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THANKSGIVING TRADITIONS
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THE CULTURE ISSUE

THIS SEASON'S HOT TICKETS





GUEST CONDUCTOR
CAROLYN KUAN WILL
JOIN THE SYMPHONIA FOR
"A PASSION FOR ITALY"
JANUARY 5.

CHARLIE SCHLUCK

THE SYMPHONIA *Celebrates Women in Music*

For its 2019-2020 Marleen Forkas Connoisseur Concert Series, The Symphonia is making it all about women. Each of its four main concerts at the Roberts Theater at Saint Andrew's School in Boca Raton will celebrate women in music and star female guest conductors and/or soloists. On February 9, The Symphonia will also honor Beethoven's 250th birthday with a program that includes the German composer's *King Stephen Overture* and *Symphony No. 5*. Ahead of this performance, *PBI* caught up with guest cellist Yumi Kendall, assistant principal cello with the Philadelphia Orchestra, to discuss female composers and influences. (thesymphonia.org)

PBI: Who were the women in your life or within classical music you looked to for inspiration?

Kendall: My grandmother. Aside from sharing a birthday, I feel like she understood me long before I understood myself. She was an advocate for me and made me feel heard. She was also a naturalist, a beekeeper, a homemaker, an author, and a violist, but above all, she was

my inspiration. There's nothing quite like having someone who simply believes in you.

Is there a female composer you gravitate toward? What do you like most about her music?

Gabriela Lena Frank. She's got such a distinctive voice, but most of all, she's authentic to herself, to her ideas and ideals, and to her background and honoring her heritage. Also, I know her! She's the Philadelphia Orchestra's composer in residence, and it's a pleasure to work with her, delve into process, and bring her works to life in her presence.

What do you find most enjoyable about performing Beethoven's music?

Beethoven speaks through his music. It is so full of life, and it is just so well written. My favorites to play are his string quartets because the interaction between the four voices is so clear, pristine, fun, and full of character and emotion. It's sheer pleasure to play and quite humbling at the same time.



YUMI KENDALL

LISA MARI HALLZUCCO

During your concert with The Symphonia, you'll also be performing music by Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. What makes her music a good complement to Beethoven's?

As I'm practicing her concerto, it's as if she understands how important it is for me to feel connected to the music itself, connecting texture and sound for the musician; it feels so satisfying to play. I think in this way, she relates with Beethoven's writing, who seemed to know what "sits well" on a given instrument—like going to your favorite clothing store and knowing its clothes will fit you just right.

18

WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION AT LAKE WORTH PLAYHOUSE

THE LAKE WORTH PLAYHOUSE WILL STAGE *WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION* FEBRUARY 27 TO MARCH 15.

THIS AGATHA CHRISTIE WHODUNIT CHRONICLES THE TWISTS AND TURNS IN THE TRIAL OF LEONARD VOLE, WHO STANDS ACCUSED OF MURDERING A RICH WIDOW NAMED EMILY FRENCH. (LAKEWORTHPLAYHOUSE.ORG)