Praised by *Gramophone* for *"his mastery of the instrument, his lyrical elegance and his good taste"* and counted by *Le Monde* among *"the elite of French cello playing"*, Christian-Pierre La Marca combines a magnetic stage presence with boundless curiosity, making him one of the most distinctive cellists of his generation: a soloist in the great repertoire, a period-instrument performer, a close partner of today's composers and the creator of original projects. His recordings have reached nearly 100 million streams worldwide.

In 2027 he returns to his Italian roots with *Il Virtuoso Italiano*, recorded with the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris under the direction of Umberto Clerici. It is his fifth album for naïve (Believe), for which he records exclusively after beginning his recording career with Sony Classical. It follows *Love Letters* (2025), a musical account of the love story between Clara and Robert Schumann, recorded with the Philharmonia Orchestra, Raphaël Merlin and Jean-Frédéric Neuburger.

Leading orchestras invite him as a soloist, among them the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Orchestre National de France, the Orchestre de Chambre de Paris, the Brussels Philharmonic, the Luxembourg Philharmonic, the Münchener Kammerorchester and the Sinfonia Varsovia. He has worked with conductors such as François-Xavier Roth, Emmanuel Krivine, Oksana Lyniv, Andrea Marcon, Gérard Korsten, Clemens Schuldt, Jakob Lehmann and Pierre Bleuse. These collaborations take him to the finest stages, from the Philharmonie de Paris to the Berlin Philharmonie, from Vienna's Musikverein to Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, and on to Oji Hall in Tokyo and Angel Place in Sydney. He has also appeared at the Verbier, Ravinia, Schleswig-Holstein, Bad Kissingen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Schwetzingen, Kronberg, Trondheim and Oxford festivals, the Printemps des Arts de Monte-Carlo, La Roque d'Anthéron and Aix-en-Provence.

Few cellists move so freely across the centuries. On period instruments he performs with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Le Concert de la Loge, the Venice Baroque Orchestra, Les Siècles and Les Ambassadeurs, and shares the stage with Justin Taylor, Jean Rondeau and Jonathan Cohen. At the other end of the spectrum, he champions new music alongside György Kurtág, Jörg Widmann, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Fabien Waksman, Pēteris Vasks, Brett Dean and Thierry Escaich, his long-standing partner.

A sought-after chamber musician, he has performed with Itzhak Perlman, Vilde Frang, Veronika Eberle, Barnabás Kelemen, Augustin Dumay, Didier Lockwood, Renaud Capuçon, Nicholas Angelich, Igor Levit, Alice Sara Ott, Itamar Golan, Lise de la Salle, Thibaut Garcia, Mischa Maisky and Michel Portal, as well as the Ébène, Arod, Danel, Hermès and Modigliani quartets. His love of the voice has led to collaborations with Philippe Jaroussky, Sabine Devieilhe, Thomas Hampson, Bernarda Fink, Roberto Alagna and Patricia Petibon. He was a founding member of the Trio Dali from 2006 to 2016.

This freedom goes hand in hand with a taste for formats that open classical music to new audiences. His project *Cello 360*, winner of a Gramophone Award, now brings together cello and breakdance with world

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champion Yaman Okur. In Lyon he founded the *Vibrations* series, which pairs concerts with Lyonnaise gastronomy. Since 2018, with Yann Arthus-Bertrand and the GoodPlanet Foundation, he has led the *Concert for the Planet* and then his *Wonderful World* project, raising awareness and funds for environmental projects around the globe.

After his beginnings in Aix-en-Provence, he studied in Paris with Jean-Marie Gamard, Philippe Muller and Gary Hoffman, then with Frans Helmerson in Cologne and Steven Isserlis in London. He also benefited from the advice of Mstislav Rostropovich, Heinrich Schiff, Anner Bylsma, Natalia Gutman, Itzhak Perlman, Maria João Pires and the Artemis Quartet. His career has been marked by major successes at international competitions in Osaka, Frankfurt, New York (Young Concert Artists) and Vienna (Haydn Competition), as well as the Philharmonia Award in London and the Verbier Festival Cello Prize. He has appeared several times at the Victoires de la Musique Classique.

Teaching matters deeply to him: after teaching at the Philippe Jaroussky Music Academy at La Seine Musicale, he now teaches at the Conservatoire Paul Dukas in Paris and gives masterclasses in France and abroad. A Larsen Strings artist and an ambassador for Gewa and Henle, he plays an anonymous Neapolitan cello (c. 1790–1820) and a bow by Jacob Eury (1825), on loan from the Fondation de la Vocation, of which he is a laureate. He alternates it with a baroque bow by Jean-Yves Tanguy.

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