

Upstage

Thursday, September 13, 2018

International Violin Competition of Indianapolis finals

by Jay Harvey – Indianapolis, IN

Risa Hokamura has the distinction of being younger (17) than Mozart was (19) when he wrote five violin concertos in 1775 during his Salzburg years. She had a startling abundance of firm glow in her sound. Her playing was powerful and reflective of the music's reaching out in youthful vigor; the first movement cadenza was both sweet and steely.

With the orchestra's help, Hokamura had a captivating way of rounding off cadenzas and fermatas in reintroducing the tutti with panache.



Risa Hokamura made the most of tonal beauty.