeship of music very early in his life. He won two first prizes at the Paris Conservatory. After having been a soloist for the Ensemble InterContemporain, since 1980 he has been the principal French horn for the Orchestre de Paris. In addition, his career as a soloist has taken him to most of the European countries, to the USA and to Japan, performing particularly with Daniel Barenboim, the Talich Quartet, Jean-Bernard Pommier, Gérard Caussé, Maurice Bourgue, Katia and Marielle Labèque, Michel Portal, Michael Levinas, etc.

His repertoire stretches from the 18th century to contemporary music, including musical research with composers of the new generation. Since 1985 he has been teaching at the National Conservatoire of Paris. His recording of the trios for piano, violin and French horn by Brahms and Ligeti, with Cyril Huvé and Guy Comentale (Montaigne Auvidis) was awarded the Grand prix du Disque. He also has recorded the Sextet of Poulenc as well as a recital of French chamber music with Pascal Rogé, Catherine Cantin, Maurice Bourgue, Michel Portal and Amaury Wallez (Decca).



Olivier CHARLIER,
Violin

Far from any media ballyhoo, Olivier Charlier asserts himself as one of the most interesting violinists of his generation. As a matter of fact, his juvenile and discreet appearance misleads the audience. Soft and modest, the violinist's azure glance hides perfectly a prodigious career: First Prize of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Paris at fourteen, awarded with prizes of the most prestigious international competitions (among them Munich, Montreal, Sibelius, Jacques Thibaud, Indianapolis, Young Concert Artists...) at twenty, spontaneously taken under the wings of sacred monsters such as Nadia Boulanger, Yehudi Menuhin and Henryk Szeryng, this artist met very early an enormous success. Playing in the whole world, from New York to Tokyo and from London to Mexico, with the greatest international orchestras and under the baton of eminent conductors, or as an accomplished chamber musician, Olivier Charlier represents the prestigious French School of the Violin. In the same line as Jacques Thibaud, Zino Francescatti or Christian Ferras, he displays that musical nobility so characteristic of French art, as Debussy conceived it: virtuosity without ostentation, sensibility without affectedness, elegance without preciousness. For twenty years now he has been transmitting his art to his students at the Conservatory of Paris, the art of devoting himself unvarnished, with modesty and refinement.

Olivier Charlier's discography includes the Concerto for violin "L'arbre des songes" by Dutilleux, two Concertos by Lalo with the BBC Philharmonic conducted by Yan Pascal Tortelier, Schurmann, also with the BBC Philharmonic conducted by the composer, Roberto Gerhard with the BBC Symphonic conducted by Matthias Bamert (all for Chandos), Mendelssohn with the Philharmonic Orchestra of Monte-Carlo and Lawrence Foster (Erato), Saint-Saëns with the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris and Jean-Jacques Kantorow (EMI France) as well as numerous French Sonatas with Jean Hubeau: Franck, Debussy, Saint-Saëns, Pierné, Vierne (Erato). He is also very devoted to chamber music and forms with Brigitte Engerer in a Duet characterised by their complicity and the coherence of their performances. They have recorded Schumann, Grieg and Beethoven for Harmonia Mundi.



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Paul COLETTI,
Viola

The famous viola player Paul COLETTI, soloist and chamber music player, has given more than 1 500 concerts in the entire world ; he is also a viola teacher and many of his compositions have been published. His mentor, Yehudi Menuhin used to say that « he is an exceptional viola player with a marvellous sound and a top ranking musicality ».

Born in Edinburgh from an Italian family, Paul COLETTI started studying viola at age 8. He was 18 when a



Musicians of the Festival ...



scholarship allowed him to work with Yehudi Menuhin and Alberto Lysy at IMMA (Inter-national Menuhin Music Academy) in Switzerland. Later on, he continued his studies in the United States with Dorothy Delay, Felix Galimir and Don McInnes.

For many long years, he has cooperated with Sándor Vegh at the Lenk (Switzerland), in Prussia Cove (UK) and Salzburg, with Yehudi Menuhin on the occasion of concerts and recordings in Paris, Edinburgh, Gstaad and London. He has played the Béla Bartók Concerto for viola and orchestra directed by Lord Menuhin, a major event broadcasted live by the Berlin television. He regularly acts as a soloist with the Lysy Camerata founded par Alberto Lysy, presently director of IMMA. He has been playing at the Teatro Colón of Buenos Aires, at the Queen Elizabeth Hall of London and everywhere in Europe.

