

Prof. Alexander Suleiman

Violoncello

Alexander Suleiman studied with Eldar Issakadze, Daniil Shafran and Natalia Gutman. Suleiman is one of the most interesting and individual musicians of his generation. He has played with well-known orchestras throughout the world, where he has a reputation as an unusual and original interpreter. But in addition to these performances, he is also strongly motivated by cultural and political interests and is a committed ambassador of European musical culture to the Arab world, Jordan and Israel as well as Russia, the Caucasian countries, Asia, Africa and South America.

His passion for contemporary music and his comprehensive mastery of the complete repertoire before 1900 have turned him into an artistic personality who avoids well-trodden paths. He frequently performs cello concertos by leading composers of our time, such as Franz Hummel, Erik Sven Tueuer, Vaza Azarshvili, and Petris Vasks, many of which have dedicated works to him and many of which have been released as world premier recordings on CD. His brilliant improvisational skills have long been admired, especially by his fellow musicians. On his most recent CD "Trio Zero: Out of the Blue" (Label TYXart) they are presented to a larger audience for the first time. The CD has been nominated for the German Record Critics' Award in 2012.

Alexander Suleiman has not only won numerous competitions with his main instrument but also as a pianist in Germany, Spain, the USA and Korea. He was awarded the first prize in cello at the International Johannes Brahms Competition in Austria and has since been concertizing at international festivals such as the Kuhmo-Music Festival in Finland, the Oleg Kagan Music Festival, the YAE Festival in Vancouver, the Pax Vobiscum Festival in the Republic of Georgia, the Duxbury Music Festival, "Wörthersee Classics", and so on...

In addition to performances in Germany, the Netherlands, Palestine, China, and Korea, upcoming activities include his debut at the Concertgebouw Amsterdam and several CD productions with works for cello solo and cello and piano by L. van Beethoven, Franz Hummel and J. S. Bach for the label "TYXart".

Besides his passion for music and cello in particular Mr. Suleiman's life displays a variety of facets that include degrees in Mathematics, Physics, Latin, and ancient Greek. He is holding the black belt in Taekwondo and in his spare time he pursues his passion for tournament chess as well as close up magic as a distinguished Active Magician Member of the world renowned Magic Castle in L. A.

Following his position as a professor of cello at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles for numerous years Mr. Suleiman was appointed professor of cello at the University of Soochow, China and gives master classes worldwide. Being a frequent member of jury panels in international competitions his duties as a competition jury member in 2013 include several international competitions, amongst them the International Alice and Eleonore Schoenfeld String Competition in Hong Kong, as well as the 2nd China International Violin Making and Bow Making Competition in Beijing. Alexander Suleiman also participates and directs outreach programs, amongst which he has been honored with an appointment as artistic director of the Art Conquers Borders Academy in Bremen, Germany. The mandate of the academy is to train promising artists from developing countries. His duties commenced with a concert at the German House of Congress in Berlin. In March 2014 his newest CD "Atavistic Music" will be released on the label "TYXart"