

MARKUS PLACCI, violin

"...as for depth and musical fantasy, he is second to no one"

"his fabulous, singing-like, romantic tone"

(Badische Neuste Nachrichten)

Praised for having "a magnificent personality, a superb energy, a total command and an extremely convincing taste" (La Libre Belgique), young Italian violinist Markus Placci is enjoying a growing international reputation that has already brought him solo appearances throughout Europe and the United States in renowned venues such as the Great Philharmonic Hall (Shostakovich Hall) and the Glinka Philharmonic Hall in St. Petersburg (Russia), the Kursaal in Baden-Baden, the Teatro Monumental in Madrid, the Auditori in Barcelona, the Teatro Comunale and Mozart Hall in Bologna, the Teatro Dal Verme in Milan, the Kennedy Center in Washington, Sanders Theater in Boston, and the Richardson Auditorium in Princeton.

Winner of the prestigious "XXVI Vittorio Veneto Competition" on a unanimous vote of the Jury presided by Maestro Bruno Giuranna, Mr. Placci is also the recipient of numerous other international awards and prizes such as the "Brahms Preis" and "Baden-Baden Philharmonie Foundation-Carl Flesch Preis" in Germany, and the "Jules C. Reiner Violin Prize" at Tanglewood. He was a top prize winner at the "Washington International Competition 2006".

Since his solo debut at age 13 with the *Bologna Symphony*, Mr. Placci has appeared in solo performances with major symphony orchestras like the *Barcelona Symphony*, the *Radio Television Orchestra of Spain* (RTVE), the *Baden-Baden Philharmonie*, the *Bologna Symphony*, Milan's *Pomeriggi Musicali Orchestra*, *Teatro San Carlo of Napoli Symphony*, the *Haydn Orchestra* of Bolzano, the *St. Petersburg State Academic Capella Orchestra*, the *Padova e del Veneto Orchestra*, among others.

In September 2005, collaborating with conductor Uwe Mund and the *RTVE Orchestra (Orchestra of the Radio-Television of Spain)*, Mr. Placci world premiered with great acclaim the Violin Concerto written by Catalan composer Jordi Cervelló. The concert was broadcasted live from Teatro Monumental in Madrid both on the radio and the national television (Tve2).

In 2007, Cervelló composed and dedicated to him his "Tre Pensieri" for violin and piano.

Mr. Placci is also an avid chamber musician, with performances that range from duo recitals in prominent concert seasons such as *Musica Insieme* and *Accademia Filarmonica Mozart* in Bologna, *Società del Quartetto* of Vicenza, *Asolo Musica*, *Steinway Hall* Boston, to trio appearances as a founding member of the *Fortuna Piano Trio* with K. Lee and M. Carbonara, which won the "Villegroze Academy Award 2007" in France, and toured South America (Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay).

He has also performed on many occasions in quartet, and quintet settings, collaborating with groups such as the *Mistral Chamber Society* (performances on *WGBH*), and the *Ludovico Contemporary Chamber Music Ensemble* in Boston.

His formal education started at the age of 10, when he entered the *Bologna Conservatory*. Here he was awarded the "Plata Award", and graduated with top grades, "Summa cum laude" and a "Special mention of Honour". He also studied in Lübeck (Germany) with Zakhar Bron, and in Boston with the late Zinaida Gilels at *The Boston Conservatory*. Here, he was awarded Full Scholarship and the "Michael A. Alaura Scholarship", and with the joint guidance of L. Stoltzman, I. Muresanu, and L. Chang he graduated with both a Graduate Performance Diploma (2004) and the prestigious Artist Diploma (2006).

Mr. Placci has also followed the precious ethical and musical advises of Mela Tenenbaum in New York.

Mr. Placci has recently been appointed as Violin Faculty at The Boston Conservatory.

Markus Placci is the son of two musicians and makes his home between Bologna, Italy and Boston. He plays on a 1871 J.B. Vuillaume violin, copy of the "Alard" Stradivari.