

2023-24 CONCERT SERIES

Kulas Hall

*63 years of music
is just the beginning*



CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for joining us on this historic evening. Tonight, the CIM Orchestra gives its last full performance in Kulas Hall as we know it, as the room has looked most of the last 63 years.

That's right. After years of dreaming and planning, we're embarking on a total renovation of Kulas Hall, our first and beloved performance venue. In May, after Commencement, we'll take this iconic space down to the studs and begin rebuilding a professional-grade, high-tech, and wondrously flexible new hall that will serve CIM and our friends across Cleveland for decades to come.

The next time you're here, you'll be seated in a new chair, immersed in a new acoustic environment, listening to a soloist or ensemble in a room expertly tailored to that performance. I, for one, can hardly wait. It will be a new jewel in the already lustrous crown that is Cleveland's concert spaces.

But that's not why you're here, I know. Tonight, you're here to witness another great performance by our CIM Orchestra, led by my dear friend, the incomparable JoAnn Falletta, music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

On that account, you're even luckier. Even better than sharing in the CIM Orchestra's last Kulas appearance is experiencing the Falletta effect, the profound, electrifying impact JoAnn has on our students.

Much of the music on this program I'd wager you've heard before. Prokofiev's "Classical" Symphony, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio Espagnol*, and of course *Pictures at an Exhibition* are all classics, pillars of the standard repertoire.

But I'm equally certain you've never heard them this way before, played with genuine passion and intensity not by veterans but by a group of supremely talented young artists – including young conductors – likely performing these works for the first time. That's something special, and I'm positive you'll enjoy it as much as we always do.

So tonight, take note, using all your senses. With your ears, listen closely to what will undoubtedly be a superb and memorable performance. With your mind, remember and reflect on this evening, with all its rich significance. Lastly, with your eyes, take a look around, for Kulas Hall won't look this way much longer. A new era at CIM is just beginning.

Thank you, as always, for being here tonight – and for being a loyal patron. To all of us at CIM, your presence over the years has meant and will continue to mean everything.

Onward!

Paul W. Hogle

President | CEO

Mary Elizabeth Callahan Chair



CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

CIM ORCHESTRA

Thursday, March 28, 2024

7:30pm | Kulas Hall

CIM Orchestra

JoAnn Falletta, guest conductor

Kulas Foundation Visiting Artist

Clancy Ellis, conductor, student artist

Jake Taniguchi, conductor, student artist

Sergei Prokofiev
(1891–1953)

Symphony No. 1 in D Major, Op. 25,
“Classical”

Allegro

Intermezzo: Larghetto

Gavotte: Non troppo allegro

Finale: Molto vivace

Jake Taniguchi, conductor

Nikolai
Rimsky-Korsakov
(1844–1908)

Capriccio Espagnol, Op. 34

Alborada

Variazioni

Alborada

Scena e canto gitano

Fandango asturiano

Clancy Ellis, conductor

Intermission

*Visiting artist appearances, including this and others throughout the season,
are made possible by a generous grant from the Kulas Foundation.*

Modest Mussorgsky
(1839–1881)
orch. Maurice Ravel

Pictures at an Exhibition

Promenade

Gnomus

Promenade

Il Vecchio Castello

Promenade

Tuileries

Bydlo

Promenade

Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks

Samuel Goldenberg and Schmuyle

Promenade

Limoges, the Market Place

Catacombs

Cum mortuis in lingua mortua

The Hut on Fowl's Legs (Baba Yaga)

