



## GABRIEL CABEZAS, Violoncello

Born in Chicago in 1992, violoncellist Gabriel Cabezas commenced his music studies at age four. Cabezas has been portrayed as “...an intense player who connects to the music naturally, without artifice, and brings a singing line to the cello” (David Stabler, *The Oregonian*) and his debut performance with The Cleveland Orchestra described as a “...remarkably poised and elegant account, with superb attention to phrasing, nuance and tonal coloration” (Donald Rosenberg, *The Plain Dealer*).

Cabezas has performed as a guest soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the New World Symphony, the Florida Orchestra, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Nashville Symphony, the Rackham Symphony Choir and the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings, among others. In February 2007, Cabezas released “*Moyugba Orisha*,” his first compact disc with Portuguese pianist Alexandra Mascolo-David featuring a collection of Latin American works for violoncello and piano on the White Pine recording label. In March 2007, Cabezas’ first orchestral work entitled “*March*” premiered by the Northbrook Symphony under the direction of Lawrence Rapchak.

A zealous chamber musician, Cabezas has performed with artist Béla Fleck in the televised program “*From The Top – Live from Carnegie Hall*” and with the Sphinx Chamber Orchestra at “*The Sphinx Gala Concert*,” both at Carnegie Hall in New York City. He has made appearances on the National Public Radio (NPR) programs “*From The Top*,” New York’s “*Bargemusic*” and Chicago’s WFMT 98.7’s “*Introductions*,” as well as performances in Chicago’s “*Nichols Concert Hall’s Performance Series*,” “*Music in the Loft*,” “*Exploring Music Live with Bill McLaughlin*” and “*The Northeastern Illinois University’s Music Series*.” Also, Cabezas has performed at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center for the Arts with the Music Institute of Chicago’s “*Stars of the Academy*” tour in the spring of 2009. Most recently, Cabezas collaborated with Yo-Yo Ma at PBS’ “*The Tavis Smiley Show*” and ABC’s “*Good Morning America*.”

Cabezas is the recipient of the First Prize Award of the 2008 Chicago Symphony Orchestra Youth Auditions, the winner of the First Prize of the Low Strings Concerto Competition of the 2008 Aspen Music Festival and School, as well as the recipient of the Gold Medal of the Junior Division of the 2008 Fischhoff Chamber Music National Competition (The Quartet Polaris). Also, Cabezas is the First Prize Laureate of the Junior Division of the 2006 Sphinx National Competition, the Overall Performance Winner of the Midwest Young Artists Open Division of the 2005 Walgreens National Competition, the Bronze Medal Winner of the Junior Division of the 2005 Fischhoff Chamber Music National Competition (BAM String Quartet), and the Overall Performance Winner of the Midwest Young Artists Junior Division of the 2004 Walgreens National Competition. He also received “*The María Isabel Prieto Award*” at the Fifth Carlos Prieto Violoncello International Competition for his “*extraordinary talent and magnificent performances*.”

A recipient of an Education Grant by The Rachel Elizabeth Barton Foundation, Cabezas also supports and participates in community outreach programs for the youth through entities such as *The Institute of Learning, Access and Training of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra*, *The Sphinx Organization* and *From The Top* in the United States, and the *Programa Nacional de Educación Musical (SINEM)* of the *Ministerio de Cultura y Juventud / Ministry of Culture and Youth* in Costa Rica. Recently, Cabezas joined *Midori’s Partners in Performance – Young Artists Series*, a new community outreach program in the United States.

Cabezas studies under the tutelage of Artist Faculty Carter Brey at the Curtis Institute of Music. In the past, Cabezas studied with Professor Hans J. Jensen. Cabezas plays a distinctive violoncello crafted in 1934 by Chicago’s legendary luthier Carl G. Becker.

Additional information is available at [www.gabrielcabezas.com](http://www.gabrielcabezas.com).

## GABRIEL CABEZAS, VIOLONCELLO



***“The custom of presenting a winner of the Sphinx Competition for young African- American and Latino string players continued with the second and third movements from Saint-Saens’ Cello Concerto No. 1, featuring 14-year-old Gabriel Cabezas. Remember the name. He gave a remarkably poised and elegant account, with superb attention to phrasing, nuance and tonal coloration.”***

***- Donald Rosenberg, [The Plain Dealer](#)***

***“Gabriel Cabezas is a fantastic cellist and musician with a stellar technique, a brilliant intellect and a creative musical mind. Gabriel's contagious joy of performing and his uncanny ability to communicate with the audience assure us that the classical music world is indeed in great hands.”***

