

Tony Rogers

Tony is a cellist, educator, performer, arranger and composer, and an ambassador of the cello across all genres. As a sought after performer, he performs each year in nearly 100 concerts of classical and modern folk/rock/electronic genres, in acoustic settings and heavily amplified. Tony has toured throughout the U.S. and Canada and across Europe with such performers as Jens Lekman, The Impossible Shapes, Hailey Bonner, Holcombe Waller, Daniel Martin Moore, among others. Tony is truly a unique cellist, and brings improvisation and soloing to his performances as well as foot percussion and singing.

He studied the cello at the University of North Texas and then developing further studies at the University of Texas at Austin. After college Tony developed most of his eclectic performance style hosting solo concerts of looped cello and singing, and he soon leveraged these skills with other artists. In 2005 he started the Portland Cello Project based around his improvisational style, and was writing arrangements and hosting concerts with a group of other local cellists.

When at home in Austin TX, Tony keeps a busy schedule as a member of the Austin Piazzolla Quintet, the Waterloo Trio, Jenifer Jackson, Mundi, and the multi-genre group Strings Attached. Each week he teaches an elite group of private students, from age 10-65. Since 2011 has been the artistic director of the Austin Cello Choir, an all-cello ensemble open to cellists of all ages and abilities. Each year he is a featured guest artist, teacher, and director at the Texas State Strings Camp at Texas State University in San Marcos, TX. He has performed with The Austin Symphony, Abilene Philharmonic, San Angelo Symphony, Orchestra of the Pines, and the Victoria Symphony.

In February 2018, Tony joined the “Cruise to the Edge” tour, performing with Austin performer Casey McPhearsen, sharing the bill with Yes and the stage with members of Flying Colors. This past march he was honored as a special guest artist with the 2018 UT Rio Grande Valley Cello Festival teaching workshops on improvisation and “off the page” playing.