



**C**onductor and clarinetist Jonathan Cohler has been hailed as “the preeminent, most-recorded soloist of our time” by *Fanfare Magazine*. His technical feats on the clarinet have been called “superhuman,” and *Fanfare* has placed him in the pantheon of legendary musicians, noting that “one thinks of Dinu Lipatti.” As both clarinetist and conductor, he has received numerous prestigious accolades including the Outstanding Recording mark of the *American Record Guide* and *BBC Music Magazine*’s Best CDs of The Year selection.

**Recent Acclaim** Mr. Cohler’s most recent album *Contrasts* with Tchaikovsky gold-medal violinist Ilya Kaler and renowned Lithuanian pianist and Steinway Artist Rasa Vitkauskaite graced the cover of *Fanfare*, which hailed it as “Virtuosity, at the highest level.” His conducting has earned equal praise, with *The Boston Globe* calling his live performance of Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 “remarkable,” and *Fanfare* proclaiming, “he conducts with more dramatic force than George Szell.” *Listener Magazine* wrote, “Cohler possesses such musical integrity and taste that everything he touches seems like the last word,” while *Gramophone* lauded his expression of “the poetry that lesser artists miss.”

**Recordings and Collaborations** Mr. Cohler and multiple-award-winning pianist Rasa Vitkauskaite form today’s leading clarinet-piano duo, featured in four acclaimed recordings: *Latin Journey*, *American Tribute*, *Romanza*, and *Rhapsodie Française*. His collaboration with the award-winning Claremont Trio is showcased in *Jonathan Cohler & Claremont Trio*.

His Mozart, Weber, and Mendelssohn recordings as both conductor and soloist with the renowned Anima Musicae Chamber Orchestra, the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra, and the Budapest Ferenc Erkel Chamber Orchestra have been praised for “extraordinary musical intelligence,” “technical wizardry,” and “supernatural” playing. *American Tribute* has been called “one of the best clarinet CDs to come along in some time,” while *Fanfare* ranked his recordings of the Brahms and Beethoven trios as the all-time best, and *Rhapsodie Française* was chosen as Best of the Year by classical station 94.5 WNED alongside recordings by legendary artists Mstislav Rostropovich and Emil Gilels.

**International Performance Career** Mr. Cohler maintains a busy international schedule with performances worldwide. He has performed at prestigious festivals including Tanglewood, Aspen, Domaine Forget (Canada), and Campos do Jordão (Brazil), to name a few. He is a frequently invited performer, adjudicator, and clinician at the International Clarinet Association’s annual ClarinetFest and numerous other clarinet festivals.

**Chamber Music and Collaborations** As a chamber musician, Jonathan Cohler collaborates frequently with distinguished artists including Rasa Vitkauskaite, Ilya Kaler, James Buswell, members of the Emerson Quartet, Muir String Quartet, Claremont Trio, and Arianna String Quartet. As a chamber music coach, many of his groups have won top prizes at the Fischhoff and Coleman Chamber Music Competitions.

**Leadership and Educational Roles** Mr. Cohler serves as Music Director of the Massachusetts Philharmonic Orchestra and is founder and director of Boston Clarinet Academy, International Woodwind Festival, and Chamber Music Boston. He is President and founding board member of the Boston Woodwind Society and Massachusetts state chair of the International Clarinet Association. Previously, he served as Music Director of the Brockton Symphony Orchestra for 10 years, and is in demand as guest conductor worldwide, including with orchestras such as the renowned Simon Bolivar Orchestra of Venezuela.

**Teaching and Adjudication** Mr. Cohler has adjudicated international competitions including the International Clarinet Competition of the European Clarinet Association, Concours de Musique du

Canada, the Young Artist Competition of the International Clarinet Association, the Russian-American Music Association Competition, and numerous others at festivals and conservatories worldwide.

A highly sought after teacher, Mr. Cohler's students hold positions in major orchestras worldwide and have won top prizes at prestigious international competitions. Mr. Cohler has served on faculties of the Music Festival of Xativa (Spain), Domaine Forget (Canada), Campos do Jordao (Brazil), and teaches regularly as guest faculty at conservatories and universities worldwide including Mozarteum University in Salzburg, Eastman School of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music, Harvard University, Central Conservatory in Beijing, National Conservatory of Music in Mexico, and University of Chile.

**Background and Affiliations** Mr. Cohler's clarinet teachers include legendary Boston Symphony Orchestra clarinetists Pasquale Cardillo and Harold Wright, Berlin Philharmonic legend Karl Leister, Charles Neidich, and Frank Martin. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa in physics from Harvard University and is Professor of Clarinet, Chamber Music, and Conducting at the Longy School of Music of Bard College in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Jonathan Cohler is a Vandoren, Rossi, Royal Global, and Silverstein artist and records exclusively for [Ongaku Records](#). His Facebook page is the #1 classical clarinet page in the world.

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