

MARC COPPEY

Music Director – Zagreb Soloists
Artist-in-Residence – Orquestra Sinfónica do Porto Casa da Música
Artistic Director – Saline Royale et Académie d’Arc-et-Senans
Artistic Director – Les Musicales de Colmar

”Coppey’s bow knows to uncover rare accents !”

”A sensual and full-blown sound – Marc Coppey is rightly part of the great tradition of French cellists”



Recognised for his celebrated interpretations as soloist, his extensive exploration of chamber music with some of the finest musicians today, and a dedication to widening the cello literature, Marc Coppey is considered to be one of the world’s leading cellists – in addition, now with a growing reputation as a fine conductor on the international podium.

A protégé of Yehudi Menuhin and Mstislav Rostropovich, Coppey first shot to international acclaim at the age of 18, winning First Prize and ‘Prize for the Best Bach Performance’ at the prestigious Leipzig Bach Competition (1988). Soon thereafter, he made major debuts in Paris and Moscow in collaboration with Yehudi Menuhin and Victoria Postnikova (captured on film by the celebrated director Bruno Monsaingeon), and performed at the Evian Festival by personal invitation of Mstislav Rostropovich. Since then, Coppey has carved out an impressive solo career to date, working regularly with many of the world’s finest orchestras and conductors – including, amongst others, Alain Altinoglu, Lionel Bringuier, Lawrence Foster, Alan

Gilbert, Kirill Karabits, Emmanuel Krivine, John Nelson, Pascal Rophé, Yan Pascal Tortelier, and Yutaka Sado.

The breadth of Coppey’s repertoire is testament to his profound musical curiosity: alongside mainstream cello literature, he is a champion of lesserknown and contemporary works. He has given the world premieres of cello concerti by such celebrated composers as Jacques Lenot, Marc Monnet, Eric Tanguy, and the French premieres of works by Elliott Carter, Mantovani, and Erkki-Sven Tüür. Amongst those composers to have dedicated works to Coppey are such leading voices as Lera Auerbach, Christophe Bertrand, Hugues Dufourt, Frédéric Durieux, Ivan Fedele, Philippe Fénelon, Philippe Hurel, Michael Jarrell, Betsy Jolas, Frank Krawczyk, Philippe Leroux, François Meïmoun, Brice Pauset, Enno Poppe, Thierry Pécou, Michèle Reverdy, Johannes Maria Staud, and Frédéric Verrières.

Recent and forthcoming highlights include performing as soloist with Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse/Lio Kuokman, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio-France/Kazushi Ono, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg/John Nelson, and the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra/Lawrence Foster.

As conductor, Coppey collaborates with the Deutsche Kammerakademie and the Orchestre Royal de Chambre de Wallonie, amongst other leading ensembles, and serves as Music Director of the Zagreb Soloists (2011-present). 2021 marked Coppey’s first year as Artist-in-Residence with the Orquestra Sinfónica do Porto Casa da Música, performing Dutilleux (with John Storgårds), Dvořák (with Vassily Sinaisky), and Elgar (with Michael Sanderling), alongside Rhim (with Peter Rundel) and Shostakovich No.1 (with Stefan Blunier).

Coppey is a much acclaimed recording artist, working exclusively with the audite classics label. 2021 saw the release of Shostakovich: Cello Concertos (with Polish Radio Symphony/Lawrence Foster), and 2022 saw the release of Kodály: Music for Solo Cello, and The French Cello (Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg/John Nelson). All three albums received exceptional reviews, universally placing Coppey on a par with the greatest cellists in history.

Coppey's recordings have received exultant critical acclaim, including a Diapason d'Or and "Choc" in the Monde de la Musique for his recording of the Dutilleux Cello Concerto (with Orchestre Philharmonie de Liège/Pascal Rophé), and the highly sought after "ffff" from Télérama, amongst other awards. Coppey has also recorded extensively for the Accord/Universal, Aeon/Outhere, Decca, Harmonia Mundi, K617, Mirare, and Naïve record labels. In the streaming sphere, Coppey's performances can be found on both Arte.tv and Medici.tv.

Passionate about inspiring future generations of musicians, Coppey is a Professor at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris, and is regularly invited to give masterclasses across Europe, Asia, and both North & South America.

Since October 2020, he is the Artistic Director of the Saline Royale Academy d'Arc-et-Senans : a state-of-the-art new music education facility in France.

Marc Coppey is also a passionate chamber musician, and former member of the Ysaÿe Quartet (1995-2000). He now serves as Artistic Director of the annual Festival Les Musicales de Colmar. Coppey collaborates regularly with such luminary pianists as Nelson Goerner, Stephen Kovacevich, Kun-Woo Paik, and Maria-João Pires, leading string players including Ilya Gringolts, Vadim Gluzman, Viktoria Mullova, Alina Pogostikina, and Lawrence Power, and the internationally acclaimed flautist Emmanuel Pahud. Coppey's regular sonata partner is esteemed Russian pianist Peter Laul.

Marc Coppey performs on a cello by Matteo Goffriller (Venice, 1711), known as the 'Van Wilgenburg'.