



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LONGMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS PIANIST TAKA KIGAWA ON NOVEMBER 10

Kigawa, from Longmont's Sister City Chino, Japan, is featured in a program that takes inspiration from Japanese, French and American cultures

LONGMONT, CO, OCTOBER 19, 2018 — On Saturday, November 10, the Longmont Symphony Orchestra (LSO) presents **pianist Taka Kigawa** from Longmont's Sister City Chino, Japan, along with impressionist music from Ravel and Debussy. The concert, entitled "A Cultural Affair," also features the Colorado premiere of a work by local **composer Conor Brown**.

"Our November concert continues the journey of unity and peace that we began with *Chichester Psalms* in October. Founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, **Sister Cities International** has been promoting peace through cultural understanding for over half a century. All of the works on this program take inspiration from cultures besides the composers' own: Ravel's Piano Concerto in G was inspired by American jazz, and Debussy's *La Mer* was inspired by Japanese art," said **LSO music director Elliot Moore**. "I am particularly excited that we will be giving the second performance - and Colorado premiere - of the Boulder-based composer Conor Brown's *How to Relax with Origami*. Commissioned and premiered by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra last year, Conor's piece is certainly worthy of being in the standard orchestral repertoire, and we are excited to be bringing an original orchestral work of his to Colorado for the first time."

A Cultural Affair

Saturday, November 10, 2018—7:30 PM

Vance Brand Civic Auditorium

Elliot Moore, conductor

CONOR BROWN *How to Relax with Origami* (Colorado Premiere)

RAVEL Concerto for Piano in G Major

Taka Kigawa, piano

DEBUSSY *La Mer*

A free pre-concert talk with Elliot Moore will be held in the Commons area at 6:30 p.m. Single tickets are \$25 for adults, \$22 for seniors and active military, \$5 for students age 12-18, and free for age 11 and under, and are on sale via phone (303-772-5796) and online at www.longmontsymphony.org. Office hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; the office is closed on Wednesdays.

About Taka Kigawa

“Taka Kigawa is a pianist who not only has technique to burn but possesses an uncommon intelligence.” ~New York Classical Review

“Phenomenon. There’s no denying that he is something special.” ~The New York Times

“Unbelievably challenging program...Kigawa is an artist of stature.” ~The New Yorker

“Taka Kigawa is a stupendous virtuoso.” ~La Nación (Buenos Aires)

The critically acclaimed pianist Taka Kigawa has earned outstanding international recognition as a concerto soloist, recitalist and chamber music artist, performing extensively in New York City, Boston, Cleveland, Washington, DC, Barcelona, Milan, Paris and Buenos Aires, as well as throughout his native Japan, including the cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, Nagano and Osaka. He has also been a featured artist on television and radio networks in the United States, Europe and Asia.

Taka Kigawa was awarded First Prize from the prestigious 1990 Japan Music Foundation Piano Competition in Tokyo and the Diploma Prize from Spain’s 1998 Concurs Internacional de Música Maria Canals Barcelona. His 2010 New York City recital was chosen by The New York Times as one of the best concerts of the year, while a subsequent 2011 recital was selected as one of the most notable concerts of the 2011-2012 season by *Musical America*. His 2014 recital in Buenos Aires was named one of the best concerts of the year by Argentina’s leading newspaper, *La Nación*.

Possessing an extremely large and varied repertoire, ranging from the Baroque to the avant-garde, Taka Kigawa has collaborated closely with Pierre Boulez, Myung-Whun Chung and Jonathan Nott. He premiered the last solo piano work of Yusef Lateef, the jazz legend, in New York City in 2013.

Taka Kigawa grew up in Nagano, Japan, where he began piano studies at the age of three, and won his first competition at the age of seven. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Shinsyu University and his Master of Arts degree from Tokyo Gakugei (Liberal Arts) University, graduating with honors in Piano Performance. During both his undergraduate and graduate years, Mr. Kigawa also studied composition and conducting, receiving high honors in both disciplines. He furthered his studies in the United States at The Juilliard School in New York City, where he was awarded a Master of Music degree.

Taka Kigawa currently resides in New York City. For more information, visit www.takakigawa.com

Funding for the LSO’s 2018-19 season comes from the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District, the Longmont Community Foundation, the Community Foundation of Boulder County and the City of Longmont.

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*The Longmont Symphony Orchestra’s mission is to foster and promote the appreciation and understanding of symphonic music through performances and educational programs. The LSO presents multiple performances each year for 15,000+ people -- including a six-concert subscription series, a pair of children’s concerts for all St. Vrain Valley School District 5<sup>th</sup> graders, a Family Matinee Concert, three performances of the Nutcracker Ballet, a Candlelight Concert, a July 4<sup>th</sup> concert and two chamber orchestra concerts at the Longmont Museum -- and has an active education and outreach program. For more information, visit [www.longmontsymphony.org](http://www.longmontsymphony.org).*