

## **JOSHUA BELL**

### **VIOLIN**

Music Director of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields since 2011, making him the first artist to hold this position since Sir Neville Marriner formed the orchestra in 1958; Joshua Bell is one of the most solicited and well known violinists of our time, equally as soloist, chamber musician, recording artist and orchestra leader.

Bell's 2015/16 Season included a South American and European tour with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, appearances with the Johannesburg Philharmonic and Starlight Classics in South Africa, performances in New York and Shanghai with the New York Philharmonic, back in the USA, appearances with Houston, St. Louis, Detroit and Indianapolis Symphony orchestras, three concerts as guest soloist with the New York Philharmonic with Alan Gilbert, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Centennial season celebration conducted by Marin Alsop and recital tours with pianist Sam Haywood in USA and in Europe; he also toured in Europe with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, appeared with the Orchestre de Paris and the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Paavo Jarvi; in Asia a recital tour with Alessio Bax and in the Middle East a tour with the Israel Philharmonic with Michael Stern. He performed at the festivals of Verbier, Tanglewood, Mostly Mozart and Saratoga.

An exclusive Sony Classical artist, Bell has recorded more than 40 CDs since his first LP recording at age 18 on the Decca Label, winning Grammy, Mercury, Gramophone and Echo Klassik awards. In 2014 he released a Bach album recorded with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, their previous release of the Beethoven 4th and 7th symphonies debuted at Nr.1 on the Billboard charts. To increase violin repertoire, Bell has premiered new works by Nicholas Maw, John Corigliano, Aaron Jay Kernis, Edgar Meyer, Behzad Ranjbaran and Jay Greenberg. He also performs and has recorded his own cadenzas to most of the major violin concertos.

At age four he received his first violin, by age twelve he was serious about the instrument, thanks to Josef Gingold, his mentor; two years later, Bell made his debut with Riccardo Muti and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Named "Indiana Living Legend" and recipient of the Indiana Governor's Arts Award, Bell has received many accolades, including his induction at the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame (2005), Avery Fisher Prize (2007), Academy of Achievement Award by Education Through Music (2008), "Instrumentalist of the Year" by Musical America and the Humanitarian Award from Seton Hall University (2010), the Paul Newman Award from Arts Horizons and the Huberman Award from Moment Magazine (2011), honored by the National YoungArts Foundation (2012) and by the New York Chapter of The Recording Academy (2013).

Recognized by the World Economic Forum as a Young Global Leader (2003), Bell serves on the artist committee of the Kennedy Center Honors, the New York Philharmonic Board of Directors, and Education Through Music. Bell performs on the 1713 Huberman Stradivarius violin and uses a late 18<sup>th</sup> century French bow by François Tourte.