

A violist of international reputation and President of the Curtis Institute of Music, **Roberto Díaz** follows in the footsteps of previous soloists/directors such as Rudolf Serkin, Gary Graffman, Efrem Zimbalist and Josef Hofmann. As a professor of viola at Curtis and former principal violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Mr. Díaz has already had a significant impact on American musical life and will continue to do so in his dual roles as performer and educator.

Recent performances include the Kansas City Symphony with Michael Stern, New World Symphony with Michael Tilson Thomas, Netherlands Philharmonic with Yakov Kreizberg, Philadelphia Orchestra with Gilbert Varga and the Bilbao Symphony with Juanjo Mena. In 2007, Roberto Díaz performed the Penderecki concerto at Carnegie Hall with Christoph Eschenbach and the Curtis Symphony Orchestra. Other orchestral engagements include the National Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Pops, Bavarian Radio Orchestra, Gulbenkian Orchestra, Orquesta Nacional de España, Russian State Symphony, Saarbrücken Radio Orchestra, and the Orquesta Simón Bolívar. He has collaborated with conductors such as Roberto Abbado, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Riccardo Chailly, Charles Dutoit, Richard Hickox, Christopher Hogwood, Peter Oundjian, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Gilbert Varga, Hugh Wolff and David Zinman. Mr. Díaz has also worked with important 20th and 21st Century composers including Edison Denisov, Krzysztof Penderecki, and Roberto Sierra.

His recording of transcriptions by William Primrose with pianist Robert Koenig (Naxos, 2006) received a Grammy nomination for Best Instrumental Soloist Performance without Orchestra. Other critically acclaimed releases include a live recording of Jacob Druckman's Viola Concerto with the Philadelphia Orchestra conducted by Mr. Sawallisch (New World Records, 2001) and works by Henri Vieuxtemps for viola and piano (Naxos, 2004).

An active chamber musician, Roberto Díaz has performed with artists such as the Emerson String Quartet, Emanuel Ax, Yefim Bronfman, Christoph Eschenbach, Yo-Yo Ma, Wolfgang Sawallisch, and Isaac Stern. His festival appearances include Kuhmo, Marlboro, Mostly Mozart at Lincoln Center, Spoleto, and Verbier, among many others. As a member of the Díaz Trio, with violinist Andrés Cárdenes and cellist Andrés Díaz, he has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, and Chile. The trio was one of two ensembles invited by Isaac Stern to participate in a special concert celebrating the next one hundred years of music-making at Carnegie Hall. The Díaz Trio is currently an ensemble in-residence at the Brevard Music Festival.

Roberto Díaz was principal violist of the National Symphony under Mstislav Rostropovich, a member of the Boston Symphony under Seiji Ozawa, and a member of the Minnesota Orchestra under Sir Neville Marriner. He has received numerous awards, including prizes at the Naumburg and Munich international viola competitions, and was featured on the cover of the January 2003 issue of *The Strad*.