

Alfonso Lopez



Alfonso Lopez, violinist, conductor, composer, and teacher, is one of the most versatile and prominent musicians of his generation in Venezuela. He is the concertmaster of the Venezuela Symphony Orchestra (OSV) which, as the national symphony, is the oldest and the principal orchestra of the country. He regularly conducts the OSV several times each season, is the conductor and music director of a youth orchestra that plays Venezuelan folk music, and is often a guest conductor of other orchestras. He is a professor of violin at the Emil Friedman School, the outstanding private musical and general educational institution in the country. Mr. Lopez received his high school diploma from the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan; then completed a B.A. (Summa Cum Laude) and an M.A. (Highest Honors) in music from the University of Michigan. He has also received advanced musical training in Austria and England. His principal violin teachers were Emil Friedman, Julia Bushkova, and Paul Kantor. As a concertmaster, he has performed with various orchestras in international festivals, the chamber orchestra Virtuosi de Caracas, and the Camerata Criolla. He has performed as a soloist with the OSV on several occasions. He is a founding member and first violinist of the Friedman String Quartet, an ensemble that has performed many times in the most important concert halls in Caracas. His orchestral work, Caribe Pirana, was premiered in 2000 by the OSV, with Juan Carlos Nunez conducting. His String Serenade (2007) has been performed in Russia (world premiere), Belarus, the U.S., several Latin American countries, and was premiered in Venezuela with himself as conductor of the OSV in 2008. Outside of Venezuela he has concertized as a soloist in Spain, Italy, the U.S., Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, and Trinidad and Tobago.