The triumphant homecoming of Carlos Prieto '58

MIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conducted by David Epstein.

Carlos Prieto proved himself to be an "exceptionally competent performer" with an "excellent technique for an amateur," wrote Tech music critic Daniel B. Schneider on December 13, 1955.

Schneider was reviewing Prieto's solo performance with the MIT Symphony Orchestra (of which he was principal violist). Of Haydn's Concerto for Cello in D, Prieto's interpretation, said Schneider, was "sensitive and displayed a fine understanding of the work."

Neither Prieto nor Schneider could know at the time that not only would Prieto become a world-renowned professional cellist, but that he would return to give a triumphant performance with the MIT Symphony Orchestra 32 years later.

Prieto was interested in mathematics and physics as well as music, and MIT was a place where he could indulge in all these activities. He received bachelor's degrees in both materials science (then known as "metallurgical engineering") and economics and went on to work in the Mexican steel industry for the next 20 years. Then, at age 39, he decided to make music his life and spent several summers studying with Leonard Rose in New York. In 1981 he was declared "Outstanding Soloist of the Year" by the Mexican Association of Music Critics.

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