

ŠIMON TRUSZKA | VIOLA

Member of the Pavel Haas Quartet

Slovak violist Šimon Truszka is one of the leading European performers of his generation. Since March 2023, he has been a member of the world-renowned Pavel Haas Quartet, an ensemble ranked by BBC Music Magazine as one of the '10 greatest string quartets of all time'.

As part of this elite ensemble, he performs regularly on the world's most prestigious stages across the USA, Asia, and Europe. His artistic footprint includes iconic venues such as the Philharmonie de Paris, New York's Carnegie Hall, London's Wigmore Hall, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Musikverein in Vienna, the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg, and the Dvořák Hall of the Rudolfinum in Prague.

His artistic contribution to the Pavel Haas Quartet's discography is highlighted by the recording of Bohuslav Martinů's string quartets (2025). This project received absolute acclaim from international critics and earned the most significant professional awards, including the Diapason d'Or, the International Classical Music Award (ICMA 2026), and Album of the Year titles from Presto Music and The Classic Review.

In addition to his quartet work, he is a sought-after partner for chamber music collaborations with world-class soloists. He performs at international venues and festivals alongside pianist Boris Giltburg, violist Pavel Nikl, cellists Kian Soltani and Anastasia Kobekina, and the Italian ensemble Quartetto di Cremona.

The foundations of his musical thinking and technical preparation were laid by the renowned Russian pedagogue Vera Lipatova at the Conservatory in Košice, whose guidance had a profound influence on his artistic development. He subsequently shaped his profile at leading European academies: he is a graduate of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (HAMU) in the class of Prof. Jan Pěruška, and furthered his education at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna (MDW) with Prof. Thomas Selditz and the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music (UMFC) in Warsaw with Prof. Piotr Reichert. A significant milestone in his professional growth was graduating from the Academy of Chamber Music (AKH) under the direction of Tomáš Jarník.

Already during his studies, he drew attention as a laureate of the Prague Spring International Music Competition (2021) with the Kukal Quartet. He gained valuable experience in the elite European Union Youth Orchestra (EUYO) and the BE Phil project under the baton of Sir Simon Rattle. Throughout his career, he has collaborated with legendary conductors such as Bernard Haitink, Manfred Honeck, and Gianandrea Noseda.

The interpreter plays a viola that is a copy of a Gasparo da Salò instrument by the Hungarian maker Nikola Popary.