

Gordan Nikolić

Gordan Nikolić was born in 1968 and began playing violin at the age of seven. In 1985, he entered the Musikhochschule Basel to study with violinist/conductor Jean-Jacques Kantorow. Four years later, he graduated with the highest honours, as both teacher and soloist. He also worked with Lutoslawsky and Kurtág and developed an interest in both Baroque and contemporary music. He is the recipient of several international awards, which include the Tibor Varga, Niccolò Paganini, Città di Brescia, and Vaclav Huml prizes.

In 1989, he was appointed Leader of the Orchestre d'Auvergne, which he conducted regularly from his leader's chair: for instance, during a tour of Germany in 1993. In 1996, he was appointed Leader of the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, and later he also became Leader of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe. In 1997, he was invited to become Leader of the London Symphony Orchestra.

In 2005, Gordan Nikolić was invited by the



London Symphony Orchestra to be the soloist in three important projects: Schumann's Violin Concerto under Daniel Harding, Brahms's Violin Concerto under Sir Colin Davis, and Beethoven's Triple Concerto, with pianist Emmanuel Ax and cellist Tim Hugh, under Bernard Haitink at the Barbican Centre in London.

He has conducted the Chamber Orchestra of the London Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestre National d'Île-de-France, the Manchester Camerata, and the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, among others: during the 2005/2006 season, he conducted the Orchestre de Lille.

Since 2004, he has been Artistic Director of the Nederlands Kamerorkest (= Netherlands Chamber Orchestra), which is based in Amsterdam. With this orchestra, he has programmed various memorable productions, such as Stravinsky's *L'histoire du soldat* with kinetic painter Norman Perryman, and Weill's *Die sieben Todsünden* with theatre company Dogtroep. Nikolić has already recorded several CDs with the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, which include works by Britten, Bartók and Hartmann, among others.

In 2000, he was appointed "Prince Consort Professor" for string ensembles at the Royal College of Music. Since September 2003, he has also been a professor at the Guildhall School of Music. In the Netherlands, Nikolić also teaches at the Rotterdam Academy for Classical Music.

Gordan Nikolić has a special interest in chamber music, and is regularly invited to perform at various festivals. These include the Musique à l'Empéri Festival, Edinburgh Festival, Daytona Music Festival, Chaise-Dieu Festival and the London Proms, where he has performed with such musicians as Vladimir Mendelssohn, Pieter Wispelwey, Christophe Coin, Eric Le Sage, Maria João Pires, Mikhaïl Pletnev, Emmanuel Ax, Leif Ove Andsnes and Tim Hugh. Recently, he has joined the Vellinger String Quartet.

He has performed as a soloist with the Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, the Orchestre Symphonique de Bâle, the Combattimento Consort Amsterdam, the Israel Chamber Orchestra and the London Symphony Orchestra. In 2001, he played the Walton Violin Concerto with the London Symphony Orchestra under André Previn. In 2003, he performed the Brahms Double Concerto with the London Symphony Orchestra under Bernard Haitink, which was recorded for the 'LSO Live' label, as well as Paganini's Violin Concerto No. 1 in five concerts in Holland. He gave the première of James MacMillan's Violin Concerto, *Deep But Dazzling Darkness*, under the baton of the composer with the London Symphony Orchestra.

Gordan Nikolić has made many recordings for various labels (including Olympia, Lyrinx and Syrius), exploring the lesser-known violin repertoire. One of his recordings, dedicated to Vivaldi, was nominated "Recording of the

Month" in Holland, and his Bach recording received an award from DRS3, Switzerland's cultural radio channel.

Gordan Nikolić plays a Lorenzo Storioni violin dating from 1794.



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