In 1984, Paul COLETTI returned to IMMA, for the first time as a teacher, and at age 25, he was appointed director of the string section at the Washington University. He then lived in New York for 14 years and, for one half of the period, he taught at the Peabody Institute of University Johns Hopkins. During the eighties and nineties, he has been a founding member of the Menuhin Festival Piano Quartet in Germany and of Typhoon in Japan ; he performed more than 1 000 concerts with both ensembles, in Asia, Europe, Australia, United States and Latin America, and in prestigious music halls such as the Sydney Opera, Berlin Philharmonie, Suntory Hall of Tokyo, Kennedy Centre, Lincoln Centre of New York and San Miniato al Monte church of Florence. He also has been guest artist of many chamber music societies of the Lincoln Centre, in Boston, Washington, Seattle, Melbourne and Auckland.

Paul COLETTI has recorded more than 30 CDs, DVDs and videos and won several prizes. He has a character on television and radio, he is the producer of The Viola Show and director of musical videos with the participation of actor Leonard Nimoy as narrator. His concerts are broadcasted in the entire world (namely by the BBC, NHK, Classical Arts) and he is regularly a guest of the Saint Paul Sunday on NPR. In 2002, after eight years of tours, recordings and concerts, Paul COLETTI has occupied the chair of viola teacher and director of the chamber music section at UCLA. In 2004, he entered the Colburn Conservatoire. He conducts several master classes, for instance at the Conservatoire of Shanghai, the Toho School in Japan, the University of Indiana and the Prades Festival Pablo Casals.

Paul COLETTI's compositions – i.e. « Three Pieces for viola and piano » published by Oxford University Press – are played in the whole world and have been recorded under the Sony label. He has played tangos, jazz with the Claude Bolling Trio and directed a Mozart concert in Tokyo. His last recording includes the Concerto for viola and clarinet of Bruch (2005). In 2006, he played at the Disney Hall with the Los Angeles Philharmonic directed by Gerard Schwarz.

Peter FRANKL,
Piano

Peter Frankl made his name on the international circuit as a young pianist in the 1960s and, since that time, he has appeared with the conductors Abbado, Ashkenazy, Barbirolli, Blomstedt, Boulez, Chailly, Davis, Doráti, Fischer, Haitink, Kempe, Kertész, Leinsdorf, Maazel, Masur, Muti, Sanderling, Solti, Szell, among others.



Following his London debut in 1962 and his New York debut with the Cleveland Orchestra, he has been performing with many orchestras in the USA (Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Pittsburg etc), the Berlin Philharmonic, Leipzig Gewandhaus, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, Orchestre de Paris, Israel Philharmonic, all London orchestras and many others in Europe. He has made many tours in Japan, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, playing with orchestras, in recitals and also in chamber music concerts. He has appeared over twenty times at London's BBC Promenade Concerts and has been a regular participant at the Edinburgh, Cheltenham, Aldeburgh, Verbier and Kuhmo Festivals. Among the highlights of his many Edinburgh Festival appearances were his performance of the Britten Concerto under the baton of the composer and the opening televised concert with the Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Muti. He was the soloist at the Enescu Festival in Bucharest with the Budapest Festival Orchestra at one of the last concerts Yehudi Menuhin ever conducted.

Musicians of the Festival ...

In the USA, Peter Frankl has been regular guest-artist at the summer festivals in Aspen, Chautauqua, Hollywood Bowl, Marlboro, Norfolk, Ravinia and Santa Fé and he often performs with well-known artists, such as Ralph Kirshbaum, Kyung Wha Chung, András Schiff, Tamás Vásáry and many string quartets like the Amadeus, Bartók, Borodin, Fine Arts, Guarneri, Lindsay, Panocha, Takács, Tokyo and Vermeer. He has given master classes all over the world, including the Royal Academy and Royal College in London, Liszt Academy in Budapest and the Van Cliburn Institute in Texas.

Among his recordings are the complete works for piano by Schumann and Debussy, Bartok and Chopin solo albums, a Hungarian Anthology, concerti and four-hand works by Mozart, the 2 Brahms piano concerti, the Brahms violin and clarinet sonatas, the Brahms trios, the piano quintets by Brahms, Schumann, Dvorak, Martinu and both Dohnanyi, Bartok solo pieces for violin and piano and violin sonatas by Dohnanyi, Hubay and Goldmark.

Peter Frankl studied at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest with Professors Hernádi, Kodály and Weiner and won first prizes at several international competitions. He lives in London and is visiting professor at Yale University.

His 70th birthday this year was marked with special concerts in the USA and in Europe and, in Hungary, he was given one of the highest civilian awards by the Hungarian Republic for his lifetime artistic achievement in the world of music.

Itamar GOLAN, Piano

For almost two decades, Itamar Golan has been partnering the most outstanding instrumentalists of our time. His work has brought him great critical acclaim, and he is one of the most sought after pianists of his generation, playing on the most prestigious stages around the world.

