

Ivars Bezprozvanovs

(Latvia)

Ivars Bezprozvanovs began cello lessons at the age of five with Kārlis Bunka, a legendary Latvian conductor and cellist, long-standing music director of the Liepāja Theatre. While studying in Liepāja, the cellist has widely performed in the cities of Courland and won numerous prizes in national competitions. It is in his native town that his long-term collaboration with violinist Yuri Savkin began, with whom he continues to perform in a piano trio (together with pianist Mārtiņš Zilberts).

He went on to study at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music with Prof. Eleonora Testelets and was awarded second prizes in international cello competitions in Chisinau (Moldova) and Minsk (Belarus). From 1991 to 1993 he was member of the Latvian Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra under the artistic leadership of Tovijs Lifšics. Since 1997 he has been second principal cellist of the Latvian National Opera Orchestra and cello teacher at the Emīls Dārziņš Music School in Riga. He has been also active as a chamber musician and recording artist, collaborating frequently with many Latvian musicians, including pianists Pēteris Plakidis, Aldis Liepiņš, Dzintra Ērliha, Valdis Jancis, Liene Circene, flautist Ilona Meija, clarinetist Uldis Lipskis, and violinist Jānis Bulavs. As member of various chamber ensembles he has given concerts in Latvia, Germany, the Czech Republic, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Especially rewarding was his collaboration with Latvian-born Canadian pianist Arthur Ozolins, with whom he has twice appeared at the International Piano Stars Festival in Liepāja (2004 and 2006) and performed a recital at the Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto, Canada (2010). Most recently he has given master classes during the annual Salacgrīva Classical Music Festival founded by Russian violinist and principal first violin of the Moscow Virtuosi orchestra, Alexei Lundin.