

Cecilia Bernardini

Violinist

Dutch–Italian Cecilia Bernardini is considered to be one of the most versatile violinists of her generation, specializing in historically informed practice on period instruments.

Cecilia has performed in many of Europe's most prestigious concert halls, including the Royal Albert Hall, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Musikverein Vienna, Konzerthaus Berlin and Wigmore Hall, as a soloist or as a chamber musician or artistic director.

She has led/directed modern and period instrument ensembles including Ensemble Zefiro, Ensemble Pygmalion, Arcangelo, Vox Luminis, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Barokkanerne, Holland Baroque Society, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Camerata Salzburg.

In 2012 Cecilia was appointed leader of the Dunedin Consort (John Butt). She features regularly as a soloist and appears on their critically acclaimed recordings of Bach's St. John Passion, Brandenburg Concertos and the award-winning Mozart Requiem. Recent releases with the Dunedin Consort include Bach's Violin Concertos, Christmas Oratorio and Magnificat.

A keen chamber musician, she forms a duo with fortepianist Keiko Shichijo and is a member of the fortepiano trio “Soldat” and the Quartetto Bernardini. She performed at numerous festivals over the world, including the Edinburgh Festival, Salzburger Festspiele, Bath Festival, Utrecht Early Music Festival, Great Mountains Festival in Korea, Festival de Sablé, Bruges Early Music Festival, Malta Early Music Festival, Thuringer Bachwochen, Misteria Paschalia in Krakow.

Recent engagements include several appearances at the Wigmore Hall in London, both as an orchestral leader and as a soloist (Bach violin concertos with Dunedin Consort), performances at the Bruges Early Music Festival (Biber's Rosary sonatas with Richard Egarr) and the complete Bach unaccompanied sonatas at the Bath Early Music Festival 2017. Recent recordings releases include the duos for violin and harp by Louis Spohr with harpist Masumi Nagasawa, 17th century violin sonatas with lutenist Matthew Wadsworth and the solo violin role in a recording of the complete Brandenburg Concertos with Ensemble Zefiro.

Cecilia plays a 1643 Nicolo Amati violin kindly loaned by the Netherlands Music Instrument Foundation.