

"Apollonically inspired tones that spread far their arms of hardly graspable beauty and spiritual depth" Südwest-Presse

Lionel Martin (2003) grew up in Tübingen, Germany and spent his first two years of life in Perth, Australia. At the age of 5 he began playing the cello at the Tübingen Music School with Joseph Hasten, since 2020 Lionel he studies with Prof. Thomas Grossenbacher at the Zurich University of the Arts. Since 2017 he is a scholarship holder of the Anne-Sophie Mutter foundation.

Being the youngest competitor, Lionel won the first prize at the competition „Ton & Erklärung“ 2022. Before, he has been awarded many first national prizes including the highest score in the category cello solo at the competition "Jugend Musiziert“. At the international online competition *Perusia Harmonica 2020* he has been awarded the first prize in the Senior Category.

Lionel had his debut concert in 2017 with Tchaikovsky's *Variations over a Rococo Theme* with the Stuttgart Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Dan Ettinger. This was followed by solo performances with the Heidelberg Symphony Orchestra at the Rococo Theater Schwetzingen (2017), the Klaipeda Chamber Orchestra in Lithuania, the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra at the Oberstdorfer Musiksommer 2018, the Youth Symphony Orchestra Tübingen with Dvořák's Cello Concerto and the Elgar Cello Concerto, the Lüneburg Bach Orchestra (2018), the PreCollege Orchestra Zurich, the Camarata Balkania in Serbia, Albania and Montenegro (2021) as well as the NDR Radio Philharmonic Orchestra with Shostakovich's first Cello Concerto (2022).

In addition to his solo performances Lionel particularly loves playing chamber music. He performs with various ensembles all over Europe, Japan and South America.

He has given solo recitals at the *Lucerne Festival*, the Classical Spring Festival Mainau, the Schlosskonzerte Ettlingen (broadcasted by SWR) and the WDR3 Schlosskonzerte Herten, his duo partner being his brother and pianist Demian Martin. In June 2019 he toured Japan performing the Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto with the Youth Chamber Orchestra Stuttgart. For 2019 Lionel has been nominated for the "Prix Young Artist of the Year" at the Festival of Nations in Bad Wörishofen, where he performed Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations. He is a member of Mutter's Virtuosi and has joined them for tours in South America (2019) and Europe (2021).

During the 2020 pandemic he was a guest at Daniel Hope's show *Hope@Home*, televised by ARTE, performing together with his brother. Giving benefit concerts at church services with Anne-Sophie Mutter he took part in a campaign for independent musicians in need.

For 2021, Lionel Martin won the SWR2 New Talent Award after a successful admission procedure. The price includes a 3-year support with CD productions, concerts and broadcasting.

He received important inspiration from Lynn Harrell, Martti Rousi, Jens-peter Maintz, Jan Vogler and Yo-Yo Ma.