Born in Vilnius, Lithuania, his family emigrated to Israel when he was a year old. There he started his musical studies and at the age of 7, gave his first concerts in Tel-Aviv.

He was repeatedly awarded scholarships from the American-Israel Cultural Foundation which enabled him to study with Emmanuel Krasovsky and his chamber music mentor, Chaim Taub. Later under a full scholarship from the New England Conservatory of Boston, he was chosen to study with Leonard Shure.

Since his earliest years, Itamar Golan's passion has been chamber music, but he has also appeared as soloist with some of the major orchestras including the Israel Philharmonic and the Berlin Philharmonic under the direction of Zubin Mehta, Royal Philharmonic under the direction of Daniele Gatti, the Orchestra Philharmonica della Scala and the Vienna Philharmonic under the direction of Riccardo Muti.

Over the years, he has collaborated with Vadim Repin, Maxim Vengerov, Julian Rachlin, Mischa Maisky, Shlomo Mintz, Ivry Gitlis, Ida Haendel, Kyung Wha Chung, Sharon Kam, Janine Jansen, Michel Lethiec, and Matt Haimovitz among many others. He is a frequent participant in many prestigious international music festivals, such as Salzburg, Verbier, Lucerne, Tanglewood, Ravinia, Prades, and has made a numerous recordings for labels such as Deutsche Grammophon, Warner Classics, Teldec, EMI and Sony Classical.

In 1991, Itamar Golan was nominated to the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music, making him one of their youngest teachers ever. Since 1994, he has taught chamber music at the Paris Conservatory. He resides in Paris, where he is involved in many different artistic projects.

Frans HELMERSON,



Musicians of the Festival ...



Cello

Swedish cellist Frans Helmerson studied in Göteborg, Rome and London with G. Vecchi, G. Selmi and W. Pleeth, as well as having had the benefit of the guidance and support from M. Rostropovitch.

Frans Helmerson has performed with many of today's finest conductors such as Seiji Ozawa, Colin Davies, Neeme Järvi, Evgeni Svetlanov, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Herbert Blomstedt, Sergiu Comissiona, Frübeck de Burgos, Kurt Sanderling and Rostropovich as well as with a number of the major orchestras, touring throughout Europe, the USA, South America, Asia and Australia.

Helmerson's love for chamber music led him to take the position as artistic director of the Korsholm Festival in Finland 1994-2001, and he is frequently appearing at a number of international festivals, such as in Verbier, Prades, Naantali, Kuhmo and Ravinia. In 2002 he formed the Michelangelo String Quartet with Mihaela Martin, Stephan Picard and Nobuko Imai.

During the next season Helmerson will be touring both as cellist and conductor in Great Britain, Finland, Sweden, Norway, France, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, as well as in the US, Korea and Japan.

Frans Helmerson can be heard on CD in concertos by Dvorak and Shostakovich, the Brahms Double Concerto with violinist Mihaela Martin and on a recent release of the Bach Solo Suites.

Erich Oskar HUETTER, Cello

Born in 1973, Erich Oskar Huetter studied with Hildgund Posch at the University of Music in Graz and Reinhard Latzko at the Musikakademie in Basel where in 1999 he gained the soloist's diploma and teachers diploma (both with highest distinction).

He then went on to study with the exceptional cellists Janos Starker at Indiana University and Ralph Kirshbaum at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and got further artistic stimulation through Mischa Maisky at the Accademia Chigiana Siena. While still a student, Erich won numerous prizes at competitions.



He performed as a soloist under important conductors such as Daniel Barenboim. E.O. Huetter played with the following orchestras as a soloist: Basler Symphoniker, Radio Symphonie Orchester Basel, Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, Members of West Eastern Divan, Macedonian Philharmonic Orchestra, Collegium pro Musica Genova and Moscow Chamber Orchestra.

As a soloist Erich Oskar Huetter performed in major concert halls including Musikverein and Konzerthaus (Vienna), Mozarteum (Salzburg), Beethoven-Haus (Bonn), Royal Castle (Warsaw), Lisinski Hall (Zagreb), Wahington (Kennedy Center), UN-Headquarter (New York City), Gonfalone (Rom), Jin Mao Concert Hall (Shanghai), Casino (Basel), Stefaniensaal (Graz), Jerusalem Music Center, Philharmonie (Berlin), Glocke (Bremen), Valencia (Philharmony) and Schleswig Holstein Music Festival.

He is regularly giving master classes at various universities, as well as at the International Summer Academy Stift Admont. E.O. Huetter is a member of the Arcus Ensemble Vienna and Hyperion Ensemble. In recitals he plays together with the pianist Paul Gulda.

