

## **Biography: Dr. Qiao Chen Solomon**

Born in China and established in the United States, **Dr. Qiao Chen Solomon** is an internationally acclaimed violinist, violist, conductor, and educator whose artistry and innovative programming have captivated audiences around the globe. Her career spans the United States, Asia, and Europe, characterized by compelling performances that blend technical precision with rich musical expression. Qiao made her U.S. debut at Carnegie Hall in 2002 with the ARCO Chamber Orchestra, where her solo performance garnered widespread acclaim. This milestone was followed by her recording of Vivaldi's violin concerto for the Art Classics label, solidifying her reputation as a dynamic and compelling soloist.

As a visionary concert artist, Qiao is dedicated to expanding the classical music repertoire by championing the works of underrepresented composers. Through her thoughtfully curated programs, she brings to life the voices of Black, Chinese, and women composers, ensuring their contributions are celebrated on the global stage. Her recent album, *Unveiled*, recorded with the Eurasia Trio, highlights the evocative works of German Romantic women composers Clara Schumann and Fanny Mendelssohn. Additionally, her recording projects include works by Augusta Read Thomas and Rebecca Clarke, as well as the album *Women to Women* with the Eureka Duo, featuring pieces by Clara Schumann, Amy Beach, and Ethel Smyth.

Qiao has performed and presented at numerous prestigious festivals and conferences, including the American String Teachers Association National Conference, the Grumal Music Festival, the World Youth Orchestra in Italy, the Virginia Commonwealth Global Summer Institute, and the South Carolina Chamber Music Festival, among others. These appearances reflect her deep commitment to fostering a dynamic international presence as an artist and educator.

In her role as the Director of Strings Studies and Orchestral Activities and Professor of Music at Agnes Scott College, Qiao demonstrates a profound dedication to inspiring and shaping the next generation of musicians. She conducts the college orchestra, teaches violin, viola, and chamber music, and has led impactful projects such as the Southeast premiere of Mary Watkins' opera *Dark River - The Fannie Lou Hamer Story*. Qiao also premiered Augusta Read Thomas' solo violin work *Capricious Toccata* during the composer's residency at the college, showcasing her commitment to contemporary music.

An accomplished musician, Qiao has received numerous awards, including honors from the National Music Talent Competition in Guangzhou, the 5th Liaoning Violin Competition in China, the West Waterford Music and Drama Festival in Ireland, and the MTNA Competition in the United States. Her versatility as a soloist, chamber musician, and conductor is complemented by her dynamic leadership in educational settings and her dedication to creating inclusive and diverse musical experiences.

Qiao Chen Solomon's artistry combines technical brilliance, expressive depth, and an innovative approach to concert programming. As a trailblazer in both performance and education, she continues to make significant contributions to the classical music world, championing a new generation of music and musicians.