

Anne Akiko Meyers

Biography

Anne Akiko Meyers is one of the most celebrated violinists embraced around the world today. Her passionate performances, purity of sound and deeply poetic interpretations, innovative programming and commitment to commissioning new works, her rare ability to connect with audiences from the concert stage, online, in television, and radio broadcasts, Meyers has actively maintained an extensive touring schedule for close to 30 years. She regularly performs in recital and as guest soloist with many of the world's top orchestras, and is a best-selling recording artist who has released 32 albums. In 2014, Meyers was the top-selling traditional classical instrumental soloist on Billboard charts.

This fall highlights include a nationwide PBS broadcast special and Naxos DVD release featuring the world premiere of Samuel Jones Violin Concerto with the All-Star Orchestra led by Gerard Schwarz and the French premiere of Mason Bates Violin Concerto with Leonard Slatkin and the Orchestre de Lyon. Two new recordings will be released – Naïve Classics celebrates Arvo Pärt's 80th birthday with works for violin and orchestra, led by Kristjan Järvi and the MDR Leipzig Orchestra and "Serenade: The Love Album" a recording with Keith Lockhart and the London Symphony Orchestra, features the Bernstein Serenade and 10 newly commissioned arrangements from the American Songbook/Golden Movie Era. Meyers will perform recital and solo appearances throughout North America, Europe and the Middle East.

This past spring, on 24 hours notice, Meyers stepped in to perform and lead the conductor-less Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in Carnegie Hall and PA and garnered rave reviews. In 2014, eOne Music released The American Masters, Ms. Meyers's 30th release, featuring the world premiere recordings of the Mason Bates Violin Concerto and John Corigliano's 'Lullaby for Natalie' (written for the birth of Ms. Meyers's first born daughter). Also featured, the Samuel Barber Violin Concerto, with the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Leonard Slatkin. This recording made Google Play's, Best of 2014 and was heralded by critics and audiences alike. Anne also released the Four Seasons: The Vivaldi Album, which debuted at #1 on the classical Billboard charts. The Vivaldi Album was the recording debut of the 'Ex-Vieuxtemps' Guarneri del Gesu violin, dated 1741, which was awarded to Meyers for her lifetime use. This instrument is considered by many to be the finest sounding violin in existence.

Meyers's recent performances included recital and concerto appearances in North and South America, Europe and Asia, including performances with the Chicago, Detroit, Nashville, and Richmond Symphony Orchestras of the Mason Bates Violin Concerto, a work she co-commissioned and premiered with the Pittsburgh Symphony in December 2012. A champion of living composers, Meyers has actively added new works to the violin repertoire by commissioning and premiering works by composers such as Mason Bates, Jakub Ciupinski, John Corigliano, Brad Dechter, Jennifer Higdon, Samuel Jones, Wynton Marsalis, Akira Miyoshi, Arvo Pärt, Gene Pritsker, Einojuhani Rautavaara, J.A.C. Redford, Somei Satoh and Joseph Schwantner.

Anne Akiko Meyers has collaborated with a diverse array of artists outside of traditional classical, including jazz icons, Chris Botti and Wynton Marsalis, avant-garde musician, Ryuichi Sakamoto, electronic music pioneer, Isao Tomita, popera group, Il Divo and singer, Michael Bolton. She performed the National Anthem in front of 42,000 fans at Safeco Field in Seattle, and appeared twice on *The Tonight Show* and was featured in a segment on MSNBC's *Countdown* with Keith Olbermann that became the third most popular story of the year.

Recently, she was featured on *CBS Sunday Morning*, CBS' *The Good Wife*, NPR's *Morning Edition* with Linda Wertheimer and *All Things Considered* with Robert Siegel among many other media outlets. Anne was also featured on the popular Nick Jr. show *Take Me To Your Mother*, with Andrea Rosen on the episode, 'Andrea Gets in Tune'. Best-selling novelist J.Courtney Sullivan consulted with Ms. Meyers for *The Engagements*, and based one of the main characters loosely on Ms. Meyers's career. Anne also collaborated with children's book author and illustrator, Kristine Papillon, on *Crumpet the Trumpet*. A beautiful story/CD about a baby trumpet with Violetta, the violinist, played by Ms. Meyers.

Anne Akiko Meyers was born in San Diego, California and grew up in Southern California. Her teachers include Alice and Eleonore Schoenfeld at the Colburn School of Performing Arts, Josef Gingold at Indiana University, and Felix Galimir, Masao Kawasaki and Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School. She received the Avery Fisher Career Grant and serves on the advisory board of Composers Concordance and Young Concert Artists. Ms.Meyers lives with her husband and two young daughters in Austin, Texas.