

NATALIA PRISHEPENKO

VIOLIN

Born in Siberia in 1973, Natalia Prishepenko studied with her mother, Tamara Prishepenko, an eminent pedagogue in the Soviet Union, who still is her mentor and adviser today. Nurtured on the rich musical and cultural life then current in the former Soviet Union, she had played in all the leading concert halls in the USSR, and had already won important prizes such as those of the Wieniawski International Competition and the All Union Competition, before coming to Europe in 1988, completing her studies at the Musikhochschule Lübeck with David Geringas.

Her potency, naturalness, and musicality, her brilliant technique and her freshness, were immediately recognised in Europe, and during the following years she came to prominence also because of her successes in three of the most prestigious international competitions: the Paganini in 1990, the Tokyo in 1992, and the Reine Élisabeth de Belgique in 1993.

For over eighteen years from 1994 to 2012 Natalia Prishepenko was first violin of the Artemis Quartet, which she shaped through her energy, and distinctive sound that became its trademark and made it so successful. Her energy helped the group entering the international arena soon after winning first prize at the ARD Competition in 1996 and the Premio Borciani a year and a half later. Since its successful debut at the Berlin Philharmonie in 1999, the quartet has played in all the leading concert halls and international festivals of Europe, the United States, Japan, South America, and Australia.

In this musical and artistic symbiosis, Natalia Prishepenko carries with her the teachings of Walter Levin, the Alban Berg, Juilliard, and Emerson Quartets, Alfred Brendel, and David Geringas; the results of a direct contact with composers such as Kurtág, Lachenmann, Lutosławski, Nono, and Ligeti; and the musical exchange with artists like Sabine Meyer, Elisabeth Leonskaja, Juliane Banse, Jörg Widmann, Leif Ove Andsnes, Truls Mørk, Thomas Kakuska, Valentin Erben, and the Alban Berg Quartet.

From this 'life project', as Natalia Prishepenko likes to call it, this exceptional violinist has left us an extensive discography on Virgin Classics/EMI, which has been saluted by prestigious prizes, including the Gramophone Award, the Diapason d'Or, and the Echo-Klassik-Preis. And to round things off, the project 'Beethoven Complete' won the Grand Prix de l'Académie Charles Cros in France.

Teaching is one of the numerous talents of this artist. As a professor at the Hochschule für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden and teacher of numerous masterclasses, Natalia Prishepenko is carrying out the valuable task of training the soloists of the future, not just by passing on to them a solid schooling in violin playing, but also by encouraging them to develop their characters. She gets also frequently invited to become jury member at significant competitions for chamber music (Premio Borciani, Robert-Schumann-Wettbewerb, Internationaler Musikwettbewerb Bayreuth) and violin (Concours Reine Elisabeth, Internationaler Musikwettbewerb der ARD).

Natalia plays a violin by 'Joseph (figlio Andrea) Guarneri', generously loaned to her by Ms Barbara Westphal.

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Please contact Claudia Bering Artists if you wish to edit this biography