***- Hans Jørgen Jensen, [Professor of Cello - School of Music – Northwestern University](#)***

***“Mr. Cabezas was the 2006 winner of the Sphinx Competition, held yearly in Michigan to encourage and increase youth and minority involvement in classical music. Playing from memory with brilliant technique, appropriate emotion, and a gorgeous sound, the young soloist was applauded vigorously by members of the orchestra (The Cleveland Orchestra) as well as the capacity audience. He'll be back, soon, without question.”***

***- Kelly Ferjuts, [Adelphia.net](#)***

***“You brought great virtuosity and energy, as well as sensitivity and mature expressiveness to the performance. The RPO musicians were unanimous in their admiration of your work and were honored to have you share the stage with them.”***

***- Michael Buttermann, [Principal Conductor for Education and Outreach, The Louise and Henry Epstein Family Chair, The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra](#)***

***“It wasn't hard to see why the judges (of The 2006 Sphinx Competition) liked him (Cabezas). He's an intense player who connects to the music naturally, without artifice, and brings a singing line to the cello. The concerto's rhapsodic qualities bloomed under his touch.”***

***- David Stabler, [The Oregonian](#)***

***“Nothing makes me happier than knowing I have written music that talented musicians enjoy performing, and your enjoyment was very clear in your performance (of the premiere of M. Abels' “Delights and Dances”).”***

***- Michael Abels, [Composer](#)***

***“...to the luster and range of the sound that he obtained with his instrument, Cabezas added an interpretative maturity unusual for someone so young (he turned fifteen years old not long ago). This was evidenced by the nobility and expressivity of his phrasing, colors and tonalities, and his passionate and spontaneous delivery.”***

***- Andrés Sáenz, [La Nación \(Costa Rica\)](#)***

***“Outstanding to hear such gifts in one so young. Bravo!”***

***- George Taylor, [Associate Professor of Viola – Eastman School of Music](#)***

***“He was so mature. He plays like an old man.”***

***- Mei-Ann Chen, [Conductor & Music Director - The Portland Youth Philharmonic Orchestra](#)***

## GABRIEL CABEZAS, VIOLONCELLO

*“The judges and I were all truly moved by your playing. It is rare when judging a competition that one is able to stop and just allow themselves to experience the music with the performer; last Thursday, you definitely succeeded in drawing us in, which is what a great performance is supposed to do.”*

- Andre J. Gaskins, Assistant Professor of Cello - Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University, and Music Director & Conductor - Columbus Ballet

*“This year’s Finals Concert featured a winning performance by Gabriel Cabezas, an incredibly gifted young cellist. His charismatic stage presence and moving performance of J.C. Bach’s Concerto in C Minor made a lasting impression on the audiences and the esteemed jury panel alike, granting him the honors of the First Place Laureate.”*

- Sphinx Center Stage

*“Overall a wonderful performance. Bravo! Great style, shape and instrumental freedom and projection. Artistic personality; very mature for such a young age. Bravo!”*

- Sergiu Schwartz, The William B. and Sue Marie Turner Distinguished Faculty Chair in Music – Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University

*“Intonation, preparation, stage presence, musical concept, tempi – all wonderful. Authoritative, totally secure, beautiful musician. Congratulations! (I) look forward to accompanying you one day when you solo with the C.S.O.”*

- Alison Dalton, 1<sup>st</sup> Violin - Chicago Symphony Orchestra

*“In his national debut at the Eugene O’Neill Theater on Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> (October 2007), Cabezas revealed himself as a superior musical talent with a solid technical preparation.” - Andrés Sáenz, La Nación (Costa Rica)*

*“BRAVO. I am virtually speechless. This was an unbelievable performance. Very compelling music making, incredible poise – you are a natural performer who was born to play the cello. I look forward to hearing about the development of your career.”*

- Andre J. Gaskins, Assistant Professor of Cello - Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University, and Music Director & Conductor - Columbus Ballet

*“Supremely confident... I’m impressed with your level of concentration and involvement with the music – keep up the splendid work!”*

- David Schrader, Professor - The Music Conservatory - Roosevelt University

*“Gabriel Cabezas offered an inspirational delivery of the J.C. Bach Concerto in C Minor, with a beautiful tone and a disarmingly musical approach to his music-making.”*

- The Quarter Note Newsletter

*“You have a very special talent for the cello! Your sense of musical line is outstanding.”*

- David Geber, Dean of Performance and Co-Chair of The Strings Department  
The Manhattan School of Music



