KAORI FUJII

Born in Tokyo and residing in New York City, Kaori Fujii has emerged as one of the leading imaginative and creative flutists in the classical music world. From baroque to contemporary music, it’s Kaori’s distinctive sound and intensity of feeling that captivate concert audiences and CD-listeners alike.

Kaori has released eight albums, including *Garota de Ipanema*, which was pre-nominated for the Grammy Awards and the Latin Grammy Awards (LARAS) in eight categories. She has performed with such renowned artists as composer-conductor Ennio Morricone, conductor Justus Frantz, oboist Albrecht Mayer, pianist Phillip Moll, and pianist Stanislav Bunin, as well as the Vienna Piano Quartet, Sinfonia Varsovia, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and Suk Chamber Music Orchestra, to name a few.

Kaori has also graced the stages of leading concert halls that include New York’s Carnegie Hall, Washington, DC’s John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Germany’s Alte Oper Frankfurt and Liederhalle, Venezuela’s Teresa Carreño Theater, and Tokyo’s Suntory Hall and Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall.

Kaori took first prize in the 7th Japan Woodwind Competition, the 14th Japan Wind and Percussion Competition, and the 67th Music Competition of Japan. She was the youngest winner in the history of these competitions. Kaori was also awarded second prize in the 44th International Competition Maria Canals de Barcelona in Spain and 10th International Flute Competition Friedrich Kuhlau in Germany.

A graduate of the Tokyo University of the Arts and the soloist class of the University of Music and Performing Arts Stuttgart, Kaori has studied extensively with artists who include Jean-Claude Gérard, Paul Meisen, Jeanne Baxtresser, Aurèle Nicolet, Wolfgang Schulz, Sir James Galway, and Akiko Mikami.

In 2014, Kaori founded Music Beyond, Inc., a nonprofit organization that aims to empower people in developing countries through music and engagement. She frequently travels to the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Central Africa to train classical musicians and teach workshops and master classes for emerging young musicians in schools.

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