

ALEXANDER NICHOLLS

VIOLONCELLIST



BIOGRAPHY

Alexander Nicholls is an Australian historically-inspired violoncellist, specialising in 18th and 19th century cello performance practices. He has completed a Bachelor of Music Performance (UWA), a Bachelor of Music Studies with First Class Honours (USyd) and holds a Master of Music in Historical Performance from The Juilliard School.

He has worked as principal cellist under the direction of Jordi Savall, William Christie, Masaaki Suzuki, and Nicholas McGegan and toured extensively both internationally and domestically. He has also been an active participant in a variety of historically-informed ensembles in Australia including The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, Australian Romantic and Classical Orchestra, and The Orchestra of the Antipodes.

He is an avid researcher in the area of historical performance practice and is currently working on original research focusing on the compositional musical practices of the 18th and 19th centuries, and how they relate to the performance of music.

Currently resident in Berlin, he is keen to explore performance (Orchestra / Chamber Ensemble / Solo) and academic opportunities.

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RECENT CONCERTS

Germany

Freitagsakademie Berlin „Nachmittags mit Janitsch“ (Potsdam, Germany)
Berliner Dom Choir and Orchestra „Du aber Daniel“ Telemann Trauer Kantate (Berlin, Germany)
Immelmann Ensemble, Court of Freidrich der Große (Potsdam, Germany)
Titans rising „Judicium Salomonis“ — Die Stärke der Mutterliebe (Berlin, Germany)

France

Les Arts Florissants, Le Jardin des Voix (Thiré France)

United States

Wartermark Ensemble 'Dragonetti's Ancient Academy' (Baldhead Island, USA)
Bourbon Baroque 'A Day at the Races' (NYC, USA)
Trinity Wall Street 'St Matthew Passion' (NYC, USA)
Trinity Wall Street 'Handel's Messiah' performance and recording (NYC, USA)

ORCHESTRAS AND ENSEMBLES

Principal Cellist

Universität der Kunst Berlin Alte Musik Ensemble • 2016
Trinity Baroque Orchestra • 2015–16
Juilliard415 • 2014–16
University of Western Australia String Orchestra • 2011
Swan Philharmonic • 2011
Ironwood Ensemble Early Music Ensemble • 2010 & 2011
University of Western Australia Symphony Orchestra • 2011 & 2012
Conservatorium High School Symphony Orchestra • 2008

Associate Principal Cellist

Les Arte Florissants Thire Festival Orchestra • 2016
Trinity Baroque Orchestra • 2015–16
Juilliard415 • 2014–16
The Orchestra Seventeen88 Premiere Concert • 2013
Ironwood Ensemble • 2011 Emerging Artists Concert • St James, Sydney
Ironwood Ensemble Early Music Ensemble • 2010 & 2011
University of Western Australia Symphony Orchestra • 2009 & 2010

Cellist

Orchestra of the Antipodes: ABC Classics recording • 2013
Australian Brandenburg Orchestra: Mozart the Great Concert series (Sydney & Melbourne tour) • 2013
Australian Brandenburg Orchestra: Beautiful Minds Concert series (Sydney & Melbourne tour) • 2012
Wallfisch Band and Guests in Concert: Marvels and Delights and Bach B Minor Mass • Canberra International Music Festival • 2012
Collegium Classical Orchestra, under Paul Wright and Margaret Pride • 2011
Festival Baroque Ensemble, under Joseph Nolan and Paul Wright • 2011
Early Music Ensemble of the Sydney Conservatorium of Musi • 2008

EDUCATION

Master of Historical Performance

Historically Informed Violoncello

2014–2016 • The Juilliard School, New York

Bachelor of Music Studies (Honours)

Historically Informed Violoncello

2013 • Conservatorium of Music, Sydney

Bachelor of Music Performance

Violoncello

2012 • University of Western Australia, Perth

MUSIC AWARDS

Goethe Institute Boston Bach Cello Competition 2016

Wood Study Study Scholarship 2014–16

Mandelbaum Study Scholarship 2014–16

Juilliard Historical Performance Scholarship 2014–16

Sydney Conservatorium Honours Scholarship 2013

Ironwood Ensemble Emerging Artists Programme 2011 and 2012

'Cello Scholarship to the REMSWA Early Music Festival 2010

UWA Flora Bunning Memorial Prize for Chamber Music Performance 2010

Reuben F Scarf Award for Commitment (CHS) 2008

Conservatorium High School Scholarship 2007

First place Chamber Music in National Eisteddfod Canberra, Australia (under 18) 2006

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The Juilliard School Alumni

The Australian Brandenburg Orchestra

Convocation of Graduates of The University of Western Australia

Georgian Alumni of St George's College, Perth