

Karen Gomyo, violin

Recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2008, Canadian violinist Karen Gomyo first captured the public's attention just one week after her fifteenth birthday when she won the 1997 Young Concert Artists International Auditions. She became the youngest artist ever to be presented in the Young Concert Artists Series in New York, in a critically acclaimed debut as recipient of the Summis Auspiciis Prize, and has ever since been in demand as soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician across the US, Canada, South America, Europe, and Asia.

On May 25, 2009, Ms. Gomyo performed Vaughan Williams' *The Lark Ascending* with David Robertson and the New York Philharmonic, in a special Memorial Day concert at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. Other recent highlights are re-engagements with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Leonard Slatkin, the St. Louis Symphony under Gilbert Varga, the Houston Symphony under Louie Langrée, the Toronto Symphony under Kwame Ryan, as well as returns with the symphonies of Utah, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Phoenix among others, while making first-time appearances with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lille, the New Jersey Symphony, Orquesta Filarmonica de la Ciudad de Mexico, and in summer concert debuts with the San Francisco Symphony and Philadelphia Orchestra under Hans Graf.

In September 2008 Ms. Gomyo had the honor of being asked to perform a solo Bach movement at the First Symposium for the Victims of Terrorism held at the headquarters of the United Nations in New York.

Karen Gomyo's 2009-2010 season includes re-engagements with the Dallas Symphony, Montreal Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, Gavle Symphony and Jönköping Symphony in Sweden; Orquesta Sinfonica de Rio de Janeiro, Orchesta Sinfonica de Puerto Rico, as well as debuts with the Bergen Philharmonic in Norway with conductor Roberto Minczuk, the Colorado Symphony with Andrew Litton, and the San Diego Symphony with its music director Jahja Ling.

This summer she appears under the baton of Leonard Slatkin with both the Nashville Symphony and Detroit Symphony, and with Kirill Karabits at the Grant Park Festival Orchestra in Chicago. She will also be appearing in chamber music festivals at the Pharos Trust Chamber Music Festival in Cyprus, Moritzburg Festival in Germany, Rencontres de Musique de Chambre Bel-Air in France (Renaud Capucon, music director), and Mondsee Festival in Austria (Heinrich Schiff, music director).

Ms. Gomyo has worked with such conductors as Leonard Slatkin, Nicolas McGegen, Neeme Jarvi, Yannick Nezet-Seguin, Andrey Boreyko, Hans Graf, Gilbert Varga, Mario Venzago, David Zinman and Xian Zhang. Past North American engagements have included those with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Baltimore, National, Cincinnati, Seattle and Vancouver Symphony Orchestras; the NACO of Ottawa, and the New York and Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestras. In Europe she has worked with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Orchestre

National de Lille, Den Haag Residentie Orchestra, Orchestre National de Bretagne, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, as well as over 25 visits to various Scandinavian orchestras, including a tour with the Norrköping Symphony Orchestra which ended with a concert in Vienna's Musikverein.

Ms. Gomyo has given recital tour and chamber music tours of Japan, including concerts at Suntory Hall in Tokyo, and the new Recital Hall at Chanel in Tokyo. She has performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., The Louvre in Paris, on the Ravinia Rising Stars Series in Chicago, on the Seattle Symphony Recital Series and on the La Jolla Chamber Music Society. She has appeared at the Aspen Music Festivals in Aspen and in Japan, where she performed with cellist Lynn Harrell, at the Usedom Music Festival in Germany. She has also performed at the Caramoor International Chamber Music Festival, Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, Bargemusic and the Bard Festival in New York, at the Mostly Mozart Festival at Avery Fisher Hall in a pre-concert recital, and for the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations.

She is fascinated with modern tango music. In this field she has collaborated with such artists as Piazzolla's pianist Pablo Ziegler, bandoneonist Raul Jaurena, and Saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera. During a special residency program at Banff she studied and performed the art of improvisation on the violin.

Ms. Gomyo has made numerous radio and television appearances in the U.S., Canada, France Germany and Japan. Her second recording project, an eclectic recital program with Kremerata Baltica's pianist, Andrius Zlabys, will be released in autumn 2009 on Swedish label Palette Records.

Born in Tokyo to a Japanese painter and French professor of philosophy, Karen Gomyo was raised in Montreal. At age 5 she had already begun performing in public. She was one of the ten children chosen to play in a master class in Chicago given by Dorothy DeLay, and was promptly taken under the pedagogue's wing to study on full scholarship at The Juilliard School. After Miss DeLay's passing, Ms. Gomyo continued her studies at the Indiana University with Mauricio Fuks, and with Donald Weilerstein at the New England Conservatory of Music, where she graduated in May 2007 with an Artist Diploma, the school's highest honor.

Ms. Gomyo plays the rare "Ex Foulis" Stradivarius of 1703 that was bought for her exclusive use by a private sponsor.

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