

Professor TAKASHI SHIMIZU



Takashi Shimizu started studying the violin with Shigeru Tokunaga at the age of six, and then with Saburo Sumi at the age of nine. He won first prize in the Student Music Concours of Japan at the age of 10, and made his debut playing with the NHK Symphony Orchestra. Shimizu won first prize at the Music Competition of Japan at the age of seventeen. The following year, he went to the United States and studied under J. Heifetz. Shimizu learned the Russian and French style bowing with Michele Auclair with the advice of Heifetz. After that, he received support from Pierre Cardin and lived in his private residence. He won or took high places in many international competitions, and won the grand prix at the competition for winners of international competitions in France. The following year he studied with Yfrah Neaman with the advice of Auclair under the Japanese Government Overseas

Study Programs by the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Introduced by Neaman, Shimizu studied with Yehudi Menuhin, and Nathan Milstein. In the meantime he made his debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Yehudi Menuhin, which many critics praised as "a most unforgettable concert." Shimizu has performed with many British orchestras, such as the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, BBC Philharmonic, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, London Mozart Players, The Halle, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and Ulster Orchestra. He has also performed with Het Residentie Orkest, Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra, and other orchestras in Germany, Austria, Spain and Italy. In Eastern Europe, Shimizu has played with the State Academic Symphony Orchestra of Russia, Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra, Musica Viva Chamber Orchestra, George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra, Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra, and other orchestras in Romania, Poland, Ukraine, Montenegro and Moldova. In Asia he has performed with orchestras in Korea, Singapore, and China, This season's activities include performing with orchestras in Germany, Austria, Spain, Romania, Ukraine, Moldova, Korea and China, and recitals in Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Ukraine, Romania, Czech and Montenegro. In Japan, he has recently appeared only in the Beppu Argerich Music Festival, except educational activities. Shimizu teaches at Tokyo National University of the Arts and Toho College of Music in Japan, Methodist University, Temple University and The Manhattan School of Music in the US, Prague Conservatory in Czech, Royal College of Music in Stockholm, Sweden, New Bulgarian University, Kazakh National University of Arts, Institut Seni Indonesia (ISI) Yogyakarta, etc. He has served as jury in many international competitions including the Tchaikovsky, International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians, Queen Elisabeth, Hannover, Concours Long-Thibaud-Crespin, Sibelius, and Paganini competitions.