E. O. Huetter is founder and artistic director of the renowned "Styrian Chamber Music Festival" and the festival "Sounding Jerusalem" in the Old City of Jerusalem. "Sounding Jerusalem" presents an European chamber music festival as well as an intercultural platform for young musicians from Palestine, Israel and Europe.

In September 2006 he played a premiere performance of a piece composed by Philip Glass within the ceremonies of 9/11 at the UN-Headquarter in New York City.

Musicians of the Festival ...

Numerous appearances on radio and television as well as CD recordings made him known to a wider public.

Nobuko IMAI,
Viola

Nobuko Imai is considered to be one of the most outstanding viola players of our time. After finishing her studies at the Toho School of Music, Yale University and the Juilliard School, she won the highest prizes at both the Munich and the Geneva international competitions.

Formerly a member of the esteemed Vermeer Quartet, Ms. Imai now combines a distinguished international solo career appearing with orchestras such as the Berlin Philharmonic, the Royal Concertgebouw, Vienna Symphony, Stockholm Philharmonic, London Symphony, the BBC orchestras, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Boston Symphony, and the Chicago Symphony, along with teaching at the Conservatory in Amsterdam and Geneva, Kronberg Academy, and Ueno Gakuen University in Tokyo where she is a Professor.



A keen chamber musician, Miss Imai has often performed with such distinguished names as Gidon Kremer, Yo Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, András Schiff, Isaac Stern and Pinchas Zukerman. In addition she has toured with Midori, performing chamber music, while further collaborators include pianists Ronald Brautigam, and accordionist Mie Miki for recitals. Her trio combinations include concerts with Pamela Frank and Clemens Hagen, and Mihaela Martin and Frans Hemerson. In 2003, along with Mihaela Martin, Stephan Picard and Frans Helmerson, Nobuko Imai formed the Michelangelo Quartet, of which the debut concerts at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw in 2003 were met with great success leading to many engagements in halls such as Theatre des Champs-Elysees and the Tonhalle, Zurich, and at festivals such as Edinburgh, Naantali and the Tokyo edition of *La Folle Journée de Nantes*.

Nobuko Imai appears regularly at Marlboro Festival, Lockenhaus, the Casals Festival, Saito Kinen Festival, Aldeburgh, the BBC Proms, and Verbier Festival. Together with Yuri Bashmet, Kim Kashkashian and Tabea Zimmermann she was one of the four violists featured at the International Viola Festival in Kronberg. She returns to Japan several times a year, to perform as soloist and notably for the annual “Viola Space” project, which she founded in 1992 and where she now serves as Artistic Adviser.

In 1995/1996 Nobuko Imai was artistic director of three Hindemith Festivals which were organized on her initiative at the Wigmore Hall in London, at Columbia University in New York and at the Casals Hall in Tokyo. She was initiator and co-producer of a series at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam and in Tokyo in 1999/2000, featuring Japanese and Dutch early and contemporary music, celebrating the 400th anniversary of the relationship between the two countries. Furthermore, she has founded the ensemble East-West Baroque Academy for young music professionals, in which they can gain experience in authentic style performance practice of early music, trained by an early music specialist. In 2009 she served as adviser and president of jury at The Tokyo International Viola Competition, the first international competition in Japan exclusively for viola.

An impressive discography of over 40 CDs shows Nobuko Imai’s recordings for BIS, Chandos, EMI, Hyperion, Philips, Sony, Deutsche Grammophone, and Seiko Epson. Most recently, she is attracting attention with her Deutsche Grammophone recordings of the J.S. Bach’s Goldberg Variations, arranged for string trio, with Julian Rachlin and Mischa Maisky. While on Seiko Epson, she received acclaim for her CD with the works which she has premiered, including the Toru Takemitsu’s viola concerto, “A String Around Autumn”, arranged for viola and piano solo by Toshio Hosokawa.

Her many prizes include the Avon Arts Award (1993), the Education Minister’s Art Prize for Music awarded by the Japanese Agency of Cultural Affairs (1994), the Mobil Prize of Japan (1995) and the Suntory Music Prize (1996). In 2003, Imai received the Purple Ribbon Medal from the Japanese government for her outstanding contribution to Japanese musical life.

Musicians of the Festival ...

Michel LETHIEC,
Clarinet

At the moment, the clarinetist Michel Lethiec is considered to be one of the most eminent figures on the world-wide classical musical scene. Besides his numerous concert and festival performances, he is also devoted to teaching and participates actively in the research and the distribution of the repertoire.

