



# William Cernota

## Lyric Opera of Chicago

William Cernota, cellist with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, is also principal cellist of Concertante di Chicago, Chicago Opera Theater, and the Chicago Chamber Orchestra. He has been a regular substitute with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Orchestra Hall and Ravinia, as well as on recordings and tours. Mr. Cernota was a member of the faculty at the DePaul University School of Music from 1988 to 1999.

Following graduation from the University of Chicago, he served for three years in the Peace Corps, Sierra Leone, West Africa, as a biology teacher and band director. He has studied with Alois Trnka, Raya Garbousova, Daniel Morganstern, and Karl Fruh. During his tenure as principal cellist of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, he was a student of Frank Miller.

His solo appearances have included Strauss' Don Quixote, Strauss' Romance, Bloch's Schelomo, Beethoven's Triple Concerto, Brahms' Double Concerto, Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo

Theme, Dvorák's Silent Woods, Boellmann's Symphonic Variations, and the cello concerti of Dvorák, Schumann, Lalo, Ibert, Haydn, Monn, and Vivaldi. He performed Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata on a nationwide live broadcast from WFMT Fine Arts Radio in Chicago and appeared as soloist on the 1992 and 1994 European Tours of the Chicago Chamber Orchestra. His recitals have included the complete Sonatas and Variations of Beethoven and the complete Gamba Sonatas of J.S. Bach.

With special interests in new and old music, Mr. Cernota appears regularly in contemporary music concerts. He has performed Lutoslawski's works for solo cello at Orchestra Hall in Chicago for the composer. He has also performed on baroque cello with The City Musik, Basically Bach, Orpheus Band, and Galena Baroque Ensemble.

Mr. Cernota resides in Chicago with his wife Maria and daughter Naomi.

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*For more information, contact William Cernota:*

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