Augustin Dumay

Violinist & Conductor

International critics have compared Augustin Dumay to the great violinists of the 20th century, describing him as a “great classical stylist”. At young age, heard by Nathan Milstein, he received his praise: *“I believe he will take his place amongst the great violinists of the year 2000”*. He then went on to work in Brussels with Arthur Grumiaux for five years.

He performed regularly with the world’s finest orchestras – the Berliner Philharmoniker, Orchestre National de France, London Symphony, Royal Concertgebouw, etc. with such conductors as Frans Brüggen, Sir Colin Davis, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Charles Dutoit, Kurt Masur, Seiji Ozawa, Kurt Sanderling, Evgeny Svetlanov, Yuri Temirkanov and others.

Over the last ten years, in parallel to his international career as a violinist, Augustin Dumay has also become very active as a conductor, both on stage and on disc. He is regularly invited to conduct orchestras such as the English Chamber Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia Varsovia and New Japan Philharmonic. From 2003-2013, he was Music Director of the Royal Chamber Orchestra of Wallonia (Belgium) and then Principal Guest Conductor until 2015. Since 2011, he has been Music Director of the Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra (Osaka, Japan). In 2015, under his baton, the KPO toured Europe for the first time, and visited Germany (Tonhalle Düsseldorf and Mozartfest Würzburg), Switzerland (Fondation Gianadda) and Italy (Festival Pianistico Internazionale di Brescia e Bergamo).

After a double CD presenting three aspects of his life as a musician – soloist, conductor and chamber musician, with Beethoven’s Violin Concerto and Symphony no. 8, as well as Brahms’ String Sextet no. 1 – his latest recording released in May 2016, he released the Bartók’s Concerto no. 2 with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and Kent Nagano.