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CONCERTOS	CHAMBER MUSIC AND SOLO WORKS	LATIN AND IBERIAN REPERTOIRE
<p><b>D. Shostakovich</b> – <i>Concerto No. 2, Op. 107</i></p> <p><b>S. Prokofiev</b> – <i>Sinfonia Concertante, Op. 125</i></p> <p><b>S. Barber</b> - <i>Concerto Op. 22</i></p> <p><b>A. Dvořák</b> - <i>Concerto in B minor, Op. 104</i></p> <p><b>R. Schumann</b> – <i>Concerto in A minor, Op. 129</i></p> <p><b>E. Elgar</b> - <i>Concerto in E minor, Op. 85</i></p> <p><b>P. Tchaikovsky</b> - <i>Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op. 33</i></p> <p><b>E. Lalo</b> - <i>Concerto in D Minor</i></p> <p><b>C. Saint-Saëns</b> - <i>Concerto in A Minor, Op. 33</i></p> <p><b>D. Kabalevsky</b> - <i>Concerto No. 2, Op. 77</i></p> <p><b>J. Haydn</b> - <i>Concerto No 1 in C Major; Concerto No. 2 in D Major</i></p> <p><b>J. C. Bach</b> – <i>Concerto in C minor</i></p>	<p><b>C.-T. Perkinson</b>- <i>Lamentations</i></p> <p><b>J. S. Bach</b> - <i>Suites for Violoncello Solo</i></p> <p><b>G. Crumb</b> – <i>Sonata for Violoncello Solo</i></p> <p><b>S. Kodály</b> - <i>Sonata Op. 8 for Violoncello Solo</i></p> <p><b>G. Piatigorsky</b> - <i>Variations on a Paganini Theme</i></p> <p><b>D. Popper</b> - <i>Dance Of The Elves, Op. 39</i></p> <p><b>D. Rimsky-Korsakov</b> - <i>Flight Of The Bumblebee</i></p> <p><b>L. Boccherini</b> - <i>Sonata in C Major, G. 74</i></p> <p><b>C. Franck</b> - <i>Sonata in A Major</i></p> <p><b>J. Brahms</b> – <i>Sonata in F Major No. 2, Op. 99; Sonata No. 1 in E minor, Op. 38</i></p> <p><b>S. Rachmaninoff</b> - <i>Sonata in G Minor, Op. 19</i></p> <p><b>R. Schumann</b> - <i>Fünf Stücke im Volkston</i></p> <p><b>F. Poulenc</b> – <i>Sonata for Violoncello and Piano</i></p> <p><b>L. van Beethoven</b> – <i>Sonata Op. 69; Sonata Op. 102 No. 1, Sonata Op. 102 No. 2</i></p> <p><b>C. Debussy</b> - <i>Sonata in D minor</i></p> <p><b>C. Tao</b> - <i>Sonata for Violoncello and Piano</i></p> <p><b>F. Mendelssohn</b> – <i>Sonata in A minor “Arpeggione”</i></p> <p><b>D. Shostakovich</b> – <i>Sonata in D minor</i></p> <p><b>G. F. Handel</b> - <i>Passacaglia</i></p> <p><b>J. Brahms</b> - <i>Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major</i></p> <p><b>F. Mendelssohn</b> - <i>Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor</i></p> <p><b>D. Shostakovich</b> - <i>Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor</i></p> <p><b>D. Arensky</b> - <i>Piano Trio No. 1 in A minor</i></p> <p><b>A. Dvorak</b> - <i>Piano Trio No. 4 in E minor, Op. 90, “Dumky”</i></p> <p><b>E. Dohnanyi</b> - <i>Serenade in C Major for String Trio, Op. 10</i></p>	<p><b>A. Cardona</b> - <i>Moyugba Orisha</i></p> <p><b>A. Piazzolla</b> – <i>Adiós Nonino</i> <i>Le Grand Tango</i> <i>La Calle 92</i> <i>Milonga en Re</i> <i>Oblivion</i></p> <p><b>W. Porras</b> - <i>Ticotango</i></p> <p><b>P. Sarasate</b> - <i>Zapateado</i></p> <p><b>M. Ponce</b> - <i>Estrellita</i></p> <p><b>C. Calderón</b> - <i>La Revuelta Circular</i></p> <p><b>J. Gutiérrez</b> - <i>Canción en el Puerto</i></p> <p><b>A. Romero</b> - <i>Golpe con Fandango</i></p> <p><b>F. Mignone</b> - <i>Modinha</i></p> <p><b>H. Villa-Lobos</b> - <i>O Canto do Cysne Negro</i></p> <p><b>A. Ginastera</b> – <i>Triste</i></p>

