

Savannah welcomes Keitaro Harada
Music & Artistic Director of your Savannah Philharmonic



Keitaro Harada, Mayor Eddie DeLoach & Terri O'Neil, Executive Director



JOIN US FOR OPENING NIGHT

Saturday, September 14 7:30 pm
Lucas Theatre for the Arts

KEITARO HARADA conductor
IAN PARKER piano

For 2019-2020 season details, tickets, along with the full line-up of guest conductors and soloists, visit savannahphilharmonic.org

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! DETAILS AT SAVANNAHPHILHARMONIC.ORG



THE Savannah PHILHARMONIC

Keitaro Harada Appointed As New Music And Artistic Director



By Ardsley Resident Writer – Terri O'Neil,
Executive Director of The Savannah Philharmonic

Keitaro Harada will join the Savannah Philharmonic as its Music and Artistic Director in the 2020-21 season. His immediate appointment as Music and Artistic Director Designate expands the organization's impact and reach as a community cultural beacon. Harada will conduct the 2019-20 seasons' opening and closing concerts, while working with an impressive roster of guest conductors and soloists to connect the local audience with the evolving orchestral world.

Harada's multi-year commitment to The Phil guarantees that the Coastal Empire will be the creative home to one of the most sought-after, ascending conductors in orchestral music.

Originally from Tokyo, Japan, Harada is a rare talent. As he finishes his fourth season as the Associate Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Cincinnati Pops, Harada has recent and upcoming engagements with leading ensembles, such as Houston Symphony, NHK Symphony, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, Sofia National Opera & Ballet, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and New Japan Philharmonic. His musicianship and organizational development skills are in great demand. "Harada's artistic vision and ebullient personality make him the perfect fit

as the next Music and Artistic Director for Savannah Philharmonic," says Board Chair Rhegan White-Clemm.

His repertoire and performance experience spans genres, including classical symphonic music, chamber works, opera, pops, ballet, film scores, educational and outreach programming. He inspires musicians who work with him and captivates audiences with his charisma and command of his subject matter. Harada continuously reimagines the role that music plays in building community.

"From the moment I started making music with the musicians, I felt an immediate connection. There was passion and excitement from the rehearsals which translated into a beautiful storytelling at the performance. The energy on stage and from the audience is something I will never forget. My professional career started 14 years ago in Georgia, my home away from home. I couldn't be more excited that fate has brought me back to Georgia and I feel so honored to join the Savannah Philharmonic family." Harada says.

The Philharmonic's music director search committee, brought together prominent musicians from the orchestra, community advocates, active philanthropists, and leaders from the area's arts and cultural organizations.

During his working interviews, Harada impressed committee members and audiences with his vision, enthusiasm, work ethic, professionalism, magnetism and formidable experience. After diligent careful deliberation, the search committee, together with the board of directors, unanimously determined that Harada is the artistic leader The Phil requires to ensure it achieves its potential, not only a performing arts organization but as an instrument of connectivity and advancement for the entire community.

The City of Savannah has been a proud supporter of Savannah Philharmonic for a decade. Civic leaders recognize the importance of a vibrant cultural component to a thriving community. "Residents and businesses value the Savannah Philharmonic as an asset that greatly enriches our city," comments Mayor Eddie DeLoach. "The city is proud and fortunate to have world-class music and musicians available for our residents and visitors."

Harada has developed a special affection for Georgia as a student at Mercer University and Assistant Conductor of Macon Symphony Orchestra. Kei and his wife Yuri have fallen in love with Savannah during their recent visits and look forward to diving into life here.

For more information on the Savannah Philharmonic or to purchase subscriptions and tickets, call 912-232-6002 or visit savannahphilharmonic.org. For more information on Savannah Philharmonic's new Music & Artistic Director, visit kharada.com.