

ERIC GRATZ, BIOGRAPHY

2022-2023 SEASON

(UPDATED 4/10/22. PLEASE DESTROY ALL PREVIOUS MATERIALS. ANY ALTERATIONS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ARTIST)

Since his concerto debuts at the age of 14 in the United States, Spain, and Portugal, American violinist Eric Gratz has been celebrated as an exciting performer, known for his daring musical interpretations and impressive stylistic versatility. Equally desired as soloist, concertmaster, chamber musician, and teacher, he maintains a varied schedule that has taken him to four continents, performing in the world's great concert halls with leading musicians of our generation.

In 2013, at the age of 22, Gratz became the youngest concertmaster in North America, accepting the post with the San Antonio Symphony, and has since appeared numerous times as soloist with the orchestra in repertoire ranging from Bach to Kurt Weill. Additional solo appearances include The Cleveland Orchestra, The Phoenix Symphony, CityMusic Cleveland, Lexington Bach Festival Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra, Euclid Symphony, and Kings Symphony, with conductors Giancarlo Guerrero, David Danzmayr, Sebastian Lang-Lessing, Akiko Fujimoto, Noam Aviel, and Tito Muñoz. In demand as a guest concertmaster, he has appeared in recent seasons with the Santa Fe Opera and The Phoenix Symphony.

As a chamber musician and recitalist, Gratz's recent collaborators include Vadim Gluzman, Orion Weiss, Jeffrey Kahane, and Jeannette Sorrell. Notable festival/concert series appearances include Castleton Chamber Players, Mainly Mozart, Cactus Pear, Austin Chamber Music, Incontri Musicali, Musical Bridges Around the World, and Música Ocupa. His debut album of virtuoso works for violin and piano (*Eric Gratz*, with pianist Euntaek Kim) was released in 2016 on his own label. It charted at #11 on Billboard Classical, making it the top independent release in the United States for its first week. He has subsequently appeared on two other albums with San Antonio's Olmos Ensemble, *Olmos Live* (2016) and *Made In France* (2019), performing works by Harbison, Prokofiev, and Ravel.

Eric Gratz believes it is of the utmost importance to inspire the next generation of musicians, and maintains a private studio of advanced students. He has served on competition juries from local to national level, and is regularly invited to teach throughout the Texas university system. A prizewinner of national and international competitions, he holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, and his former teachers include Cho-Liang Lin, William Preucil, Linda Cerone, Claudia Shih, and Cynthia Stuart. Eric Gratz plays a violin by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume, c. 1840. For more information, please visit ericgratz.net.