

# Cellists' Corner

## Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

*prepared by David Johnstone from public information*

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## SPECIAL FEATURE on XAVIER GAGNEPAIN

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**Birth: 23rd April 1960 (Paris)**

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Xavier Gagnepain studied at the Conservatoire de Paris and at Yale University in the U.S.A. He was a disciple of Maurice Gendron. He came to the attention by gaining prizes in various international competitions such as those of Munich and Sao Paulo.

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Notable for his enormous curiosity, Xavier Gagnepain allows his passion for music to flow in multiple directions. Firstly, as a concerto soloist he has been invited as a soloist by major European orchestras such as the London Symphony Orchestra, Moscow Soloists, etc. He has also developed a chamber music career, especially as a member of the Rosamonde Quartet.

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In addition to his career as an instrumentalist, he now dedicates a growing portion of his activity to conducting.

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As a tireless master of the unknown repertoire, he does not hesitate to regularly perform premieres of contemporary works. In 1996, Gagnepain was the first to perform in a single concert the entire 12 pieces “on the name of Paul Sacher”, for those who are not familiar this is contemporary repertoire for solo cello and now famous for its enormous difficulty. In 2007 Xavier made recordings of the complete romantic cello works of Gabriel Fauré.

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His cello class at the Boulogne-Billancourt Conservatory is also highly regarded.

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His book "Du musicien en général...au violoncelliste en particulier", commissioned by the 'la Cité de la Musique', has been worthy of great acceptance.

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As you can see, this is a highly talented man, active in SO many fields!

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Hear/See him in action!:

Haydn - Cello Concerto in C Major -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pSWau4ReRuI> Good for those of you who enjoy creative and full length cadenzas!



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