The Great Gate of Kiev

JoAnn Falletta, conductor

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CIM ORCHESTRA

FIRST VIOLIN

Kaylee Bontrager, concertmaster
Massillon, OH

Miles Huang, assistant concertmaster
San Jose, CA

Dariia Rakhmanina
Brovary, Ukraine

Paula Sastre
Collado Villalba, Spain

Karen Ferry
Corrine, UT

Leonardo Rincon
Boynton Beach, FL

Maude Cloutier
Chardon, OH

Arayana Carr-Mal
Sunderland, MA

Sebastian Orellana
Chillan, Chile

Jeremy Foster
Washington, DC

Emma Johnson
Colorado Springs, CO

Lingxiao Feng
Guangzhou, China

Yusong Zhao
Wuhan, China

Avery Tracy
Santa Clarita, CA

Kendra Chao
San Jose, CA

SECOND VIOLIN

Rhianna Lingle, principal
Monument, CO

Yuwa Roten, assistant principal
Jefferson, NC

Theo Bockhorst
St. Louis, MO

Ella Golden
Bartlett, TN

Ani Sinanyan
Sherman Oaks, CA

Charlie Li
Shenzhen, China

Zhaoying Feng
Beijing, China

Zachary Brandon
Battle Creek, MI

Maya Johnson
Decatur, GA

Evan Pyne
Toronto, Canada

Clara Kim
Frisco, TX

Ruoyao Li
Cleveland, OH

VIOLA

Lola Pinney, principal
Henderson, NV

Ariel Chien, assistant principal
Fairfax, VA

Isabel Barron
Glen Allen, VA

Geo Brown
West Palm Beach, FL

Natalie Brennecke
Oberlin, OH

Dominick Douglas
Cleveland, OH

Arielle Fentress
Seattle, WA

Josh Felser
Denver, CO

Aubrey Williamson
Austin, TX

David Lawrence
Salt Lake City, UT

Amelia Branch
Chattanooga, TN

CELLO

Karim Maggio, principal
Herndon, VA

Erica Garcia, assistant principal
Massapequa, NY

Chris Kim
Chesterfield, VA

Eleanor Pompa
Cleveland, OH

Matthew Rhee
Syosset, NY

Milo Klise
San Francisco, CA

Iren Hangen Vazquez
Danby, VT

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Rowena Bakke
Buffalo Grove, IL

Liam Battle
Rockville Centre, NY

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Chicago, IL

Ifetayo Ali
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DOUBLE BASS

Andrew French, principal
Elmhurst, IL

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Plymouth, MI

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Cincinnati, OH

Jason Chen
Taoyuan, Taiwan

Calder Carey
Austin, TX

Hao-Wei Tsai
Taipei, Taiwan

Wyatt Knutson
Chesapeake, VA

FLUTE

Darilyn Fine ^
Verona, NJ

Anna Johnson
Grosse Pointe Park, MI

Zoe Stier #
Rocky River, OH

Harue Suzuki *
Buffalo, NY

PICCOLO

Darilyn Fine *
Verona, NJ

Anna Johnson
Grosse Pointe Park, MI

Zoe Stier ^
Rocky River, OH

OBOE

Grayson Eichmeier *
Mequon, WI

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Mandy Leach
Cincinnati, OH

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Ames, IA
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Faro, Portugal
 Kaden Smutz
Oviedo, FL
 Hunter Wirt
Mardela Springs, MD

principal on Prokofiev

^ principal on Rimsky-Korsakov

* principal on Mussorgsky

ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

JoAnn Falletta serves as music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Connie and Marc Jacobson Music Director Laureate of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, principal guest conductor of the Brevard Music Center, and conductor laureate of the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra. She was recently named one of the “Fifty Great Conductors,” past and present, by *Gramophone* magazine, and is hailed for her work as a conductor, recording artist, audience builder, and champion of American composers.

As music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO), Falletta became the first woman to lead a major American orchestra and has been credited with bringing the BPO to an unprecedented level of national and international prominence. The BPO has become one of the leading recording orchestras for Naxos, with two Grammy-winning recordings.

Internationally, Falletta has conducted many of the most prominent orchestras in Europe, Asia, and South America, including recent and upcoming concerts in Spain, Sweden, Germany, Brazil, and Croatia. Her recent and upcoming North American guest conducting includes the National Symphony Orchestra, the orchestras of Boston, Baltimore, Detroit, Nashville, Indianapolis, Houston, Toronto, Milwaukee, Vancouver, and Quebec, and a concert at Alice Tully Hall with her alma mater, The Juilliard School Orchestra.

