



DR. RAAB & DR. BÖHM
KÜNSTLERAGENTUR

Antoine Tamestit

Viola

Antoine Tamestit stands as a singular voice in the world of classical music, redefining what it means to be a viola player in the 21st century. Tamestit has captivated audiences and critics alike, bringing a fresh perspective to both beloved masterpieces and contemporary works. His unique artistry, marked by an unparalleled sensitivity and a profound connection to his instrument, places him among the most distinguished musicians of our time.



Tamestit opens the 25/26 season at the Tanglewood Music Festival in a recital with Leonidas Kavakos, Yo-Yo Ma, and Emanuel Ax followed by returns to London Symphony Orchestra, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, and Orchestre de la Suisse Romande. Further highlights include his debut with Filarmonica della Scala and Israel Philharmonic Orchestra; chamber residencies with LSO St. Luke's and SWR Linie 2; and the Finnish premiere of John Williams' Viola Concerto with the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra.

In recent seasons, Antoine has performed with orchestras including the Berlin Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, Wiener Symphoniker, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, and NHK Symphony Orchestra among many others. He performs regularly with major conductors including Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Daniel Harding, Paavo Järvi, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Sir Antonio Pappano, Kirill Petrenko, Sir Simon Rattle, Francois-Xavier Roth, Christian Thielemann, and Jaap van Zweden.

Among the most important pieces premiered by Antoine Tamestit are Jörg Widmann's Viola Concerto, Thierry Escaich's *La Nuit des Chants*, Bruno Mantovani's Concerto for Two Violas with Tabea Zimmermann, as well as Gérard Tamestit's *Sakura* and Olga Neuwirth's *Remnants of Songs* and *Weariness Heals Wounds*. In 23/24 season, he premiered Nikodijevich's *Psalmody* with the SWR Symphony Orchestra and Filidei's Viola Concerto with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra. A passionate advocate for new music, Tamestit believes that performing contemporary works is essential to keeping the viola repertoire vibrant and evolving—an artistic responsibility he embraces as both an interpreter and a collaborator.

He was a founding member of Trio Zimmermann with Frank Peter Zimmermann and Christian Poltera, performing in Europe's most prestigious concert halls for more than 10 years. As a passionate chamber musician, Antoine performs regularly with Emmanuel Ax, Martin Fröst, Leonidas Kavakos, Emmanuel Pahud, Yuja Wang, Shai Wosner, and the Quatuor Ébène. An ardent educator, he held professorships at the Musikhochschule in Cologne and the Paris Conservatoire and currently teaches at the Kronberg Academy.

Antoine Tamestit's acclaimed discography spans from cornerstone works by Bach, Berlioz, and Hindemith to contemporary concertos and chamber music. His award-winning recordings feature works by Brahms, Schubert, Schoenberg, Telemann and Widmann, capturing both historical depth and modern innovation. Most recently, he recorded Joe Hisaishi's newly written Viola Saga with Deutsche Grammophon.

Born in Paris, Tamestit studied with Jean Sulem, Jesse Levine, and with Tabea Zimmermann. In 2022, he received the prestigious Hindemith Prize of the City of Hanau in recognition of his contribution to contemporary landscape within classical music.

Antoine Tamestit plays on the very first viola made by Antonio Stradivarius in 1672, generously loaned by the Habisreutinger Foundation.

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