

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Violinist Er-Gene Kahng Joins Arkansas Symphony Youth Orchestra for Florence Price "Lost" Concerto

Little Rock, ARK, October 16, 2018 - The Arkansas Symphony Youth Orchestra (ASYO), Geoffrey Robson, conductor, presents its Fall concert Friday, November 16th at 7:30 p.m at the Woolly Auditorium at Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (2400 W Markham St). Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Youth Ensembles top group opens the concert with *Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman* (Joan Tower). Violinist Er-Gene Kahng, a champion of the works of Florence Price, is featured as guest soloist on the Little Rock-born composer's Violin Concerto No. 2. Gershwin's *Lullaby* and Moncayo's *Huapango* complete the concert.

Price, known as the first African American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer, and the first to have a composition played by a major orchestra, was born in Little Rock in 1887, and studied at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She taught and composed music in Arkansas for several years before moving to Chicago, both to alleviate pressure from racial tensions in Arkansas and to seek more opportunities for professional growth, eventually finding success with publication and performance of her works.

Until 2009 Price was thought to have written only one violin concerto, but when a family purchased the composer's former home in Chicago they found Concerto No. 2, along with several additional unpublished manuscripts, in the attic. Violinist Er-Gene Kahng and the Janacek Philharmonic have recently released a recording of both concertos on the Albany record label.

General Admission tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.ArkansasSymphony.org; at the venue beginning 60 minutes prior to the concert; or by phone at 501-666-1761, ext. 1. All Arkansas students grades K-12 are admitted to this performance free of charge, and these complimentary tickets can be reserved via phone or walkup.

Artists

Geoffrey Robson, conductor

(bio: <https://www.arkansassymphony.org/the-orchestra/associate-conductor>)

Er-Gene Kahng, violin

(bio: <https://www.arkansassymphony.org/er-gene-kahng>)

Program

TOWER, Joan	<i>Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman</i>
PRICE, Florence	Violin Concerto No. 2

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featuring Er-Gene Kahng, violin

GERSHWIN, George *Lullaby*
MONCAYO, Jose Pablo *Huapango*

About Arkansas Symphony Orchestra

The Arkansas Symphony Orchestra celebrates its 53rd full season in 2018-2019, under the leadership of Music Director Philip Mann. ASO is the resident orchestra of Robinson Center Music Hall, to which the ASO returned in November of 2016 after a two-year renovation of the historic structure. ASO performs more than sixty concerts each year for more than 165,000 people through its Stella Boyle Smith Masterworks Series, ACXIOM Pops LIVE! Series, River Rhapsodies Chamber Music Series, Intimate Neighborhood Concerts, and numerous concerts performed around the state of Arkansas, in addition to serving central Arkansas through numerous community outreach programs and bringing live symphonic music education to over 26,000 school children and over 200 schools. ASO is a member of the League of American Orchestras.

For more information about the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra call 501-666-1761 or visit www.ArkansasSymphony.org

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