

DANBI UM, violin

Biography



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Praised by *The Strad* as an "utterly dazzling" artist, with "a marvelous show of superb technique" and "mesmerizing grace" (*New York Classical Review*), violinist Danbi Um captivates audiences with her virtuosity, individual sound, and interpretive sensitivity. A Menuhin International Violin Competition Silver Medalist, she showcases her artistry in concertos, solo recitals, and in collaboration with distinguished chamber musicians. She is a winner of Astral's 2015 National Auditions and a recipient of the 2018 Salon de Virtuosi Career Grant.

Ms. Um's recent and upcoming engagements include performances with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, an appearance with the Brevard Philharmonic, her New York recital debut at Lincoln Center presented by the

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, her San Francisco recital debut on Music@Menlo's celebrated "Carte Blanche" series, her debut at Wolf Trap, a return to the Parlance Chamber Music Series (NJ) and the Caramoor Festival, as well as a national tour with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. During 2017–2018 season, she also appeared in recital for the Palm Beach Chamber Music Society with pianist Juho Pohjonen, The Philadelphia Orchestra's "Morning Musicales" series, and at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., with pianist Orion Weiss.

After winning the 2014 Music Academy of the West Competition, Ms. Um made her concerto debut in the Walton Violin Concerto with the Festival Orchestra, conducted by Joshua Weilerstein. Recent concerto engagements include appearances with the Israel Symphony, Auckland Philharmonic, Vermont Symphony, and the Dartmouth Symphony. She also recently appeared in recital and in chamber music performances in such venues as the Kennedy Center, Philadelphia's Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the Harris Theatre in Chicago, Wigmore Hall in London, and at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

An avid chamber musician, Ms. Um is a current artist member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS). She open's CMS's 50th-anniversary season in the fall 2019 in a performance in Alice Tully Hall. Festival appearances have included those at Marlboro, Ravinia, Yellow Barn, Moab, Seattle, Caramoor, and North Shore. In the summer of 2018, Ms. Um made a critically acclaimed debut at the Moritzburg Festival in Dresden, Germany, at the invitation of Jan Vogler. Her chamber music collaborators have included Anthony Marwood, Vadim Gluzman, Pamela Frank, Cho-Liang Lin, Paul Neubauer, Frans Helmerson, Jan Vogler, David Shifrin, and Gilbert Kalish.

Born in 1990 in Seoul, South Korea, Ms. Um began violin lessons at the age of three. In the year 2000, she moved to the United States to study at the Curtis Institute of Music, where she earned a Bachelor's degree. She also holds an Artist Diploma from Indiana University. Her teachers have included Shmuel Ashkenasi, Joseph Silverstein, Jaime Laredo, and Hagai Shaham.

Ms. Um plays a 1683 "ex-Petschek" Nicolo Amati violin, on loan from a private collection.

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APRIL 2019 (Please destroy any previously dated material.)



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"Ms. Um...displayed the sweetness of tone that makes listening to her so enjoyable...[she] delivered page after page of radiant, colorful playing....affecting expressiveness and lovely control..." —Oberon's Grove

"...brilliantly performed by violinist Danbi Um... Um's solo was utterly dazzling, a marvelous show of superb technique." -The Strad

"Danbi Um eschewed the commonplace muscular interpretation for a sinuous one with great horizontal movement. The layering of and transitions to the music's alternating moods and intensities were expertly modulated.... mesmerizing grace..."

—New York Classical Review

"...the delightful young violinist Danbi Um...took the first chair for [Brahms Quintet in F minor for Piano, Two Violins, Viola, and Cello, Op. 34] and, with her ravishing ascents to the upper range, graced the music at every moment. The big singing themes of this work were delivered with striking lushness..." —Oberon's Grove

"Um offered sharply etched phrasing that convincingly grew more taut...gracious musical gestures and elegant intensity....tart lyricism and churning drama with technical polish and interpretive bite....Um sailed through [Chausson's *Poeme*]'s double stops and sustained its long melodies..." —*Chestnut Hill Local*

"Um approached [Korngold's Much Ado About Nothing Suite] with a vocal style that fit the lyrical nature of the opening movement, including expressive, upward leaps. Her intonation was spot on as she dug into the low end of her instrument, drawing out a rich tone.... [She] was not afraid to take some exciting chances."

—Palm Beach Daily News