

Michael Schulte

Michael Schulte began serious violin studies in Lübeck, Germany. He has been described as, "This elegantly accomplished violinist [with] smooth virtuosity" and, "The most elegant violinist around." by critic Hugh Fraser of The Spec. Pursuing an early interest in orchestral music, he held the position of concertmaster with nine orchestras. Michael has played as soloist with orchestras from the Toronto Philharmonia to the Winnipeg Symphony. Also a professional violist, conductor and arranger, Michael's main focus is chamber music performance, presentation and education.

Michael teaches for McMaster University, directs the Schulte Strings Chamber Music Camp and his collegium musicum of string players, the Schulte Chamber Players, which was numerously awarded Ontario's best by the OMFA. Michael plays on a Scarampella violin and a D.Peccatte bow and commissioned the construction of two ancient string instruments. He has done two tours of Ontario and Quebec with his rare and popular violoncello piccolo da spalla. He has played and conducted much of his wife Abigail Richardson-Schulte's music for national CBC broadcast and has performed her violin concerto with five orchestras across the country. Michael plays with the Turini, Schulte, Domb trio and other groups on an occasional basis. He recently joined the New Orford String Quartet in recording the Brahms Op.88 quintet for CBC broadcast. At CMH, Michael is happy to present a rich history of fine chamber music pieces, write and talk of their significance, and bring interesting concert artists and ensembles to Hamilton (and Canada) to perform them.