

# Alexandre Djokic – Biography

[www.AlexandreDjokic.com](http://www.AlexandreDjokic.com)



Alexandre Djokic's first musical steps were taken in Lorraine, France where he was born, demonstrating unusual musical precociousness. He was chosen to conduct a popular opera, "Les Metiers de nos Peres", at the age of five in Saint-Max, a suburb of Nancy. A few years later, upon immigrating to the United States, he began studying the violin with Felix Kiessler, a former student of Theodore Spiering, Gustave Mahler's concertmaster in the New York Philharmonic. At 13 he began studying with Edgar Ortenberg, violinist with the famed Budapest Quartet. Ortenberg, impressed with "Sacha's" talent, offered to teach him free of charge. Djokic returned to France at twenty-two, taking master classes in chamber music at the Nancy Conservatory and performing as violinist in the Djokic Piano Trio. Further instruction followed with Raymond Niwa at Chicago Musical College.

After a period of performing in the greater Chicago area as recitalist and first violin of the Leonard Quartet, and Associate Concertmaster of the Chicago Civic Orchestra, Djokic moved to the Delaware Valley of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, where he has made a significant contribution to the area's musical culture - first in collaboration with a flutist in the Delaware Chamber Trio and later as Artist in Residence at the Questar Foundation. Djokic gave the first-ever performance of the complete Four Seasons of Vivaldi in Bucks County as soloist with the Philadelphia Camerata Orchestra. In 2006, the Mozart year, he performed the New Hope, Pennsylvania area's only Mozart commemorative concert. Djokic has earned international recognition as a Laureate of the Colmar International Competition and for his performance of the Brahms D major Concerto at the International Violin Academy Festival and master classes in Tours, France. In addition, Djokic is a respected music educator, and has taught at Princeton's Westminster Conservatory.

Presently, he teaches violin, viola, and cello at the Hunterdon Conservatory and at is Master teacher at the Central Bucks Conservatory. Djokic has been invited by the Music Department of Montgomery Community College to give violin master classes to their most talented players selected from the county's high schools in Spring of 2008.

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## PRESS QUESTIONS

The following questions are intended for print and broadcast journalists in connection with interviews with Alexandre Djokic (joh-kic). These topics are designed to facilitate conversation with him and will make for a fascinating interview:

1. Tell me about your early days in France. When did you begin your studies?
2. Who was your first mentor and how did he/she influence you?
3. What music did you feel an early affinity for?
4. How does that compare to the music you now feel close to?
5. Your family name is very prominent in the classical music world. Tell me about some of your musical relatives.
6. You live in and perform regularly throughout the Delaware Valley area of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Tell me about what makes this area so special for you.
7. What works would you like to record?
8. Tell me about working with Robert Gajdos (guy-dohsh). How did the two of you meet and when did you form Duo d'Esterhazy?
9. How are you responding to the changing face of classical music in the 21st Century?
10. What does the future hold for Alexandre Djokic?

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