

Democrat and Chronicle

RPO journeys from flute premiere to Haydn, Beethoven

Jann Nyffeler 5:38 p.m. EST February 5, 2016

"Thursday night was the first time the Kernis Flute Concerto had been performed in New York; the Detroit Symphony Orchestra premiered the work last month. Kernis wrote the concerto last year specifically for Piccinini.... The 25-minute work gives the soloist little time out of the spotlight; for her, pauses and rests are few. The work begins with the lowest note possible on the flute a low B. The sound builds and commingles with the horns and is handed off to the violas, then lands in unison with the harp. Composer Kernis wasted no time in establishing the prowess of his soloist, with intense trills and attacks. The dynamic range is massive in the orchestra, too, from obscenely fortissimo harp passages to briefly predictable delicate flute glissandos."

DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE (Rochester, NY, NY State Premiere of Kernis Flute Concerto), February 5, 2016