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Bella Hristova, violin

Bulgarian-American violinist **Bella Hristova** has won international acclaim for her “expressive nuance and rich tone” (New York Times) and “impressive power and control” (Washington Post). An Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, she has also won First Prize in the Michael Hill International Violin Competition, First Prize in the Young Concert Artists International Auditions, and Laureate of the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis.

Hristova has performed extensively as a soloist with orchestras in the United States, Asia, Europe, Latin America and New Zealand. In addition to her many appearances with orchestras, Hristova has performed recitals at Carnegie Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and Boston’s Isabella Gardner Museum, and performs frequently with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Following multiple tours of New Zealand with renowned pianist Michael Houstoun, the pair recorded the complete Beethoven Sonatas for Piano and Violin, released on the Rattle label. The duo will release the Brahms sonatas this year.

A champion of music by living composers, Hristova has commissioned composers including Joan Tower and Nokuthula Ngwenyama. In 2015, Hristova was the featured soloist for a consortium of eight major orchestras for a new concerto commission written for her by her husband, acclaimed composer David Serkin Ludwig.

Hristova began violin studies at the age of six in her native Bulgaria. She later studied with Ida Kavafian at the Curtis Institute of Music, and received her Artist Diploma studying with Jaime Laredo at Indiana University. She plays on a 1655 Amati and lives in New York City with her husband David and their four beloved cats.