

Kostia Lukyniuk Biography

Ukrainian-born Kostia Lukyniuk is a world-renowned musician and a true rebel in the world of strings. Kostia revolutionizes the violin by blending genres, breaking stereotypes, and always wowing his audiences with unmatched energy and love for his craft. He made his solo debut at 9 with the Chernivtsi Philharmonic Orchestra after winning 1st Prize in the International Youth Music Competition. Since then, he has won prestigious awards at international music competitions and has given solo performances all around the world at various venues, festivals, and events.

At the age of 18, after a solo performance at the National Philharmonic Hall of Ukraine in Kyiv, Kostia came to the United States to pursue his dream and started his studies with Professor Oleh Krysa at the Eastman School of Music. He graduated in December 2021 with a Bachelor's degree in Music and a Performer's Certificate. After finishing the degree he went home to Ukraine just as the war began. Stuck there Kostia kept playing concerts and raising money for the soldiers fighting for his country and to lift the spirits of those suffering from the war. He was recruited to the Ukrainian Army and was able to escape the frontlines after being accepted to a Master's Program at the Frost School of Music, University of Miami. He continued to perform in Berlin and France playing solo at festivals like Fete de la Musique and raising funds for Ukrainian people in need until he was able to return to the USA.

Since August 2022 Kostia is pursuing a Master of Music degree in the studio of Professor Charles Castleman. He has since taken Miami by storm, performing all over the city and surrounding areas from private events, and luxury galas, to Art Basel and PBS benefits. Some of his notable appearances were at the Christmas concert with the Miami Symphony Orchestra, grand opening of Queen Miami Beach, a feature with Ukrainian rock legends Okean Elzy at the James L Knight Center, and others. Kostia is a winner of the Frost School of Music Concerto competition in 2023.

Kostia maintains an active performing schedule, having played in cities throughout the world such as Kyiv, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Poltava, Ternopil, Mariupol, Zaporizhia (Ukraine); Paris, Metz (France); Berlin, Kempten (Germany); Seoul (South Korea); New York City, Miami, Nashville, Washington, Charleston, Boise, Rochester, Buffalo (USA); Toronto, Waterloo (Canada); and San Jose (Costa Rica). In 2019 Kostia received the 2nd Prize and the Audience Prize at the 3rd Oleh Krysa International Violin Competition in Lviv, Ukraine. He has performed on stage with various well-known artists such as Oleh Krysa (classical), Arturo Sandoval, Judah Sealy, Jimmie Highsmith Jr, Todd East (jazz), Okean

Elzy, Oleh Skrypka, Jerry Heil, Tina Karol, Alyosha, Vlad Yama (Ukrainian pop/rock stars) and Mike la Funk (DJ). All of them hold Kostia in high regard, describing him as an extremely professional, dedicated, and energetic musician with a unique voice.

In parallel with studying classical music, Kostia experiments with many kinds of contemporary genres on the violin and has developed his own unique musical voice and style. He has performed at various places around the world - from sightseeing places, bars, and restaurants to clubs, festivals, music halls, and luxury event venues. Kostia finds that the diverse palette of sounds the violin is able to produce is perfect for playing all types of genres from rock to jazz to pop. He has been a member of a couple of Rochester-based bands like ZBTB (Zac Brown Tribute Band), Big City, and Positive Vibez. He is currently the band leader of an instrumental fusion Lucky Band.

Kostia is the ambassador for musical hardware companies Myers Pickups, 3Dvarius Violins, and Fiddlershop.