

Steven Ansell

Steven Ansell joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra as its principal violist in September 1996, having already appeared with the orchestra in Symphony Hall as guest principal viola. A native of Seattle, Mr. Ansell also remains a member of the acclaimed Muir String Quartet, which he co-founded in 1979, and with which he has toured extensively throughout the world.

A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied with Michael Tree and Karen Tuttle, Mr. Ansell was named professor of viola at the University of Houston at twenty-one and became assistant principal viola of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra under André Previn at twenty-three. As a recording artist he has received two *Grand Prix du Disque* awards and a Gramophone Magazine award for Best Chamber Music Recording of the Year. He has appeared on PBS's "In Performance at the White House" and has participated in the Tanglewood, Schleswig-Holstein, Marlboro, Blossom, Newport, Spoleto, and Snowbird festivals. Mr. Ansell currently teaches at the Boston University School for the Arts and is also a member of the Boston Symphony Chamber Players.

Steven Ansell premiered Ezra Laderman's Concerto for Viola and Orchestra with the Berkshire Symphony Orchestra. His solo appearances with the BSO include Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* with Malcom Lowe Previn; Berlioz's *Harold in Italy* with Emmanuel Krivine and James Levine; Bruch's Concerto for Viola, Clarinet and Orchestra with Seiji Ozawa; Strauss's *Don Quixote* with Mstislav Rostropovich/Ozawa, Yo-Yo Ma/Ozawa, Steven Isserlis/Frühbeck de Burgos, and Jian Wang/Frühbeck de Burgos.