1-14-2019 8:00 PM

World Music Series, Yumi Kurosawa: Koto and Composer, January 14, 2019

Lawrence University
YUMI KUROSAWA
Koto and Composer

Monday, January 14, 2019
Harper Hall, Music-Drama Center
8 p.m.

Program

Sakura Cherry Blossom arr. Yumi Kurosawa
GreenPt Kurosawa
Rokudan Kengyo Yatsuhashi
JB Transfer (with electronics) Kurosawa
Rapture (in three movements) Kurosawa
Vivaldi’s Four Seasons for solo koto arr. Kurosawa
TAKEDA Lullaby arr. Kurosawa
Inner Space Kurosawa
The harvest moon + Kurosawa
Looking up at the sky (with electronics) Kurosawa

No intermission

Born and raised in Japan, Yumi Kurosawa started study of the koto when she was three. She received first prize at the National Japanese Koto Competition for students in 1989 and 1992 and a scholarship from The Agency for Cultural Affairs of Japan in 1998. Her extensive performances in Japan have included appearances at Suntory Hall in Tokyo and on NHK Broadcast TV. Kurosawa has been based in New York since 2002. Internationally, she has toured in Canada, Germany, Malaysia, Russia and the U.S.

Kurosawa made her Carnegie Hall debut with Orchestra of the Swan in 2006. In 2011, she was principal soloist in the premiere of Daron Hagen’s koto concerto Genji with Orchestra of the Swan in Stratford-Upon-Avon, U.K. The concerto went on to be performed with the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra among others. In 2013, Kurosawa was principal soloist for the premiere of The Memory Stone at the Houston Grand Opera. In 2015, she premiered the ballet: Tsuru, for which she was commissioned by Houston Ballet and Asia Society Texas both as a soloist and composer. That same year, Ms. Kurosawa collaborated with Beyonce dancers Les Twins, for a performance at the world heritage site Kiyomizu-dera; performed at the World Economic Forum in Dalian, China; and was a soloist for the koto & shakuhachi concerto FUGAKU by Takashi Yoshimatsu with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra at Suntory Hall’s opening gala. Ms. Kurosawa was guest artist for Japanese Connection at the Kennedy Center. She continues to perform in local New York City venues such as Joe’s Pub, the Highline Ballroom, the Blue Note, Apollo Theater and other concert halls.

She has released three solo records: Four Seasons (Vivaldi/Kurosawa, 2017), Looking At The Sky (2015), and Beginning of a Journey (2009).

Kurosawa has been lauded by the New York Times for her graceful musicianship, “drawing on a timbral palette that [ranges] from warm and rounded to bright and metallic.” She also has received praise in the Washington Post and other prestigious publications.
2018–19
WORLD MUSIC SERIES

Nobuntu
Monday, October 8, 2018, 8 p.m. | Harper Hall, Music Drama Center

Yumi Kurosawa
Monday, January 14, 2019, 8 p.m. | Harper Hall, Music-Drama Center

Projecto Arcomusical
Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 8 p.m. | Harper Hall, Music-Drama Center

Fifth House Ensemble and Alash • Sonic Meditations
Monday, February 25, 2019, 8 p.m. | Lawrence Memorial Chapel

Innov Gnawa
Monday, April 8, 2019, 8 p.m. | Harper Hall, Music-Drama Center

Lawrence University Gamelan Concert
Monday, May 27, 2019, 3 p.m. | Stansbury Theatre

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