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The Cleveland Orchestra and Franz Welser-Möst appoint Liyuan Xie as first associate concertmaster



Liyuan Xie (©Roger Mastroianni)

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Orchestra and Music Director Franz Welser-Möst, who holds the Kelvin Smith Family Endowed Chair, have appointed Liyuan Xie as the ensemble’s first associate concertmaster.

Xie joined The Cleveland Orchestra in August 2023 as a member of the second violin section. He will assume his new role at the start of the 2024 Blossom Music Festival on June 29 and will hold the Virginia M. Lindseth, PhD, Chair.

“I’ve always admired the polished and recognizable sound of The Cleveland Orchestra, especially that of its string section. Being a member of this ensemble is a dream come true,” Xie said. “Over the last several months, I’ve felt so welcomed and I’ve learned so much from my colleagues and from Franz Welser-Möst.”

He said he is looking forward to the Orchestra’s 2024–25 season, including the [European tour](#) with Welser-Möst in August and September, the Beethoven piano concerto cycle with Igor Levit at Severance Music Center in November, and the ensemble’s two concerts at [Carnegie Hall](#) in March.

Xie also added that he is deeply impressed by the Orchestra's brilliant plans for the future and excited to continue his career in his new role with this world-class ensemble.

About Liyuan Xie

Violinist Liyuan Xie is a recent graduate of the New England Conservatory (NEC), where he studied with Miriam Fried. He holds a bachelor's degree from NEC and previously studied with Binyou Zhou at the middle school affiliated with the Shanghai Conservatory.

Since his solo orchestral debut at age 11, Xie has collaborated regularly with the Shanghai Philharmonic, Shanghai Opera Orchestra, Shanghai Chamber Orchestra, Qingdao Symphony, Nanjing Philharmonic Orchestra, and many others. Recent concert engagements include performances of the Beethoven and Mendelssohn violin concertos with the Nanjing Philharmonic Orchestra, Bruch's First Violin Concerto with the Brookline Symphony Orchestra, and the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto and J.S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos with the Apollo Ensemble of Boston.

Xie has participated in numerous prestigious festivals including the Verbier Festival, Tanglewood Music Festival, Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, and the New York String Orchestra's 50th Anniversary. He has performed as a guest violinist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at the Tanglewood Music Festival and as guest assistant principal second violin with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. As concertmaster, he has performed with the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, Verbier Festival Academy Orchestra, Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra, National Youth Orchestra of China, as well as NEC's Symphony, Philharmonia, and Chamber Orchestra.

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