

## **Martti Rousi**

(Finland)

One of the leading Finnish string players, Martti Rousi began his studies in his home town Turku and later with Arto Noras at the Sibelius Academy. He got a Fulbright – scholarship to study with Janos Starker at the Indiana University, winning the annual cello concerto competition there. He also had lessons with William Pleeth, Valter Deshpalj, and Natalia Gutman. In 1986 Rousi won Silver Medal at the prestigious Tchaikovsky competition in Moscow. Since then he has been performing with the leading Scandinavian and European orchestras like Helsinki, Stockholm and Oslo Radio symphonies, CBSO in Birmingham, Polish and Hungarian national symphonies, Copenhagen Philharmonic, Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfaltz, Shanghai and Johannesburg philharmonic orchestras. He often performs as soloist with chamber orchestras including Moscow, Munich, Ostrobothnia, Tallinn and Toulouse chamber orchestras. On the side of his solo career, Rousi is regularly playing at major chamber music festivals both in Europe and USA. He is the artistic director of Turku Music Festival and professor at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki.