

Born into a family of musicians in Moscow, Karine Georgian is today one of the outstanding exponents of the golden generation of Russian string playing. Studying initially with her father and later with Rostropovich, she won First Prize and Gold Medal at the Third Tchaikovsky International Competition, and launched immediately on a career debuting with the Chicago Symphony in the American première of Khachaturian's *Cello Rhapsody* conducted by the composer. In 1994 her first visit to Australia included the Australian première of Britten's *Cello Symphony*. Her repertoire encompasses over forty concertos and a huge range of instrumental and chamber music, while her interest in and special gift for contemporary music have associated her with many composers of our day, including Alfred Schnittke (US première of First Cello Concerto 1991 in Carnegie Hall, Sofia Gubaidulina, Alexander Goehr, Tigran Mansurian, Howard Skempton, Elena Firsova and Dmitri Smirnov.

In 1980 Karine Georgian settled in London. Having succeeded André Navarra as Professor of Cello at the Hochschule in Detmold, Germany, she now teaches at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and gives masterclasses worldwide. Recent CD releases of Britten and Shostakovich, the solo cello suites and gamba sonatas of J S Bach (the latter partnered by Gary Cooper), and the complete cello and piano works of Martinu, have been critically acclaimed. In March 2011 Naxos issued a Schumann recital.