	CHAMBER MUSIC AND SOLO WORKS	
	<p><b>A. Arensky</b> – <i>String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 35</i></p> <p><b>F. Haydn</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 63 in B-flat Major "Sunrise" Op. 76</i></p> <p><b>W. Mozart</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 17 in B-flat Major "Hunt"</i></p> <p><b>L. van Beethoven</b> - <i>String Quartet in B-flat Major Op. 18 No. 2; String Quartet in C minor Op. 18 No. 4; String Quartet in E Major Op. 59 No. 2</i></p> <p><b>F. Schubert</b> - <i>Quartet No. 13 in A minor "Rosamunde"; Quartet No. 14 in D minor "Death and the Maiden"</i></p> <p><b>A. Borodin</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 2 in D Major</i></p> <p><b>B. Bartok</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 4</i></p> <p><b>J. Brahms</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Op. 51</i></p> <p><b>D. Shostakovich</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110; String Quartet No. 9 in E-flat Major, Op. 117</i></p> <p><b>S. Prokofiev</b> - <i>String Quartet No. 2 in F Major, Op. 92</i></p> <p><b>G. Puccini</b> - <i>Chrysanthemum</i></p> <p><b>F. Domazlicky</b> - <i>Lied Ohne Worte</i></p> <p><b>J. Brahms</b> - <i>Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor; Piano Quartet No. 3 in C minor</i></p> <p><b>R. Schumann</b> - <i>Piano Quartet in E-flat Major</i></p> <p><b>A. Dvořák</b> - <i>Bagatelles</i></p> <p><b>F. Schubert</b> - <i>String Quintet in C Major, D. 956</i></p> <p><b>J. Brahms</b> - <i>String Sextet No. 1 in B-flat Major, Op. 18; String Sextet No. 2 in G Major, Op. 36</i></p> <p><b>A. Schoenberg</b> - <i>Verklärte Nacht, Op. 4</i></p> <p><b>P. Tchaikovsky</b> - <i>String Sextet in D minor 'Souvenir de Florence' Op. 70</i></p> <p><b>F. Mendelsohn</b> - <i>String Octet in E-flat Major, Op. 20</i></p>	

## GABRIEL CABEZAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Cabezas' active participation in community outreach initiatives exemplifies his quest to promote music appreciation, education and curation for young adults and children. His outreach work complements [The Sphinx Organization](#)'s mission to administer and encourage youth development through music education.

Cabezas actively supports and participates in other community outreach programs for the youth through entities such as [The Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Institute for Learning, Access and Training](#), [From The Top](#) and [Midori's Partners in Performance – Young Artists Program](#) in the United States, and the [Programa Nacional de Educación Musical \(SINEM\)](#) of the [Ministerio de Cultura y Juventud / Ministry of Culture and Youth](#) in Costa Rica.

An eloquent communicator, Cabezas enjoys relating his experiences as a young musician with children and young adults, as well as with their parents and teachers. He has been fortunate to visit several schools and organizations through these community outreach programs.

## THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS in conjunction with THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC PREPARATORY DIVISION

*"...great comments about Gabriel. He was extraordinary; the Orchestra loved him, the audience loved him, the kids at the outreach session loved him – all around a terrific experience for us."*

Joan Katz Napoli, Director of Education  
The Cleveland Orchestra

*"Gabriel visited our program this winter and the students are still talking about him! Gabriel is articulate, intelligent and charming. He is an incredibly gifted cellist, but also has a warm and engaging personality that enables him to connect with students on a personal level. What a joy and inspiration he was! We hope he will visit again in the near future."*

Dr. Melissa Kraut, Coordinator – Cello Studies  
The Cleveland Institute of Music Preparatory  
Division

## THE ROCHESTER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Musical Architecture Concert Series

*"It was our great pleasure, and indeed the pleasure of nearly 12,000 elementary students in the Rochester area, to have had you perform as a guest soloist with the Rochester Philharmonic... I have also received nothing but praise from teachers and educators who were in attendance."*

Michael Butterman,  
Principal Conductor  
for Education and Outreach  
The Louise and Henry Epstein Family Chair  
The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

## THE PORTLAND YOUTH PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS in conjunction with BARNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL and BEECH ELEMENTARY SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAM

*"Bringing Gabriel to start the PYP (Portland Youth Philharmonic) season is not only an opportunity to showcase a Latino classical musician, but also a chance to reach out to the Latino community through partnerships with organizations such as OHCA and Miracle Theatre Group and with the school outreach program. Gabriel not only serves as an inspiration to aspiring young Latino musicians – who are greatly underrepresented in orchestras – but also for all of PYP's current young cellists."*

Mei-Ann Chen, Conductor and Music Director  
The Portland Youth Philharmonic

*"I won't forget the way he fearlessly dove right in to the 'Elfentanz' when a student asked him to play 'something fast'. He just seems to absolutely love what he is doing and I was really inspired by that. I thought the school visits went very well..."* John Hubbard, Young String Ensemble Conductor - The Portland Youth Philharmonic