He has played as a soloist and chamber musician with the most eminent performers such as A. Noras, L. Kovakos, G. Hoffmann, F. Helmerson, G. Sharon, R. and B. Pasquier, H. Shaham, Y. Bashmet, G. Caussé, P. Gallois, J. Menuhin, R. Gothoni, J.F. Heisser, J.-C. Pennetier, M. Rudy, V. Mendelssohn, P. Amoyal, J.J. Kantorow, P. Csaba, M. Martin, Y. Gandelmann, I. Golan.... and the Talich, Enesco, Artis, Amati, Prazak, Lindsay Quartets.



He has appeared with the Barcelona Orchestra, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, the Saint-Petersburg Philharmonic, the Stockholm and the Malmoe Orchestras, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Toulouse Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestre National du Capitole, the Salzburg Mozarteum, the Milano Pomeriggio Musicale, the Prague Radio Orchestra, the Philharmonique de Radio France...

Devoted to contemporary music, he has played premier performances of numerous pieces and concertos by composers such as: Penderecki, Corigliano, Denisow, Maratka, Ballif, Landowski, Decoust, Fourchette, Scolai, Narita, Brotons, Giraud...

Lately, he played in Prague ("Luminarium" by Maratka), on tour in Spain (the Mozart Concerto), at the Porto Rico Festival, at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam (Penderecki Sextett, first performance in the Netherlands) at the Festival "Présences" in Paris (with the Nouvel Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France), in Corea, Japan, China, Vienna, Manchester (Piano Festival with B. Douglas and M. Dalberto), Varsavia (Beethoven Festival).. In January 2007 he will take part in "Prades aux Champs-Élysées", playing with B. Douglas, H. Shaham, J Dybal, Chee-Yun, Alain Meunier, Olivier Charlier, André Cazalet...

His recordings include about twenty compact disks, among which are two Grands prix du Disque ("Ascèses" by Jolivet and "Contrasts" by Bartók, with G. Poulet and N. Lee), for Lyrinx, Arion, RCA, Bis, Talent, Actes Sud.

Recently, he has recorded (world premier recording) the three concertos by Penderecki with the Saint-Petersburg Camerata conducted by K. Penderecki and E. Leducq, a CD devoted to the chamber music works of the same composer (Naxos), the concerto by Vanhall (Talent) and the Préludes et Danses by Lutoslawski (Arion), as well as "Ludarium" by K. Maratka with the Talich Orchestra of Prague, the Duos by S. Giraud (with A. Noras) and the Sonatas by Auric, Honegger and Poulenc (with C. Ivaldi).

He teaches at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris and at the Nice Conservatoire and gives frequently masterclasses in other renowned music schools.

He also participates regularly as a member of the jury in international competitions (Geneva, Leipzig, Prague...).

He is the Artistic Director of the Festival Pablo Casals in Prades.

Jérémy MENUHIN,
Piano

Jeremy Menuhin made his New York debut as winner of the Young Concert Artists' Piano Competition in 1984 and soon afterwards gave the first in a number of concerts with the Berlin Philharmonic. He has regularly given recitals in the Kennedy Center in Washington, the Philharmonie in Berlin, the Amsterdam Concertgebouw and the Salle Pleyel in Paris.

He has played with many leading orchestras such as the Royal Philharmonic, the



Musicians of the Festival ...



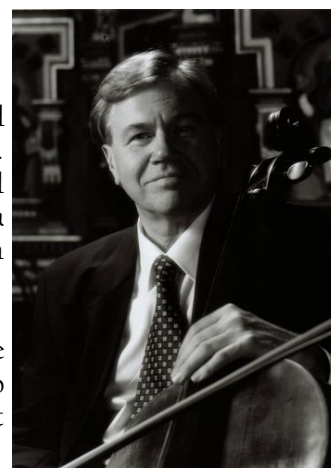
Berlin Philharmonic, the Orchestre Nationale de France, the Houston Symphony, the Israel Philharmonic, the Czech Philharmonic, Salzburg Mozarteum and the chamber orchestras of Zurich, St Petersburg and Prague as well as the English Chamber Orchestra.

Jeremy Menuhin has recorded works by Schubert, Mozart, Debussy, Beethoven and Dvorak for Chandos, EMI and Ades. His recording of Bartok's Sonatas for Violin and Piano with his father, Yehudi Menuhin, was awarded the prestigious Grand Prix du Disque. His Schubert recordings for Dinemec Classics (four CDs to date) have been widely acclaimed "...every harmonic side-step, every momentary change of pace is tasted to the full..." The Times.

