Mazumi Tanamura, *Viola*

Mazumi Tanamura was born in Kyoto and, having studied the violin since the age of six, graduated from Tokyo’s prestigious Toho Gakuen School of Music. He is the laureate of numerous competitions, including the 1974 Min-On Competition in chamber music division, the Saito Hideo Award and the 1977 Geneva International Music Competition (2nd Prize, Viola Division). In 1976, Mazumi went to Italy to acquire further training with Piero Farulli, and came to the attention of Riccardo Muti who immediately engaged him as Principal Violist of the Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino.  
He gave many performances at the Music Festivals in Geneva and many others places in Europe as well as performed with the acclaimed Kiri Quintet. Upon his return to Japan in 1984, his first engagement was with the Yomiuri Japan Symphony Orchestra (YJSO). Upon retirement from the YJSO in 2001, he immediately accepted a new position as Principal Violist at NHK Symphony Orchestra whilst also performing with Saito Kinen Orchestra and the Mito Chamber Orchestra. Known as a popular guest soloist and chamber musician, he constantly shows up at many festivals throughout Japan, in addition to the Miyazaki, Kirishima and Kurashiki festivals and the “Viola Space” and he has released several CSs, with the pieces of Brahms, Schubert and 20th century music by H. Hayashi.  
Currently he had formed ‘Virtuoso Quartet’ with the top member of the NHK Symphony Orchestra and actively performing with the string quartets of B. Baltok as the most important repertoire of them.  
Teaching as a Professor at the Toho Gakuen School of Music and at the Tokyo College of Music.