

Gianluca Pirisi – Cellist

Gianluca Pirisi began studying the cello at the age of 12 under the guidance of Francesco Pepicelli. By the age of 17, he graduated with summa cum laude honors from the Giulio Briccialdi Conservatory in Terni. He then continued his studies with esteemed musicians such as Rocco Filippini, Giovanni Sollima, Umberto Clerici, and Enrico Bronzi.

He earned a Master's degree in Cello Performance and Chamber Music from the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome in 2010 and 2018. In 2022, he completed advanced studies at the Accademia di Musica di Pinerolo, under the mentorship of Enrico Bronzi, Miklós Perényi, Rohan de Saram, and Enrico Dindo, obtaining a third-level postgraduate degree in Musical Interpretation (Cello Performance).

Active in both orchestral and chamber music settings, Pirisi has performed as a soloist and chamber musician at prestigious Italian festivals, including Unione Musicale Torino, Amici della Musica di Palermo, Amici della Musica di Perugia, Accademia Filarmonica Romana, Accademia Filarmonica di Bologna, Accademia di Santa Cecilia, and Filarmonica di Messina. His international engagements include performances at the Amsterdam Cello Biennale, the Italian Cultural Institute of Paris, Kusatsu Music Festival, Werk 7 Munich, Flanders Festival Ghent, Hannover Staatsoper Festival, and the Chopin Festival in Warsaw.

Between 2016 and 2018, he shared the stage with Giovanni Sollima, performing a series of concerts for two cellos and orchestra in Italy, including appearances at Amici della Musica di Perugia, Accademia Filarmonica Umbra, Camerata Strumentale di Prato, and the Italian Senate (Senato della Repubblica). In 2018, he was appointed as official substitute for Giovanni Sollima in a series of eight solo performances with the Hannover Staatsoper Orchestra.

In 2021, Pirisi debuted alongside legendary violinist Irvine Arditti and pianist Roberta Pandolfi in a chamber music program featuring works by Wolfgang Rihm and Kenaxis, which is set to be replicated and recorded in 2023.

His interest in historically informed performance practice caught the attention of Fabio Biondi, Konzertmeister of Europa Galante, leading to invitations for concert tours in Poland in 2022 and 2023.

Currently, Pirisi serves as Principal Cellist of the Orchestra da Camera di Perugia and frequently performs as guest principal cellist with various Italian and international orchestras, including Teatro La Fenice, O/Modernt Orchestra, and the Kusatsu Festival Orchestra.

He is also a founding member of Ensemble Kinari, a chamber music ensemble dedicated to rediscovering and reviving overlooked repertoire. In 2021, Ensemble Kinari released a critically acclaimed recording on Brilliant Classics featuring the chamber music of Eliodoro Sollima.

He performs on a 1761 cello by G. C. Gigli.