

BIOGRAPHY

Anton Mecht Spronk (1994) is one of the leading young Dutch cellists. At only 19 years old, he won 1st prize, audience award and award for the best interpretation of the commissioned work at the Competition of the Cello Biennale Amsterdam (2014). He was awarded an honorable mention at the Witold Lutoslawski International Cello Competition 2015. In 2019 he was awarded the 'Prix du Rotary' at the Verbier Festival.

Anton performs both as a soloist and chamber musician in many top halls in Europe, America and Asia, including Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Carnegie Hall New York, Tonhalle Zürich, Seoul Arts Center and the Berliner Philharmonie. In October 2016 he premiered a piece, written for him by the Dutch composer Guus Janssen, during the Cello Biennale Amsterdam. In June 2017 he performed the Swiss premiere of a piece by Máté Bella in Tonhalle Zürich, conducted by Peter Eötvös.

He is a 1st prizewinner at the Dutch national competition for young talents in 2003 and 2009. In 2010 he won 1st prize and audience award at the Princes Christina Competition. Anton was awarded a scholarship in the Swiss Migros-Kulturprozent competition in 2014 and 2015. In 2017 he won 2nd prize at the Kiefer-Hablitzel Competition.

As a passionate chamber musician he regularly performs in various formations. In 2014 Anton won 1st prize with his clarinet trio at the Kiwanis Competition in Zürich. He has been a guest in numerous international festivals such as International Chamber Music Festival Utrecht, Cellobiennale Amsterdam, Festival Next Generation Bad Ragaz, Gonjjam Festival in South-Korea and was invited to participate in the Verbier Festival Academy in 2019.

He is the artistic director of "Eggenfelden klassisch", a successful chamber music festival, he founded in 2016 together with violinist Larissa Cidlinsky.

Anton started his cello lessons with his father Frank Spronk when he was four years old. At the age of 12 he went on to study with Monique Bartels in Amsterdam. In 2012-2017 he continued his studies at the Zurich University of Arts with Thomas Grossenbacher. Since 2017 he is a student of Jens Peter Maintz at the University of Arts in Berlin.

He took part in masterclasses with David Geringas, Frans Helmerson, Wolfgang Boettcher, Anner Bylsma, Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt, and Troels Svane. He is also connected to and participating in masterclasses at the International Music Academy in the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Anton plays an 1865 Vuillaume cello, generously on loan from The Dutch Musical Instruments Foundation.