Leia Zhu
Violinist

Celebrated for her exceptional musical maturity, profound expressive interpretations, and remarkable technical prowess, 16-year-old British violinist Leia Zhu, has graced the stages of prestigious festivals and renowned venues in more than 20 countries around the world since her debut at the age of four in her home city Newcastle upon Tyne.

Appointed Artist-in-Residence with the London Mozart Players in October 2021, she embeds herself within the orchestra, performing as a featured soloist, leading play/​direct programmes and in chamber music, while also playing a crucial role in the orchestra’s community residencies in Croydon and Hastings, inspiring and motivating her peers through educational projects.

The 2023/24 season highlights include UK concerts with Philharmonia Orchestra, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra and RTÉ National Symphony among others, a debut in Poland, and a residency in Abu Dhabi. She also returns to Spain and to Festival Strings Lucerne with an Italian tour and her first collaboration with the Radio-Symphonieorchester Wien.

In August 2021, Zhu debuted at age 14 with the London Symphony Orchestra and Sir Simon Rattle, as part of the orchestra’s annual BMW Classics concert in London’s Trafalgar Square, and later that following season with London Philharmonic, Luzerner Sinfonieorchester, as well as in recital at Tonhalle Zürich, Menuhin Festival Gstaad and St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London.

In May 2022, at age 15 she became a Patron of the HarrisonParrott Foundation with a focus on expanding interest in classical music for all generations, and in July of the same year, is the youngest musician after pianist Bruce Liu, 25, and conductor Klaus Mäkelä, 26, to be included on the list of 30 brilliant young musicians all under the age of 30 by Classic FM for its 30th birthday special edition.

In April 2023, Leia’s debut with the Tonhalle Orchestra under the baton of Paavo Järvi in Tchaikovsky Concerto received rave reviews, cementing ‘enthralling, brilliant, and highly virtuosic. An amazing artist with excellent career perspective.’

Zhu performs in major concert venues across Europe, such as Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Cadogan Hall, Barbican Centre and Milton Court in London, BOZAR in Brussels, Mozarteum Grosser Saal in Salzburg, KKL in Lucerne, Tonhalle Zurich Grosser Saal, Berliner Philharmonie, Moscow’s Tchaikovsky Concert Hall and The Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg as well as Odessa Opera House

She has also appeared at prestigious festivals, including Menuhin Festival Gstaad, Lucerne Festival, Rheingau Musik, MozartFest Würzburg, Interlaken Classics, White Nights and Musical Olympus in St Petersburg and Vadim Repin’s Trans-Siberian Art, with selected performances broadcasted on BR/​Deutschlandradio and BBC Radio 3. In 2023 Leia Zhu was accepted into the Development Programme of the Orpheum Foundation for the Advancement of Young Soloists.

Special collaborations include playing with National Orchestra of Belgium in 2016, conducted by Maxim Vengerov, performing with Noah Bendix-Balgley (Berliner Philharmoniker’s concertmaster) in 2017, and sharing the stage with Roby Lakatos, accompanied by the Russian State Symphony Orchestra, broadcast live to an audience of millions in 2018 as well as joining Irish band Westlife in for live streaming with 27 million views by performing a violin solo ‘You Raise Me Up’ in 2021.

In producing her own regular videos, Zhu is a confident communicator and passionate advocate for classical music. She has been featured by international media, including Classic FM, BBC News, ITV, Sky News, The Strad magazine, Violin Channel and Vio​lin​ist​.com, as well as news channels and newspapers in Austria, Bulgaria, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Russia, Germany, Israel, Greece and USA. She regularly posts videos on her popular YouTube channel, where she shares her joy of music, composers and creativity, which attract thousands of subscribers and views.

*HarrisonParrott represents Leia Zhu for worldwide general management.*





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