



## Pavle Zajcev

Pavle Zajcev (Zagreb, 1976) graduated in cello in 1998 at the Music Academy in Zagreb in the class of prof. Valter Dešpalj, after which he continued his studies at the postgraduate study at the Music Academy in Basel in the class of prof. Ivan Monighetti.

He has performed as a soloist with the Zagreb Philharmonic, the Zagreb Soloists, the HRT Symphony Orchestra, the Croatian Chamber Orchestra, the Varaždin Chamber Orchestra and the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra.

He was a finalist at the 2nd International Cello Competition 'Antonio Janigro' in 2000 in Zagreb. Next year, 2001, he premiered a concerto for cello and strings by Pavle Dešpalj with the Zagreb Soloists, and he recorded it with the HRT Symphony Orchestra in December under the direction of the composer. For this performance he was awarded the Porin prize for best performance.

As a chamber musician, he performed in various ensembles, and in 1997 he founded the Zagreb Piano Trio together with pianist Srebrenka Poljak and violinist Vlatko Peljhan. With the trio, he won the 'Darko Lukić' Tribune in 1998 and won the second prize at the international competition of chamber ensembles' C. Hennen 'in the Netherlands. In September 2000, the Trio won first prize at the first TICC International Chamber Music Competition in the Norwegian city of Trondheim. The trio has given concerts in Croatia, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Slovenia, Serbia, Israel and Norway. From 2010-2014 under the name Zagreb trio, which consists of Martin Draušnik (violin), Danijel Detoni (piano) and Pavle Zajcev (cello) he performs at festivals in Trieste, Osor, Dubrovnik, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Warsaw and as part of the chamber music seminar in Weikersheim, Germany.

As a chamber musician, he has participated in many festivals and collaborated with artists such as Julian Rachlin, Mischa Maisky, Torleif Thedeen, Lawrence Power, Gordan Nikolić, Đuro Živković, Edin Karamazov, Pavao Mašić, Dmitrij Sinkovsky, Krešimir Stražanac, Krešimir Špicer and others.

Since 2010 he has been working as a regular associate of the Antiphonus ensemble under the direction of Tomislav Fačini.

From 2002-2010 he was a solo cellist in the HRT Symphony Orchestra, since 2005 he has been working as an assistant professor, and since 2013 as an associate professor of chamber music at the Music Academy in Zagreb.

He made his first conducting performance in 2011 with the String Orchestra of the Croatian Musical Youth in Grožnjan, whose conductor and artistic director he was from 2011-2014. During that period, he conducted the Samobor Strings, the strings of the HRT Symphony Orchestra and the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra, of which he is still a regular guest conductor. In 2017, he enrolled in the study of conducting at the Music Academy in Zagreb in the class of prof. Mladen Tarbuk and Tomislav Fačini, and as a first-year student he directed the performance of W.A. Mozart's opera 'Cosi fan tutte', the following season performances of G. Mahler's cycle of songs 'Des Knaben Wunderhorn', and this year two performances of the opera pasticcio 'Suor Angelica and other sisters'. As part of the choral festival Cro Patria 2018 in Split, he conducts 'Vespro della Beata Vergine' by C. Monteverdi with the ensemble Antiphonus. In December 2019, he achieved his first collaboration with the ensemble of the Croatian National Theater 'Ivan pl. Zajc' in Rijeka conducting a new production of the ballet 'The Nutcracker' by P. I. Tchaikovsky directed by Mauro de Candia. On the day marking the 250th anniversary of L. van Beethoven's birth, he conducted the HRT Symphony Orchestra in the Kanconijer cycle, with soprano Josipa Bilić and pianist Lovre Marušić performing as soloists.

In the beginning of October 2021, he made a very successful debut in the Blue Cycle of the Zagreb Philharmonic.