
Benett Tsai – Short Biography 25-26

Australian cellist Benett Tsai has been praised for “electrifying...flawless freshness” (*Süddeutsche Zeitung*) and “charismatic, heartfelt playing” (*Sydney Arts Guide*). Named a VC Artist on *The Violin Channel*, he gained international recognition as a top prizewinner at the 2022 Grand Prix Emanuel Feuermann in Berlin. In 2023, he joined the Young Concert Artists roster after winning the YCA Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, becoming a YCA Jacobs Fellow and receiving The Stern Young Artist Award. His subsequent recital was listed as one of the best debuts in 2024 by *New York Classical Review*.

As a soloist, Benett has collaborated with the Berlin Radio Symphony, Queensland Symphony, Sinfonia Lahti, Kammerphilharmonie Metamorphosen Berlin, Maryland Symphony, Anchorage Symphony, with conductors such as Esa-Pekka Salonen and Umberto Clerici. He has also performed at The Kennedy Center, Verbier Festival, Lincoln Center, City Recital Hall (Sydney), and collaborated with renowned artists including Emanuel Ax and Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

Benett’s 25-26 season includes a return to the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, along with concerts presented by Colgate University Orchestra, Arizona Friends of Chamber Music, and the Classical Arts Society of Washington. With *YCA on Tour*, he plays chamber music across North America with appearances at Calgary ProMusica, Kravis Center, and the UAB Alys Stephens Center among other venues.

Born in 2003, Benett began cello studies at five with his uncle, Thomas Tsai and currently studies with Clive Greensmith at The Colburn School in Los Angeles. He plays on a 1719 Giuseppe Guarneri 'filius Andreae' cello, on loan to him from a generous benefactor.