



Alexander Scheirle, the Crested Butte Music Festival's Artistic and Managing Director since 2004, also enjoys an international career as a cellist, performing concertos, chamber repertoire and orchestral music. At Crested Butte, he plays as principal cellist of the Festival Symphony Orchestra, as a soloist and in recitals. Resident in the USA since 2007, he was born in Germany and trained at the Conservatories in Cologne, Aachen and Saarbruecken and at the Guildhall School in London, UK, and has performed and recorded around the world with composers, soloists and conductors such as Pierre Boulez, Mstislav Rostropovich, Christopher Hogwood and Trevor Pinnock. From 1991 until 2007 he was principal cellist of the Bavarian Chamber Philharmonic Orchestra, which is based in the city of Augsburg, and became its Artistic Director in 2000, remaining in the post for seven years. During his time as Artistic Director of the orchestra, it recorded almost 20 CDs, attracting praise from the world's music media, including FANFARE, BBC Music Magazine and Klassik.com.

A former student of Boris Pergamenshikov, Hans Christian Schweiker, Moray Welsh (principal cellist of the London Symphony Orchestra) and David Grigorian, and, in chamber music performance, of the La Salle, Cleveland, Amadeus and Cherubini quartets, Alexander Scheirle now gives frequent master classes around Europe and the USA. He also lectures on chamber music, with a special interest in contemporary composers, and coaches a number of the top youth orchestras in Germany.

Alexander Scheirle's recordings for labels such as EMI, Deutsche Grammophon, Arte Nova and

Koch Schwann include a CD recording of contemporary German music for solo cello solo, a live recording of the cello concerto by Swiss composer Klaus Huber and a new arrangement of J S Bach's Musical Offering.