



## Aya Kiyonaga violin

Born in Kobe, Japan, Aya Kiyonaga is an internationally active violinist, with performances across Europe, America and Japan.

Aya is a sought-after soloist with the major symphony orchestras of Japan and beyond, including the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra, Japan Century Symphony Orchestra, PAC Orchestra, Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra, Sendai Philharmonic Orchestra, Kobe City Chamber Orchestra, I Pomeriggi Musicali (Milan) and Dana Point Symphony.

Aya has been featured in music festivals including the Bartok Festival, Viola Space, Noon to Midnight and Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival. As part of the Northern London Festival, she gave her London debut recital at the Bishopsgate Institute in 2008. As an avid and diverse chamber musician, Aya has performed with an eclectic range of collaborators, including as a musician at the Yellow Barn Music Festival and members of the NHK Symphony Orchestra. Recently, she was invited by Naples Conservatory of Music for her recital in Naples, and she has collaborated with a world-renown artist Aerosyn-Lex Mestrovic for live art performance in Los Angeles.

Aya's solo recitals have taken her from London and Brussels to Tokyo, Nagoya, Osaka and Sapporo, as well as to Los Angeles and Orange County. Highlights of solo recitals include appearances at Carnegie Hall in New York, the Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall, NHK Concert Hall and Kyoto Concert Hall. Her recitals at the NHK Concert Hall were broadcast on the NHK FM radio recital series, in addition to her performance of the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra. Aya joined Kyoto String Quartet for one year, the 2020-21 season, as the second violinist.

Aya has garnered numbers of national and international awards, including the 17th Kyoto Art Festival Award, Grand Prize of the 10th Matsukata Music Award, First Prize and Audience Prize at the J&A Beare Solo Bach Competition in 2008, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Aoyama Music Award and Second Prize in the 74th Japan Music Competition.

Supported by the prestigious Rohm Music Foundation, Aya studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London with György Pauk. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Soai University and a Master of Arts degree from Tokyo University of the Arts (Geidai), where she studied with Natsumi Tamai and graduated at the top of her class. Through-out her student years, Aya was supported by the Meiji-Yasuda Foundation and the William W. Kerh Endowed Memorial Scholarship. Selected as the Artist Scholar of the Culture of Japan Government and the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, Aya graduated with a Graduate Certificate Degree from the USC Thornton School of Music in 2017, under the guidance of Midori Goto.

She has been steadily growing her presence as a concert artist on the American musical scene since her arrival in the United States in 2015.