



PRESS KIT

# SÉBASTIEN HURTAUD

*The most sought-after cellist of his generation Sébastien Hurtaud, celebrates the history and emotional power of the cello and its iconic repertoire.*



A combination of elegance  
and drive, Strad Mag

A ferocious Commitment,  
Gramophone

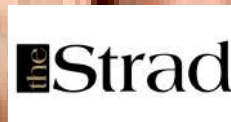
A Potent Performance, 5★ BBC Mag

A communicative musician,  
The Listeners NZ

"Hurtaud's playing is  
committed, intense and  
lyrical", Musical Opinion

"The Soul of a Rostropovich,  
the Virtuosity of a Feuerman",  
F.Mag

Hurtaud's deeply expressive  
playing, Forbes

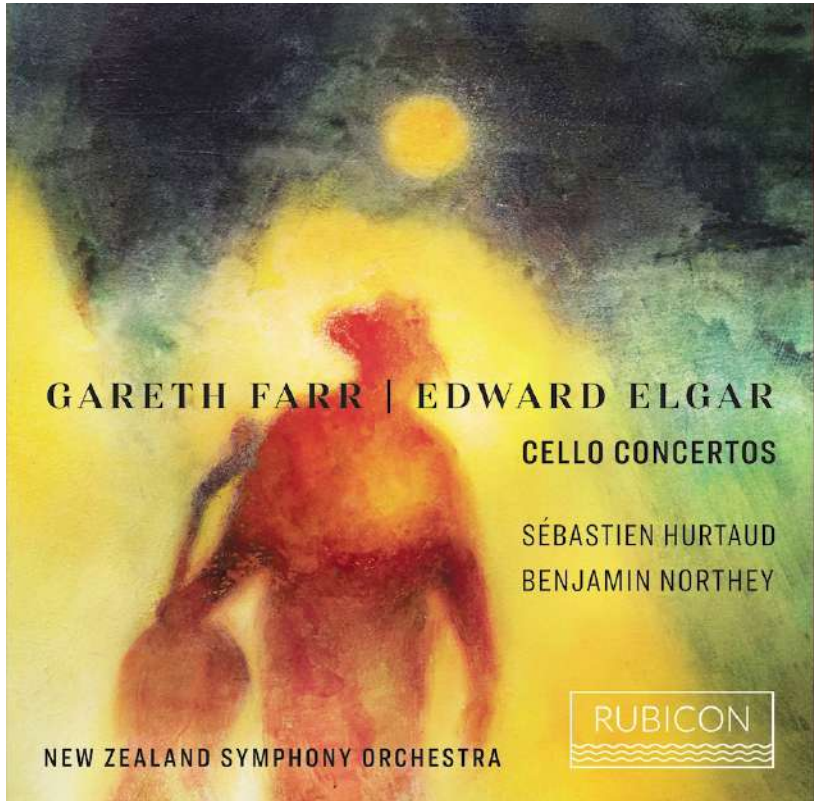


The French concert cellist Sébastien Hurtaud was born in La Rochelle, France. Influenced by his family consisting of artists and skippers, the focus of Sébastien's career has been on classical music and traveling around the world to discover new cultures and new composers, and to imbuing his interpretation of cello works from past centuries with this knowledge and experiences.

He first garnered international attention in 2009, after winning the "Adam" International Cello Competition, established by Alexander Ivashkin. Since then, Sébastien has developed a career as a soloist in Europe, New Zealand and the USA, as well as his native France, as a live and recording artist. Conductors and presenters have praise Hurtaud's lyric, sensitive and powerful playing. Conductors with whom Sébastien has worked include Werner Andreas Albert, Antoni Wit, Pieter-Jelle Deboer, Arie Van Beek, Hamish Mc Keith, Benjamin Northey, Edmon Colomer, Paul Philips, Leos Swarovsky, Sergio Alapont, Jacques Mercier, Greg Grabowsky, David Robertson, Julian Reynolds to name a few. Sébastien enjoys working with the highest level of orchestras including collaborations with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, Metz National Orchestra, Bretagne National Orchestra, Picardie National Orchestra, Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, Meadows Symphony Orchestra, Christchurch Symphony Orchestra to name a few.

In 2016, the French artist commissioned acclaimed New Zealand composer Gareth Farr to write the concerto "Chemin des Dames", and then in 2017, he performed the world premiere of this cello concerto in Wellington, Auckland with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. Hurtaud was invited to celebrate the Armistice that ended World War I at the cathedral of the historic site of Les Invalides in Paris. He performed both the Elgar and the Farr concertos with the National Guard Symphonic Orchestra.

His new album with UK Rubicon Classics mirrors his artistic musical journey. Sébastien's new album featuring the Elgar and Farr concertos was recorded under the direction of Australian conductor Benjamin Northey. The press has widely rewarded his record, awarding it the highest distinction for each review.



*A bridge between peoples and periods, this recording deserves great attention for the vision it presents of History and Music.*

*Meeting with a musician appreciated beyond the hemispheres.*

**Crescendo Magazine**



*Sébastien Hurtaud grasps the work with a full bow, as André Navarra once did, a great sound that says as much as it sings. The admirable sound, ample, deep, will seek with his playing that suspends time before the flight of the Allegro molto, an embracing eloquence,*

**ArtaMag, Jean-Charles Hoffelé**



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