

## Martha Kowalczyk | full biography

Described by The Times as a musician 'simply superb regarding commitment, musicianship and technical command', Polish violinist Marta Kowalczyk is one of the most regarded and versatile artists of her generation.

Born in Poland, she began her violin studies at the age of 7. After graduating from the Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, Marta completed a Master of Arts at the Royal Academy of Music in London where she studied with György Pauk. In 2017 she completed the Stauffer Academy in Cremona with Maestro Salvatore Accardo.

Marta made her solo debut with Sinfonia Varsovia at the age of 15 performing Brahms Concerto, and has since performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Europe, Asia and North America; collaborated with artists such as Salvatore Accardo, Bruno Giuranna, Maxim Vengerov, Sir Mark Elder, Barry Douglas, Arto Noras, Antoni Wit and Krzysztof Penderecki.

Recent appearances include her debut at Wigmore Hall premiering UK Penderecki's La Follia for solo violin, a USA tour performing Sibelius and Wieniawski concertos with Opole Philharmonic, solo appearances with Sinfonia Varsovia, Polish National Philharmonic, Kraków Philharmonic Orchestra, Sinfonia Iuventus, the Polish Radio Orchestra, Bucharest Radio Orchestra and Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra performing Krzysztof Penderecki's Violin Concerto No.2 'Metamorphosen' under the composer's direction.

Ms Kowalczyk is a recipient of the the Royal Philharmonic Society Award, J&A Beare Prize, Grand Prix and two Special Prizes at the Ludwig van Beethoven International Chamber Music Competition in Poland as well as numerous prizes at international competitions including the 1st Prize at the International Violin Competition in Bled, Slovenia, 1st Prize at the International Violin Competition in Belgrade and the Special Prize at the China International Violin Competition in Qingdao.

International music festivals appearances include performances at the 'Chopin and his Europe' Festival in Warsaw, the Beethoven Easter Festival, Salerno Music Festival, Busan Maru International Music Festival in South Korea and recitals at Wigmore Hall, Concertgebouw, St Martin-in-the-Fields and St James's Piccadilly in London, Berlin Radial Hall, Lutosławski Concert Hall in Warsaw and Bratislava Philharmonic Concert Hall.

In 2018 Marta recorded her debut CD with Krzysztof Penderecki's 1st and 2nd Sonata and 'La Follia', three million copies of which have been distributed by Santander Bank.

Marta has been a concertmaster of the Basel Symphony Orchestra in Switzerland since 2017.