

JAN MRÁČEK (ENG)

Jan Mráček, an internationally acclaimed violin soloist, chamber musician, and concertmaster of the Czech Philharmonic, stands out as one of the leading figures on today's musical stage. A laureate of numerous competitions both at home and abroad, Mráček's career gained remarkable momentum in 2014 when he triumphed at the prestigious Fritz Kreisler International Violin Competition in Vienna, one of the world's most highly regarded music contests. His accomplishments also include becoming the youngest laureate of the Prague Spring International Competition in 2010 and the youngest soloist with the Czech Radio Symphony Orchestra the following year. In 2020, he was awarded the Classical Prague Award for Best Solo Performance of the Year and, in 2021, received the Jiří Bělohlávek Award, given annually to outstanding musicians under the age of thirty.

The upcoming 2024/25 concert season holds more significant milestones for Mráček. He has been invited by conductor Franz Welser-Möst to join The Cleveland Orchestra as a guest concertmaster. In November 2024, he will perform Dvořák's Violin Concerto in A minor in Toronto, Canada, accompanied by the Czech Philharmonic under the baton of Semyon Bychkov. In February 2025, Mráček will take the stage as a soloist at the Béla Bartók National Concert Hall in Budapest with the Budapest Festival Orchestra, conducted by Jakub Hrůša. His spring 2025 solo tour will bring him to France, performing under conductor Tomáš Netopil in collaboration with the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire. Further highlights include two concerts in Wels, Austria, and Bern, Switzerland, accompanied by the Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, promising unforgettable experiences for European audiences.

The year 2022 marked another milestone in Mráček's career. He performed as a soloist with the Czech Philharmonic under conductors Franz Welser-Möst and Wayne Marshall, and in May that year, he served as a guest concertmaster with the Berlin Philharmonic. His November 2023 debut of Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto at the famed Suntory Hall with the Tokyo Philharmonic, followed by a recital tour in China, garnered significant acclaim. During the same year, he was invited for the third consecutive time to perform with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra under Jakub Hrůša. He also made his debut with renowned conductor Sir John Eliot Gardiner and performed with the Neubrandenburger Philharmonie under Howard Griffiths. In the 2023/24 season, Mráček excelled as a soloist in the world premiere of the orchestral adaptation of Bedřich Smetana's *From My Homeland*, arranged by Tomáš Ille (1971, arr. 2023) for violin and orchestra. This performance, in collaboration with the Czech Philharmonic and conducted by Jakub Hrůša at the Smetana's Litomyšl International Music Festival, once again highlighted Mráček's exceptional interpretative skills and deep understanding of Czech musical heritage.

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**Mráček is regularly invited to collaborate with leading conductors, including Semyon Bychkov, Jakub Hrůša, Sir Simon Rattle, Franz Welser-Möst, David Robertson, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Vladimir Fedoseyev, Petr Popelka, Keith Lockhart, Tomáš Netopil, Maxim Vengerov, Jordan de Souza, Elim Chan, James Judd, Howard Griffiths, Petr Altrichter, Han-Na Chang, and others. **

As a soloist, he has performed with a wide range of world-renowned orchestras. He made his London debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and in the United States, he has performed with the St. Louis Symphony and Florida Orchestra. He has also joined the Wiener Concert-Verein on international tours to Dubai, Slovenia, and China. His concerts in Tokyo with the Asian Youth Orchestra and in Zurich's Tonhalle with the Tchaikovsky Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Vladimir Fedoseyev, were met with enthusiastic acclaim. Other notable performances include engagements with the L'Opera National de Lorraine in France, the KKL Luzern Camerata Schweiz in Switzerland, the Daejeon Philharmonic in Korea, the MDR Leipzig Radio Symphony Orchestra, ORF Radio-Symphonieorchester Wien, Kuopio Symphony Orchestra, National Radio Orchestra of Romania, Lappeenranta City Orchestra, Sønderjyllands Symfoniorkester, Borusan Istanbul Philharmonic Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic, and many of the leading orchestras in his native Czech Republic.

**During the 2015 summer tour, Mráček served as concertmaster of the European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO) under the baton of Gianandrea Noseda and Xian Zhang. Later, at the invitation of conductor Jiří Bělohlávek, he assumed the position of concertmaster with the Czech Philharmonic, leading their tours across multiple countries. **

Mráček is also a member of the Lobkowitz Trio, which won first prize and the audience award at the 2014 Johannes Brahms International Competition. The ensemble's latest CD, featuring works for piano trio by Beethoven and Voříšek, was recorded under the direction of Petr Popelka and recently released by Rubicon Classics. Mráček's complete recordings of Antonín Dvořák's works for violin, performed with the Czech National Symphony Orchestra under James Judd and pianist Lukáš Klánský, received outstanding reviews. In 2022, he recorded Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 2 with the Vienna ORF Orchestra and Howard Griffiths, and he is currently preparing a new album featuring works by Suk, Mendelssohn, and Schubert.

Mráček received his musical education under the guidance of Jiří Fišer, Jan Pospíchal at the MDW in Vienna, and Leoš Čepický. He performs on a 1770 Nicolò Gagliano violin, generously loaned to him by the Fidula Foundation.