

MINEO HAYASHI • virtuoso cellist • master teacher



No one would dispute that Mineo Hayashi is a true master of the cello. His music, full of warmth and vitality, is rooted in a flawless technical command of the instrument and a deep knowledge of music. His is a true artistry which captivates and moves the listener and seems to have a purifying influence on the soul.

For decades he has created astonishing projects which have provoked an enormous response in many quarters. One recalls in particular the memorable set of concerts in which he played all of Bach's *Six Suites for Solo Violoncello* in a single evening at 17 different locations throughout Japan to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of J. S. Bach. And the concerts he gave on two consecutive evenings, bathed in moonlight, in the Oya Caves of Tochigi Prefecture.

Mineo Hayashi was born in Tokyo and began studying with Yoshio Sato, the first oriental student of Pablo Casals, using the Suzuki Method. Hideo Saito of the Toho Gakuen School of Music was his next instructor. In 1971 he moved to Europe to study with Guy Fallot at the Geneva *Conservatoire* where he graduated with the *premier prix*. His debut as a soloist in Europe came the following year with the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra. In 1975 Mr. Hayashi won first prize at the prestigious Belgrade International Cello Competition.

In 1976 he gave his debut North American concerts, which were critically acclaimed, at Carnegie Hall in New York City and in Washington, D.C. The following year he was invited to Spain to represent Japan and perform at concerts commemorating the 100th anniversary of Pablo Casals' birth. Since 1976 he has often performed with leading European orchestras and, from his home base in Switzerland, given many recitals and chamber music concerts around the world. Each year he returns to Japan to appear as a cello soloist in recitals and with orchestras including the Japan Philharmonic, the Tokyo Philharmonic, the Tokyo Symphony, the Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony, the Osaka Philharmonic and the New Japan Orchestras.

At present he serves as Director of the Cello Department at the Suzuki Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto, Japan where he conducts master classes and trains another generation of Suzuki teachers. He has released a CD of the unaccompanied works for cello by Bach in Europe and Japan which garnered high praise and critical acclaim in magazines and elsewhere. To this day, he is regarded as one of Japan's finest cellists.

For details about Mineo Hayashi's upcoming Master Class in Ottawa, please contact:

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