

BOLERO ARTISTS



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Violist **Gilad Karni** has been praised throughout the world for his tone and interpretation. His technique and musicality have earned him countless honors, from first prizes at competitions to leadership roles in some of the world's finest orchestras. Equally at home in orchestral and solo or chamber music settings, Karni can be heard on concert stages around the globe in a range of repertoire, as well as on recordings.

Gilad Karni is currently Principal Violist of the [Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich](#), a post he was appointed to in 2004 by David Zinman. Prior to his tenure there, he was Principal Viola for two years at the Deutsche Oper Berlin. Karni's vast orchestra experience ranges from being the youngest member of the [New York Philharmonic](#), which he joined in 1992, to Principal Viola positions of the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, a post he held between 1996-2002, and the Rishon Le-Zion Symphony Orchestra in Israel.

In Berlin, Karni is in demand as guest Principal with such orchestras as the Berlin Staatskapelle under Daniel Barenboim, the Berlin Symphony Orchestra, and Radio Symphony Orchestra. He makes frequent appearances with other European orchestras, as well, and at the invitation of Claudio Abbado, he performed as guest Principal Violist with the Orchestra of a United Europe in 1991. Karni has also appeared as soloist with orchestras in Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, South Africa, Switzerland, and the USA.

In addition to his orchestral career, Karni is also an active soloist and chamber musician, appearing at many of the world's great festivals, including the Dubrovnik Festival, Bastad and Lapland Festivals (Sweden), Nordic Academy (Denmark), Festival PRO - Bahnhof Rolandsek and Neustadt Festival (Germany), Kfar Blum (Israel), Davos Music Festival (Switzerland), Kuhmo (Finland) and Kaposvar (Hungary) in Europe, and the Aspen, Newport, Bellingham Festival WA, Santa Fe and La Jolla Chamber Music festivals in the U.S., among others. Karni was also fortunate to have performed with both the late Isaac Stern at his 70th birthday celebration in Tel-Aviv, and with the Guarneri String Quartet in Carnegie Hall. In addition, he has appeared on radio broadcasts in Israel, Germany, France, Switzerland, South Africa and the U.S.

Gilad Karni has left his mark on many international viola competitions, winning First Prize in the Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition 1994, and Third Prize at the ARD Munich International Music Competition in 1993. His other awards include Third Prize in the 1992 Bryan International String Competition (USA), First Prize in the Israeli Broadcasting Authority



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Competition for Best Performance of 1991, the Peter Schidlof Prize for the Most Beautiful Tone in the 1991 Lionel Tertis Viola Competition (England), and the Best Interpretation Prize for the commissioned concerto (by C. He. Joubert) in the 1989 Third International Maurice Vieux Viola Competition in France. Among Karni's recent solo appearances are the May 2009 world premiere of Prokofiev's "Romeo & Juliet" arranged for viola and orchestra with the Berlin Symphony at the famed Berlin Philharmonie. His other solo engagements have included performances of Bartok's Viola Concerto in Germany, Switzerland, and Poland; Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Israel Sinfonietta, Wuppertal Symphony and the Berlin Symphony; and appearances alongside world acclaimed cellists Yo-Yo Ma and Heinrich Schiff with the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich. In past seasons, he performed Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, a world premiere of "ViolAlive" by Gideon Lewensohn and the Israel Sinfonietta, and gave the Hungarian premiere of Miklos Rozsa's viola concerto with the Budapest Concert Orchestra at the renowned Spring Festival to mark the composer's 100 year centennial. This performance led to a recording of the Concerto on the Naxos label, which was released in 2008 to great critical acclaim and was nominated for a Grammy.

Recent engagements include solo appearances with the Belgrade Philharmonic, Zurich Chamber Orchestra, Tonhalle Orchestra, Georgian Chamber Orchestra, Acadiana Symphony Orchestra, Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Sinfonica di Roma, Hartford Symphony, the Santa Barbara Symphony, and the South American premiere of Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet" arranged for Viola and Orchestra with the Bogota Filharmonica in Bogota, Colombia. In past summers, Karni has served on the faculty of the Banff Center of the Arts in Canada, the Aspen Music Festival in the U.S., and the Linderman Music festival in Seoul, Korea, and CISMA in China - at the request of Charles Dutoit. Karni's 2009-2010 projects, in addition to his regular work with the Tonhalle Orchestra, a recording of the Bruch Romance with the Biel Symphony Orchestra, a recording of Gideon Lewensohn's "ViolAlive" and the Shostakovich Viola Sonata arranged for Solo Viola, Strings and Celesta with the Zurich Chamber Orchestra, a special chamber music concert at the Tonhalle with violinist Julia Fischer; leading master classes at the New World Symphony in Miami, and at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida, and a return to the Israel Sinfonietta with concerts of the Bruch and Mozart with Maxim Vengerov conducting.

Future appearances for the 2011-2012 season include an all evening solos with the Transylvanian Philharmonic, North American premier of Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet" with the Hartford Symphony, the Miklos Rozsa Concerto with the Bangor Philharmonic, Israel and Fribourg Chamber Orchestras, Hummel's

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Fantasia and Britten's Lachrymae with the Orquestra Metropolitana de Lisboa (Lisbon) and a return visit to the Georgisches KammerOrchester.

Additionally Karni will perform as a guest with the famed Jerusalem Quartet on tour with world famous pianist Menachem Pressler at the Concertgebouw and Paul Meyer clarinet, in Paris.

2011-2012 season is a sabbatical season for Karni, with solo performances, appearances at festivals, and giving master classes world wide. The season will find him on stage as soloist with the Biel /Bienne Symphony, Hartford Symphony, Bangor Symphony, as well as recitals and solos in Bahamas, Florida, Denver, Baltimore, and Switzerland as well as appearances in Music Festivals in the USA, Canada, Austria and Hungary.

A scholarship recipient of The America Israel Cultural Foundation (1985-1991), and an alumnus of the Manhattan School of Music, Gilad Karni was appointed Professor for Viola at the [Conservatoire de Lausanne](http://www.conservatoire-de-lausanne.ch) in Switzerland in 2008