

**British/Sicilian cellist Max Ruisi has emerged as a charismatic and expressive young artist with an international career built around his love of chamber music. Cellist of the award-winning Ruisi Quartet alongside his violinist brother Alessandro, Max is also the founder & Artistic Director of The 12 ensemble, now recognised as one of the country's leading string orchestras. He has performed in major concert halls and festivals throughout Europe and Asia, and in 2017 recorded as a soloist for Decca Classics with Ola Gjeilo.**

**Recent highlights include appearing as a soloist at the Barbican (Sound Unbound Festival 2017) and performing chamber music alongside the Berlin Phil's principal oboist Albrecht Mayer at the Reeperbahn Festival. Max also collaborates with a wide range of artists, regularly working closely with composer Max Richter and appearing on Radiohead's latest album 'A Moon Shaped Pool.' Upcoming highlights for 2018 include performances at the Elbphilharmonie, Berlin Philharmonie and the Staatskapelle Dresden.**

In 2015 Max was a YCAT Finalist and recipient of the 'Royal Philharmonic Society Award for British String Players' with the Ruisi Quartet. As founder and Artistic Director of the 12 ensemble, Max has established a pioneering and award-winning un-conducted string orchestra that is in-demand worldwide. He also performs with a number of orchestras, including the London Contemporary Orchestra, LCO Soloists and the John Wilson Orchestra. Max has coached chamber music at the Royal College of Music and the Pro Corda courses in the UK, and has been on the jury of the National Schools Chamber Music Festival.

After completing his undergraduate degree at the GSMD, Max studied with Rainer Schmidt (Hagen Quartet) at the Basel Hochschule für Musik and recently completed an Artist Diploma in Chamber Music at the Royal College of Music. He has participated in numerous public masterclasses as both a soloist and chamber musician, including working with Alfred Brendel and Eberhard Feltz, and was a student of Ferenc Rados at IMS Prussia Cove with the Ruisi Quartet in 2015.

A versatile and innovative musician, Max has worked with many of today's leading young composers, including commissioning British composer Kate Whitley on behalf of the 12 ensemble. He has also recorded and performed with many leading contemporary artists, and regularly collaborates with composer Max Richter. In 2014 Max was part of Orchestra's string octet that recorded the acclaimed soundtrack to Mica Levi's award winning film 'Under The Skin', and more recently appeared on her Oscar-nominated soundtrack to 'Jackie'.