

P E R S B E R I C H T

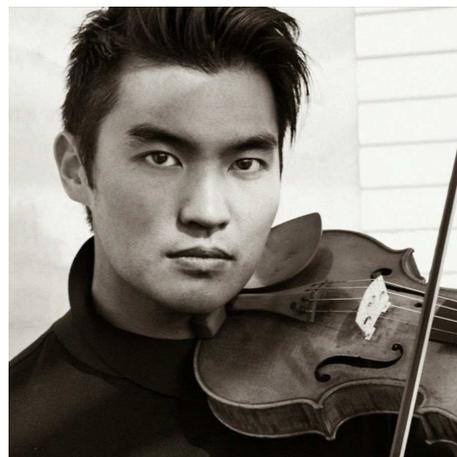
Eindhoven, 2 januari 2017

10 Jaar Storioni Festival – 18 t/m 29 januari

Artist in Residence

Ray Chen viool

12, 20, 21, 22 januari
Muziekgebouw Eindhoven



Ray Chen will be the brilliant focus of attention during the first weekend of the 2017 anniversary session of the Storioni Festival (18-29 January). Born in Taiwan and educated in Australia, the young star violinist is this season's Artist in Residence in the Muziekgebouw Eindhoven. He will play music by Schumann, Ravel and Mozart during the opening concert on Friday 20 January as well as in Storioni's Grande Parade on Saturday 21 January. Ray Chen will give a master class for young talented musicians on Sunday 22 January.

Ray Chen – record breaking international violin

Ray Chen (Taipei, 1989) was a only 8 years old when he gave his first concert with the Queensland Philharmonic Orchestra in Australia. He then played during the opening of the Winter Olympics in Japan the following year. Chen won first prizes in the Yehudi Menuhin International Competition in 2008 and in the Queen Elisabeth Competition in 2009. He created a sensation during the semi-final of the latter competition by using his laptop instead of a printed score; aged 20, he also composed his own cadenza for the obligatory Mozart concerto — few violinists have ever done this, and never during an important competition. Ray Chen now appears as a soloist throughout the world, with world famous orchestras and under prominent conductors. On 14 July 2015, he appeared before an audience of 800,000 with the Orchestre National de France under Daniele Gatti. He has made his debut with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and has given a recital in the Amsterdam Concertgebouw as well as having made highly successful debuts in Carnegie Hall and in the Musikverein in Vienna with the Gewandhaus Orchestra under Riccardo Chailly. In 2012 he was the youngest soloist ever to perform in the Nobel Prize Concert in the presence of the Swedish royal family. His first CD *Virtuoso* was granted the prestigious ECHO Klassik Award. Recordings of the Mendelssohn and Tchaikovsky concertos followed. His much-lauded Mozart album with conductor Christoph Eschenbach was released in 2014. Ray Chen plays a 'Joachim' Stradivarius from 1715 on loan from the Nippon Music Foundation.

www.raychen.com

Followed by over 2 million people on SoundCloud, Ray Chen looks to expand the classical music audience by increasing its appeal to the young generation via all available social media platforms. In particular his series of self-made online videos has proven an effective tool in broadening the reach of classical music through humor (*Lazy Mondays*) and education (*Musical Heroes*). He is the first ever classical musician to be invited to write a regular blog about his life as a touring soloist for the largest Italian publishing house, RCS Rizzoli (*Corriere della Sera*, *Gazzetta dello Sport*, *Max*). In his unrelenting efforts to break down barriers between classical music, fashion and pop culture, he is supported by Giorgio Armani and was recently featured in *Vogue* magazine.

Masterclass

Chen is also an important role model for promising young musicians. He began the crowdfunding project *Musical Heroes* to fire children with enthusiasm for music. During the Storioni Festival he will give a master class for several talented young musicians on the morning of Sunday 22 January — a real opportunity to glimpse the working methods of a musician of the highest level!

Concerts with Ray Chen, Eindhoven

- **Thursday January 12, 9.15 pm**

Brahms *Violin Concerto in D* op. 77 – Ray Chen, London Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Manfred Honeck

- **Friday January 20, 8.15 pm, Opening Concert**

Schumann *Piano Quintet* op. 44 – Ray Chen, Mariko Hara (viola), Storioni Trio

- **Saturday, January 21, 7.30 pm, Storioni's Grande Parade**

Ravel *Tzigane* (version for violin and luthéal) – Ray Chen, Sam Haywood (luthéal)

Mozart *Violin Concerto no. 5* – Ray Chen, Sinfonietta Riga

- **Sunday, January 22, 11.00 am, Master class Ray Chen**