

## **David Johnson**

The Hull born violinist David Johnson studied in Manchester at the Royal Northern College of Music with the Polish violinist Bronislaw Gimpel. In 1978 he won a scholarship to study in Germany with Lukas David and Tibor Varga. During this time he became leader of Kammerorchester Tibor Varga.

In 1980 he went to Cologne, becoming a member of the Gurzenich, Orchestra of Cologne, also known as the Cologne Philharmonic Orchestra, one of Germany's leading orchestras and with one of the oldest histories. He has performed and recorded with the orchestra in Germany and on worldwide tours. David has performed regularly in the Chamber Music Concert Series in the Cologne Philharmonie, his most recent concert including the York Holler Streichquartet no 2.

Shortly after arriving in Cologne, he was invited to join the Markl Quartet and performed with them for over 10 years in many German cities and abroad. He was a founder member of the Spanish Art Quartet, performing works by Granados, Manuel de Falla, Pablo Sarasate and Joaquin Rodrigo.

He continues to be intensively active as a chamber musician and soloist and has also played in many festivals, including the Rio International Cello Encounter in Rio de Janeiro. As soloist, he has performed with I Musici de Montreal, the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra, the Brasilia Symphony Orchestra and the Petrobas Symphony Orchestra.

David has always been supportive of young professional players. In 2017 he played duo concerts in Hull and Scarborough with the young Hull cellist Thomas Bertolotti (now with La Scala Milan). He has always encouraged amateur players to explore their love of music and performs with amateur groups both here and in Cologne. In the UK he has performed both the Bruch and Tchaikovsky Violin Concertos and with The City of Hull Youth Symphony Orchestra, in Hull City Hall, the Prokofiev 2<sup>nd</sup> Violin Concerto. In 2019, he plans to return here to play the Brahms Violin Concerto.