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Risa Hokamura, violin

Risa Hokamura began studying the violin at the age of three and, by ten, had captured top prizes in competitions throughout her native Japan. She gained international recognition at seventeen after winning the 2018 Young Concert Artists Susan Wadsworth International Auditions, where she also received the Tannery Pond Concerts Prize, The Ruth Laredo Memorial Prize, and The Ronald A. Asherson Prize. That same year, she won the Silver Medal at the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, performing with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin.

She has appeared as concerto soloist with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra, Kennett Symphony, The Apollo Orchestra, Muncie Symphony Orchestra, Greensboro Symphony Orchestra, Baton Rouge Symphony, Aiken Symphony, Symphonicity in Virginia Beach, Kanagawa Philharmonic, New Japan Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, Kansai Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony, and Sapporo Symphony. Recent and upcoming orchestral engagements also include the McCall Music Festival Orchestra under conductor Eric Garcia and the Salina Symphony.

Her recital debuts include Merkin Hall in New York City, the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater in Washington, D.C., and Kioi Hall in Tokyo, where she performed all six Ysaÿe Sonatas. She has also performed recitals at Ithaca College, Buffalo Chamber Music Society, The Morgan Library & Museum, Port Washington Library, Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota, University of Florida Performing Arts, and the Takefu International Music Festival.

She has additionally performed chamber music at Music@Menlo, Clarion Concerts, Newport Classical, The Morgan Library & Museum, Chamber Music Lehigh Valley, BIG ARTS Sanibel Island, Arts at Abingdon, Arts Council of Moore County, the Salk Science & Music Series, the Kravis Center, Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center, Mobile Chamber Music, and Calgary Pro Musica. Upcoming YCA On Tour chamber engagements include Chamber Music San Francisco, the Tuesday Evening Concert Series, Wilton Candlelight Concerts, The Plaza Theatre in Palm Springs and the Clarksville Community Concert Series, with additional performances at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.

A native of Japan, Risa studied at the Tokyo College of Music as an Honorary Scholarship student with Koichiro Harada, Mayuko Kamio, and Machie Oguri. She now studies at the Manhattan School of Music on full scholarship with Koichiro Harada and Lucie Robert, with additional studies under Cho-Liang Lin. She is a recipient of scholarships from the Ezoe Memorial Foundation and the Rohm Music Foundation, and is represented in Japan by Kajimoto.

Risa performs on the 1715 "Joachim" Stradivarius, on loan from the Nippon Music Foundation, and the 1734 "Ames-Totenberg" Stradivarius, on loan from Ryuji Ueno and Rare Violins In Consortium, Artists and Benefactors Collaborative.