

Ayane Kozasa

Hailed for her "magnetic, wide-ranging tone" and her "rock solid technique" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*), violist Ayane Kozasa is a sought-after chamber musician, collaborator, and educator. Since winning the 2011 Primrose International Viola Competition, Ayane has appeared on stages across the world, from Carnegie, Wigmore, and Suntory Hall to Ravinia, Aspen, and the Marlboro Music Festival. She is a passionate advocate for the expansion of viola repertoire, and has commissioned multiple new works featuring the viola, including "American Haiku" by Paul Wiancko and "K'Zohar Harakia" by Judd Greenstein.

Ayane Kozasa is a founding member of the Aizuri Quartet, who were the 2018 quartet-in-residence at the Metropolitan Museum and the grand prize winners of both the Osaka String Quartet Competition and MPrize Chamber Arts Competition. The Aizuri Quartet's debut album, *Blueprinting* was nominated for a Grammy Award and named one of NPR's top 10 classical albums of 2018. The Aizuri Quartet is devoted to education as well, working with young musicians from around the world and regularly leading student composer workshops at institutions such as the University of Southern California, Princeton University, and New York Youth Symphony. In 2020, the quartet launched *AizuriKids*, an interactive web series for children that explores relationships between music and themes ranging from astrophysics to cooking.

Ayane is also a member of the duo *Ayane & Paul* with composer and cellist Paul Wiancko, with whom she performed on Norah Jones' recent album "Pick Me Up Off the Floor." A seasoned orchestral performer as well, Ayane has performed with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Alarm Will Sound, Philadelphia Orchestra, East Coast Chamber Orchestra, and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Aside from music, she enjoys baking, running, camping, and creating animation.