

## **Jeff Yang**

### **Violin**

Born in Taiwan, Jeff came to the U.S. at the age of eight. A classically trained violinist, he is one of the most versatile string players in Chicago, having performed blues, rock, and jazz with numerous internationally renowned artists. He is also adept at other instruments including viola, cello, bass guitar, and the baroque recorder. Currently, Jeff is the violin soloist and recorder player with the band Mannheim Steamroller and the violinist/violist with Access Contemporary Music where he recently played the Chicago premiere of Wolfgang Rihm's violin concerto *Lichetes Spiel* in 2013. He has also served as first violinist in Corky Siegel's Chamber Blues, conductor and concertmaster of the group Il Divo, and concertmaster for the New Millennium Orchestra.

In Chicago, Jeff performs frequently with the Grant Park Symphony, Chicago Philharmonic, Chicago Opera Theater, Joffrey Ballet, and he is in great demand as a studio musician.

Well versed in various genres of music, Jeff has performed on PBS's Soundstage with Jewel, Peter Cetera, Dennis DeYoung, Lyle Lovett, Ron Isley, Burt Bacharach, and also on the Oprah show with Andrea Bocelli and Monica. He has also performed with artists such as The Three Tenors, Kansas, Smokey Robinson, Bernardette Peters, Diana Krall, and David Foster. Jeff has served as concertmaster for the Spoleto Festival Orchestra in Italy, the National Repertory Orchestra in Colorado, Ballet Legere in Chicago, the Emerald City Philharmonic in Seattle, and as assistant concertmaster of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and the International Symphony Orchestra in Israel.

Jeff hails from the Pacific Northwest and holds bachelor degrees in both arts, music, and industrial engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle, a masters degree in music from Northwestern University, and the certificate in performance from DePaul University, studying with renowned concertmaster Steven Stryk, pedagogue Gerardo Ribeiro, and with the former first violinist of the Muir and Chicago String Quartets, Joe Genualdi.