Arto NORAS, Cello

One of the today's most outstanding cellists, Arto Noras began his musical education at the age of five. When he was eight he became a student of Prof. Yrjö Slin at the Sibelius Academy. From 1962 to 1964 he attended Paul Tortelier's master class at the Paris Conservatoire, ending his studies with a First Prize. Two years later, he got his current international reputation through winning the Second Prize at the Tschaikovsky Competition.

Arto Noras plays regularly with the greatest orchestras and conductors of the world. His repertoire includes nearly the whole cello literature. He is also renowned for his chamber music performances. He has played with the most famous musicians of our time.



The long list of his CDs includes works composed especially for him. He recently recorded a piece by Krzysztof Penderecki.

His long career as profesor, his innumerable master classes given all over the world and his activities as member of international competition juries have widely contributed to the development of music for cello, as in Finland as in many other countries.

Arto Noras is the founder and Artistic Director of the Naantali Music Festival. He also founded the International Paulo Cello Competition.

Paul NEUBAUER, Viola

Paul Neubauer exceptional musicality and effortless playing distinguish him as one of this generation's quintessential artists. Balancing a solo career with performances as an Artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Neubauer at age 21 was the youngest principal string player in the New York Philharmonic's history. He is the Orchestra and Chamber Music Director of the OK Mozart Festival in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.



In 2005, he premiered Joan Tower's Purple Rhapsody, a viola concerto commissioned for him by seven orchestras and the Koussevitsky Foundation. Mr. Neubauer has recently released an all Schumann recital album with pianist Anne-Marie McDermott for Image Recordings and recorded works that were written for him: Wild Purple for solo viola by Joan Tower for Naxos; Viola Rhapsody a concerto by Henri Lazarof on Centaur Records; and Soul Garden for viola and chamber ensemble by Derek Bermel on CRI. His recording of the Walton Viola Concerto was recently re-released on Decca. He has appeared with over 100 orchestras throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia including the New York, Los Angeles, Helsinki and Royal Liverpool Philharmonics, National, St. Louis, Detroit, Dallas, San Francisco and Bournemouth Symphonies, Santa Cecilia and English Chamber and Beethovenhalle Orchestras. He gave the world premiere of the revised Bartók Viola Concerto as well as Concertos by Penderecki, Picker, Jacob, Lazarof, Suter, Müller-Siemens, Ott and Friedman. He has performed at the festivals of Verbier, Ravinia, Stavanger, Hollywood Bowl, Lincoln Center, Mostly Mozart, and Marlboro.

Musicians of the Festival ...

Mr. Neubauer was an Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient and the first prizewinner of the Whitaker, D'Angelo and Lionel Tertis International Competitions. He has been heard on A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor and has been featured in Strad, Strings and People magazine. He is on the faculty of The Juilliard School and Mannes College.

Bruno PASQUIER,
Viola

Bruno Pasquier won First Prizes both at the Paris Conservatoire National Supérieur and the Munich International Competition.

To further his international solo career he resigned previous posts as principal viola with the Paris Opera and with the Orchestre National de France, where he had played under the baton of Karl Böhm, Sir Georg Solti, Seiji Osawa, Lorin Maazel, etc.

He is also a most sought-after chamber musician. For a time he was part of a trio with his brother Régis Pasquier and the cellist Roland Pidoux. He has played with Salvatore Accardo, Nadia Boulanger, Maurice Gendron, Christoph Henkel, Yehudi Menuhin, Gérard Poulet, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Léonard Rose, Mstislav Rostropovitch, Paul Tortelier, Isaac Stern, Josef Stern, Joseph Suk, as well as with the greatest pianists of our time.

Bruno Pasquier is professor of viola and chamber music at the Paris Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique.

His discography is impressive. Recently he was awarded the "Victoire de la Musique" for a recording of Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Liège et de la Communauté Française conducted by Pierre Barholomé.

Bruno Pasquier plays a Paolo Maggini viola (early 17th century).

François SALQUE,
Cello

François Salque is recognised as one of the most stunning cellists of his generation. His profound musical thinking and phenomenal technique have earned him many prestigious awards: François is a prize-winner at such international competitions as Lausanne (Unanimous First Prize), Geneva (2nd Prize), ARD Munich, Tchaikovsky in Moscow... He was each time given the highest distinctions ever awarded to a French cellist in the histories of these competitions.

His outstanding talent was equally recognised in the United-States where he won a Master of Music degree at Yale University as well as no less than six First Prizes in international competitions.

In France, he won the First Prize of the "Hommage to Paul Tortelier and Maurice Gendron" International Competition and the Pierre Fournier Prize.

François has already performed as a soloist and in chamber music in over fifty countries with some of the world's most renowned artists (Jean-Claude Pennetier, Alexandre Tharaud, Michel Portal, Paul Meyer, Emmanuel Pahud, Itamar Golan, Renaud Capuçon, Barry Douglas, Gil Shaham...)