With a discography of over 125 titles, Falletta is a leading recording artist for Naxos. She has won two individual Grammys, including the 2021 Grammy for Best Choral Performance as conductor of the world premiere Naxos recording *Richard Danielpour’s The Passion of Yeshua*. In 2019, she won her first individual Grammy as conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra in the Best Classical Compendium category for *Spiritualist*, her fifth world premiere recording of the music of Kenneth Fuchs. Her 2020 Naxos recording of orchestral music of Florent Schmitt with the BPO received the prestigious Diapason d’Or Award.

Falletta is a member of the esteemed American Academy of Arts and Sciences, has served by presidential appointment as a member of the National Council on the Arts during the George W. Bush and Barack Obama administrations, and is the recipient of many of the most prestigious conducting awards. She has conducted more than 1,600 orchestral works by 600-plus composers, including more than 125 works by women. Credited with performing more than 150 world premieres, ASCAP has honored her as “a leading force for music of our time.” In 2019, Falletta was named *Performance Today’s* first Classical Woman of the Year.

Falletta is a strong advocate and mentor for young professional and student musicians. She has led seminars for women conductors for the League of American Orchestras and established a unique collaboration between the BPO and the Mannes College of Music to give up-and-coming conductors

professional experience with a leading American orchestra. She has had great success working with young musicians, guest conducting orchestras at top conservatories and summer programs, and as artistic advisor at CIM.

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Praised for his “clear, discreet, and precise” conducting (Peter Perret, Cultural Voice of North Carolina), **Clancy Ellis** is an orchestra and opera conductor based in Cleveland, Ohio. Ellis presently serves as a cover conductor for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and assistant conductor of the Boston Lyric Opera. Previously, Ellis has appeared as a guest conductor for the Space Coast Symphony Orchestra and has conducted the Lviv National Philharmonic. He has conducted in festivals throughout the US and Europe, recently serving as the assistant conductor of the Prague Summer Nights opera festival. He was chosen by Riccardo Muti as one of four conductors to study and conduct Bellini’s *Norma* in Milan for the 2023 Riccardo Muti Opera Academy. Ellis holds degrees from the Mannes School of Music and Eastman School of Music. He is currently pursuing a Professional Studies diploma in conducting at CIM.

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Jake Taniguchi is a conductor and educator originally from Honolulu, Hawai’i. Currently, he serves as the conductor for the CIM New Music Ensemble and assistant conductor for the CIM Orchestra and Opera Theater. From 2020 to 2024, Taniguchi served as principal conductor of the Hawai’i Chamber Music Festival (HCMF). He has also worked as an assistant and cover conductor for the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra, Hawai’i Symphony Orchestra, and Northwestern University ensembles.

Taniguchi’s guest conducting appearances include the Indiana University Symphonic and Concert Bands, Honolulu Wind Ensemble, and Hawai’i Youth Percussion Ensemble. He has collaborated with renowned conductors Leonard Slatkin, Dane Lam, and Anthony Parnter, as well as violinist Stefan Jackiw, pianists Sean Kennard and David Kaplan, clarinetist Yoonah Kim, and saxophonist Steven Banks. A fervent advocate for new music, he has fostered artistic partnerships with composers Marcos Balter, Sebastian Currier, Billy Childs, Keith Fitch, Christopher Cerrone, and Joan Tower, among others.

Devoted to nurturing a lifelong enthusiasm for music, Taniguchi has worked with numerous schools, youth organizations, and educational programs, including Kamehameha Schools, Mid-Pacific Institute School of the Arts, Oshkosh Youth Symphony Orchestra, and HCMF’s Young Artist Program.

Taniguchi completed his undergraduate studies in bassoon and conducting at Indiana University, followed by a master’s degree in orchestral conducting from Northwestern University. He is continuing his studies at CIM under the guidance of JoAnn Falletta. His mentors have included Victor Yampolsky, Rodney Dorsey, David Neely, Carlos Kalmar, and Thomas Wilkins.

~ ~ ~

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