

BIOGRAPHY

Yutaka Hayashi is one of the leading Japanese cellists. He is interested in works composed by cellists and since 2009 he has given recitals titled “Cellist - Composers Collection” several times a year.

He has already discovered more than 160 cellist composers and collected 800 pieces. From those, he selects excellent pieces for the enjoyment of current audiences and already performed more than 160 of them in public.

For his “Cellist - Composers Collection” recitals, he received numerous awards, including the National Arts Festival award of the Agency for Cultural Affairs (three times, in 2010, 2013 and 2016).

With the aim of cultivating the creative talents of young cellists, he organised the “Cellist - Composer Competition”, which featured D. Popper (in 2013), P. Tortelier (in 2014), A.F. Servais (in 2016) and G. Cassadó (in 2016).

In Kyoto in February 2018, under his leadership, Hayashi and four top cellists in Japan gave a Cello Ensemble concert consisting of only pieces by cellist composers.

The Servais Society in Belgium has invited him to play solo in the Servais Concert in November 2018.

Yutaka Hayashi was born in Nagoya in 1969 and received his first cello lessons from his father, Ryoichi Hayashi, cellist and music master. He continued his studies with Yasushi Horie and Keishi Miki at Tokyo University of the Arts and later studied with Christoph Henkel in the *Hochschule für Musik Freiburg*, where he got his master’s degree.

In 1993, at the age of 23, he was appointed principal cellist of the Osaka Philharmonic Orchestra and he won the first prize in the 62nd Music Competition of Japan that same year.

He has performed as a soloist with the Osaka Philharmonic Orchestra and other orchestras, and also plays a great deal of chamber music. He is a regular member of Izumi Sinfonietta Osaka (Director: Akira Nishimura) and String Quartet "Tbilisi" (Violin: George Babuadze, Ciprian Marinescu; Viola: Zaza Gogua).

He also spends time coaching young cellists and currently teaches at SOAI University and Kobe College.