

**Alisa Weilerstein****Cellist**

“A young cellist whose emotionally resonant performances of both traditional and contemporary music have earned her international recognition, ... Weilerstein is a consummate performer, combining technical precision with impassioned musicianship,” stated the MacArthur Foundation, when awarding American cellist Alisa Weilerstein a 2011 MacArthur Fellowship. An exclusive recording artist for Decca Classics, she recorded the Elgar and Elliott Carter cello concertos with Daniel Barenboim and the Staatskapelle Berlin for her label debut, which was named *BBC Music* magazine’s “Recording of the Year 2013.”

On her celebrated second Decca release, Weilerstein plays Dvorák’s Cello Concerto, which she reprised with the New York Philharmonic and Krzysztof Urbanski this season. Recent orchestral highlights also included Elgar with the Cleveland Orchestra, Dallas Symphony, Milwaukee Symphony, London’s Philharmonia Orchestra, the Stuttgart Symphony, Netherlands Philharmonic, and Tokyo’s NHK Symphony; Haydn on a German tour with the Australian Chamber Orchestra; and Shostakovich with England’s Hallé Orchestra, the Warsaw Philharmonic, and the Orchestra of St. Luke’s at Carnegie Hall. In recitals in San Francisco, Aspen, and London’s Wigmore Hall, she showcased repertoire from *Solo*, her new Decca compilation of unaccompanied 20<sup>th</sup>-century cello music. The album’s centerpiece is Kodály’s Sonata, a signature work that she also performs on the soundtrack of *If I Stay*, a 2014 feature film in which she makes a cameo appearance as herself.

Weilerstein’s career milestones include an emotionally devastating account of Elgar’s Cello Concerto with the Berlin Philharmonic under Barenboim in Oxford, England, and a performance at the White House for the President and Mrs. Obama. An ardent champion of new music, she has worked with Osvaldo Golijov and Matthias Pintscher and premiered works by Lera Auerbach and Joseph Hallman. She appears at major music festivals worldwide, and regularly collaborates with Venezuela’s Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra and the *El Sistema* education program.

Weilerstein, whose honors include Lincoln Center’s 2008 Martin E. Segal prize and the 2006 Leonard Bernstein Award, is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and Columbia University. Diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, she is a Celebrity Advocate for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

<http://www.alisaweilerstein.com>