He has played as a soloist with such prestigious orchestras as the Münchner Rundfunk Orchestra, the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Moscow chamber orchestra, the Saint-Petersburg Camerata, the Baltica Chamber Orchestra, the Monte Carlo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Berner Philharmonic... as well as many French orchestras.



Musicians of the Festival ...



His recordings for BMG RCA, Arion or Lyrinx with pianists Eric Le Sage and Alexandre Tharaud were highly acclaimed and received many awards.

François Salque was for five years a member of the Ysaye String Quartet with which he played over 400 concerts and recorded seven CDs.

François is currently teaching at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris as well as the Conservatoire Supérieur de Lausanne.

Kyoko TAKEZAWA, Violin

As the embodiment of musicality, violinist Kyoko Takezawa electrifies audiences with a richness of playing, a virtuosic confidence of feeling, and a fiery intensity that establishes her as one of today's foremost violinists. Ms. Takezawa's interpretive insight and indisputable talent have made her a sought-after soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras.



Ms. Takezawa has performed as soloist with such prominent ensembles as the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony, and the symphony orchestras of San Francisco, Cleveland, Baltimore, Saint Louis, Houston, Toronto, Dallas, Montreal, Detroit and Cincinnati. Abroad, she has been heard with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, the London Symphony, the Tonhalle Orchestra of Zurich, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Dresden Staatskapelle, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Orchestra National de Radio France, Lyon and also Nice, the NHK Symphony, the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony and the New Japan Philharmonic. She has collaborated with many distinguished conductors, including Seiji Ozawa, Sir Colin Davis, Michael Tilson Thomas, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Kurt Masur, Sir Neville Marriner, Leonard Slatkin, Charles Dutoit, Marek Janowski and Sir Andrew Davis. She has performed at major venues around the world, notably Carnegie Hall in New York; the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.; London's BBC Proms; Musikverein in Vienna and Suntory Hall in Tokyo.

Highlights of Ms. Takezawa's 2009-2010 season included performances with the Chicago Symphony and Zurich Tonhalle Orchestra for their subscription concert, New York String Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. She gave a recital tour in 7 cities in Japan with Itamar Golan which was a part of three year project celebrating her 20th anniversary of her debut. In the previous season of 2008-2009, she has performed with the Vancouver Symphony, the West Australian Symphony, the Amarillo Symphony and in Finland with the Kymi Sinfonietta, in Japan with the NHK Symphony, Kanagawa Philharmonic, Osaka Century Orchestra, Japan Philharmonic. In past seasons, Ms. Takezawa performed in North America with the St. Louis, Tucson and Jacksonville, Charlotte, Toronto and Seattle Symphonies. She also performed with the China Philharmonic, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Japan Philharmonic, Singapore, Guangzhou, Nagoya and Osaka Symphonies in Asia, Denmark's Aarhus Symphony, France's Orchestre National de Lille, and Manchester's Halle Orchestra. She also appeared as the feature soloist on the Hamburg NDR Symphony tour of Japan.

A highly accomplished chamber music performer, Ms. Takezawa has participated in the Grand Teton Music Festival and the Aspen Music Festival. In the 2008-2009 season, she will perform in the La Jolla Music Festival. Ms. Takezawa's chamber music performances have drawn high praise, and as co-director of the Suntory Festival Soloists of Suntory Hall in Tokyo, she has collaborated with the late Isaac Stern, Yo-Yo Ma, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Joseph Suk and many other distinguished artists. In recent seasons, she has performed at the Aspen Festival and at the first Taipei International Chamber Music Festival with Cho-Liang Lin. A former winner of the Indianapolis Violin Competition, Ms. Takezawa was also recently invited to serve as a juror at the competition.

A prolific recording artist, she has just released her most recent CD which she performed all Brahms's Violin Sonatas with pianist Itamar Golan by Sony Music Japan. Other recordings are heard on BMG's RCA Victor Red Seal label, a recital CD titled eRomanza in which she performed short pieces, performances of the

Musicians of the Festival ...

Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 14, by Samuel Barber with Leonard Slatkin and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Brahms Violin Concerto and the Elgar Violin Concerto with Sir Colin Davis and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra; the Violin Concerto No. 2 by Bartok with Michael Tilson Thomas and the London Symphony; and the Mendelssohn Concertos Nos. 1 & 2 with Klaus Peter Flor and the Bamberg Symphony. Ms. Takezawa's CD of French violin sonatas was selected as one of the best recordings of 1993 by Stereo Review.

