



Cellist **Mihaela Čuljak** has performed throughout Europe, Asia, and the United States as a soloist, recitalist, and a chamber musician. As a young student of the Music School "Luka Sorkočević," she has won numerous prizes at national and international competitions. Towards the end of her high school education in the class of prof. Vanda Đanić in Dubrovnik, she continued her studies at the Music School "Elly Bašić" in Zagreb in the class of prof. Dobrila Berković-Magdalenić. As a recipient of Dubrovnik scholarship, Mihaela successfully graduated high school in Zagreb, and started college education in Texas on a full scholarship. In 2011, Mihaela graduated summa cum laude with Masters degree from University of North Texas under Elizabeth Morrow and Nikola Ružević. In addition, Mihaela specialized in Early music in the class of Lyle Nordstrom. As a "Dean's List" student and a performer, Ms. Culjak has been invited to many music festivals, including Boston Early Music Festival, Neuberg an der Mürz, TCU Cellofest, ASTA Convention, Upbeat Japan, and many more. She has performed in master classes with distinguished cellists and chamber musicians such as Eleonore Schoenfeld, Bernard Greenhouse, Amit Peled, Alisa Weilerstein, Phoebe Carrai, Pieter Wispelwey, as well as The Juilliard and Pražák String Quartets. Mihaela graduated summa cum laude with a Doctorate in Musical Arts from the University of Michigan in 2014, as one of the top 1% students. Under Anthony Elliott's mentorship, Mihaela chose European (especially Balkan) folklore music and its influences onto

classical music as her PhD topic. In addition, she was also awarded an assistantship. As an assistant, she taught String and Cello methods classes, as well as private cello lessons. In September 2016, Mihaela became a permanent member of the Dubrovnik Symphony Orchestra, holding a principal cellist position. Ms. Culjak's enthusiasm for all types of music has made her an avid performer on both, period and modern cello, playing all styles of music. Yet, as a passionate chamber musician, she has performed benefit concerts for the Cure, the Japan earthquake, the Gulf Coast Hurricane, as well as some educational children's concerts.