

MIDORI

VIOLIN

Violinist Midori was born in Osaka, Japan, in 1971, and began studying the violin with her mother, Setsu Goto. Zubin Mehta first heard Midori play in 1982 and invited her to debut with the New York Philharmonic at their traditional New Year's Eve concert, since then, she has become one of the most legendary violinists of this generation.

In addition to performing all over the world, in 1992 she founded Midori & Friends, a non-profit organization in New York to bring music education programs for children in economic disadvantage; she also collaborates with Music Sharing, based in Japan, and Partners in Performance, based in US. She was recognized by the World Economic Forum for her commitment to education throughout USA, Europe and Asia, and in 2007 she was named Messenger of Peace by the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

On her commitment to the violin repertoire, Midori has commissioned several new concerto and recital works throughout her career. She has also added several new recordings to her extensive catalogue of discs – a recording of Bach's complete Solo Sonatas and Partitas and a forthcoming release of the violin concerto DoReMi written for her by Peter Eötvös and recorded with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France. In 2014, a recording featuring Midori's performance of Hindemith's Violin Concerto with NDR Symphony Orchestra and Christoph Eschenbach won a Grammy Award for Best Classical Compendium.

Midori lives in Los Angeles, where she continues her position as Distinguished Professor of Violin and Jascha Heifetz Chair at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. She plays a Guarnerius del Gesù "ex-Huberman" violin from 1734 and uses three bows, two from Dominique Peccatte and one by Paul Siefried.