Ms. Takezawa has numerous television credits includes Concerto the program which she performed Bartok's Second Violin Concerto guided by Dudley Moor by BBC channel 4 , morning show by A & E and two hour documentary program by TV Aichi in Japan.

Ms. Takezawa began violin studies at the age of 3 and at 7 toured the United States, Canada and Switzerland as a member of the Suzuki Method Association. In 1982 she placed first in the 51st Annual Japan Music Competition, and at 17 she entered the Aspen Music School to study with Dorothy DeLay, with whom Ms. Takezawa continued to study at The Juilliard School until graduating in 1989. In 1986 she was awarded the Gold Medal at the Second Quadrennial International Violin Competition of Indianapolis. As an educator she is on the faculty of Toho Music School in Japan and served as a jury for the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis and Menuhin. Most recently, she received the prestigious Idemitsu Award for outstanding musicianship and Aichi Art Cultural Award. Ms. Takezawa has given the Guarneri del Gesù Wieniawski (1742), on loan to her provided by the Stradivarius Society in Chicago.

Jean-Claude VANDEN EYNDEN, Piano

Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden is born in Brussels. He started learning piano very young and entered the Royal Music School at 12 where he studied with Eduardo Del Pueyo until the end of his studies at the Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth. From his 1st prize-award of the Reine Elisabeth competition at the age of 16, he started a soloist career around the world.

Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden played with several symphonic orchestras, among which: Saint-Petersburg Symphonic Orchestra, London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Residentie Orkest of Den Haag and several Belgian orchestras, as well with chamber orchestra I Fiamminghi and Franz Liszt (Budapest). He also collaborated with prestigious directors, as Paul Kletzky, Rudolph Barshai or Yuri Temirkanov.



Jean-Claude Vanden Eynden works also chamber music repertory with different ensembles, as Enesco Quartet, Melos Quartet, Ysaye Quartet...

His wide repertory contains the most famous concertos, a wide chamber music works repertory and the complete works for piano solo by Maurice Ravel.

His discography is diversified, particularly with concertos of Grieg and Arthur De Greef (1st worldwide recording), Sonata for violin and piano by Lekeu (with Philippe Hirshom) and Sonatas and Trio for clarinet by Brahms with W. Boeykens (Award by Caecilia Records).

He regularly takes part as a member of the jury of Reine Elisabeth competition, and others international competitions and festivals, as Korsholm (Finland), Umea (Sweden), Prades and La Chaise-Dieu (France) , and finally Stavelot (Belgium) for which he is artistic director since 1987.

He actually teaches at Conservatory of Bruxelles, at Chapelle Musicale Reine Elisabeth and he is the artistic director of Centre Musical Eduardo Del Pueyo.

Richard WATKINS, French Horn

Richard Watkins has rapidly become one of the most sought-after horn players of his generation and is well-known as a concerto soloist and chamber



Musicians of the Festival ...



music player. He was Principal Horn of the Philharmonia Orchestra from 1985 until 1996, a position he relinquished to devote more time to his solo career. Richard Watkins is a member of the Nash Ensemble.

He has appeared as soloist in the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican and abroad with conductors such as Carlo Maria Giulini, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Leonard Slatkin, Giuseppe Sinopoli, Andrew Davis and Gennadi Rozhdestvensky.

Recent recordings include Sir Malcolm Arnold's two Horn Concertos for Conifer, and Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Philharmonia and Sinopoli for Deutsche Grammophon; other recordings include the Mozart Horn Concertos with Richard Hickox for Pickwick and chamber music recordings, both as soloist and as a chamber musician, for a variety of labels. Recent releases include Gliere's rarely performed Horn Concerto with Sir Edward Downes, and the concerto for Horn and Violin by Dame Ethel Smyth for Chandos.

Richard Watkins is closely associated with the promotion of contemporary music for the horn; Sir Peter Maxwell Davies wrote "Sea Eagle" for him in 1983 and since then Richard Watkins has given the world premiere of David Matthews' "Capriccio" in a concert at the Wigmore Hall to commemorate Dennis Brain's 70th Anniversary, and Nigel Osborne's "The Sun of Venice" with the Philharmonia Orchestra. In 2000, Richard Watkins gave the world premiere of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's Horn Concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Barbican Centre, as well as the German premiere of the work. In 2001, Richard Watkins gave the world premiere of Colin Matthews's Horn Concerto with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia Orchestra at the Royal Festival Hall, and will record the work with the Hallé Orchestra and Mark Elder for Chandos Records.

Richard Watkins is in great demand for masterclasses both in this country and abroad; he is Visiting Professor of Horn at the Royal College of Music, and holds the Dennis Brain Chair of Horn Playing at the Royal Academy of Music where he was made a Fellow in 1992.