

Juraj Škoda, violoncello (SVK)

He is in the third year of his studies in the class of Renáta Strašrybková. He grew up in Dobrá Niva in Slovakia in a musical family. He began playing the violoncello when he was 6 in the Zvolen music school under Vojtech Farkaš. At this time he played solo as well as chamber concerts. After concluding his basic musical studies in 2015 he entered Pavel Mucha's class in Bratislava. There he performed in various ensembles, cooperated with the Slovak Philharmonic on several occasions, played in the Slovak Youth Orchestra, Bratislava Conservatory Symphony as well as string orchestra. One year later he switched to Prague. There he is a member of the Prague Conservatory String Orchestra, a string quartet and The Cello Boys, a cello duo. Throughout his studies he has performed in various concerts and lectures in the Czech Republic as well as abroad. He has seen success in many competitions in solo playing as well as chamber music, the greatest among which probably are the laureate prize and 1st prize in his category in Sherbourne in England, 1st prize and the composer's prize for the best performance of his piece at the national Violoncello Spring competition in Modra. He also succeeded in the Brezno competition (1st prize) and Nitra competition (2nd prize). He achieved the Golden Strip in the Trnava competition with his string trio and a Silver Strip with his cello duo. At the Július von Beliczay International Music Show he performed in a quintet, trio and cello duo, which earned him a Golden Strip. This June he participated in the tour of Austrian and Bavarian towns, which was organised for winners of prestigious European competitions. He is preparing for the prestigious Beethoven Hradec, among others. He is also preparing concerts both as a soloist and with The Cello Boys.