

**Joseph Johnson** has been heard throughout the world as a soloist, chamber musician and educator. His festival appearances include performances in all classical genres at the American festivals of Santa Fe, Bach Dancing and Dynamite Society, Bard, Cactus Pear, Grand Teton, and Music in the Vineyards as well as the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan, and the Virtuosi Festival in Brazil.

Mr. Johnson has served as Principal Cellist for the Toronto Symphony since the 2009/2010 season. Concerto highlights with the Toronto Symphony include performances of the Dvorak Concerto, Saint-Saens Concerto, Tchaikovsky Rococo Variations, Brahms Double Concerto with Jonathan Crow, Beethoven Triple Concerto with Jan Lisiecki and Jonathan Crow, Schumann Concerto, and Strauss Don Quixote. Other recent recital and concerto appearances include the Brahms Double Concerto with Robert Uchida and Symphony Nova Scotia, CPE Bach Concerto in a minor at University of Toronto, Sofia Gubaidulina "Seven Words" Concerto for cello, accordion (bayan) and strings at the Eastman School of Music, and the Shostakovich Cello Concerto with the Niagara Symphony.

A champion of new Music, Joseph has played the Canadian Premiere of the Unsuk Chin Cello Concerto with the Esprit Orchestra, Canadian Premiere of the Miguel del Aguila Cello Concerto with the Toronto Symphony and Edmonton Symphony, North American Premiere of the Peter Oetvos Cello Concerto with the Toronto Symphony, and the Marc-Andre Dalbavie Cello Concerto with the Esprit Orchestra. Next year he is scheduled to give the World Premiere of the Emilie Lebel Cello Concerto with the Toronto Symphony.

As well as being Principal Cellist of the Toronto Symphony, Mr. Johnson previously held the same position with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. He also serves as Principal Cellist of the Santa Fe Opera, and during the 2008-2009 season, was acting Principal Cellist of the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Johnson has performed as guest Principal Cellist with the San Francisco Symphony, Detroit Symphony, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and Trondheim Symphony. Prior to his Milwaukee appointment, Joseph Johnson was a member of The Minnesota Orchestra cello section for eleven

years. He was a founding member of both the Prospect Park Players and the Minneapolis Quartet, the latter of which was honoured with The McKnight Foundation Award in 2005.

This year, Mr. Johnson was named the cellist for the New Orford String Quartet.

A gifted and inspiring teacher, Mr. Johnson is the newly appointed Associate Professor of Cello at the Eastman School of Music. He previously held the position of Associate Professor of Cello at the University of Toronto. Mr. Johnson was the cello coach for the Toronto Youth Symphony for ten years, and is a regular coach and teacher at the New World Symphony in Miami. He has conducted numerous master classes for a wide range of institutions and ensembles, including The Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, Eastman School of Music, Manhattan School of Music, Northwestern University, the youth orchestras of the Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Chicago, Madison, and Toronto symphonies, as well as The Glenn Gould School of The Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto.

A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Joseph Johnson earned his Master's degree from Northwestern University. Awards and honours include a performer's certificate from the Eastman School of Music and first prize from the American String Teachers Association National Solo Competition.

Mr. Johnson performs on a magnificent J.B. Vuillaume cello crafted in 1840.