

## Musician Profile: Flutist <u>Amelia Lukas</u> - Insights on Artistry, Personal Inspiration, Curating a Program, Performing, Collaboration Suggested by B. Nicoletti

Enjoy this Arts Watch article featuring, in part, flutist Amelia Lukas - her insights on performing, learning pieces, programming, and her varied musical and professional life. This article also highlights a few of the summer music festivals at the coast for which Amelia also shares some of her thoughts about the pieces she performed, including a world premiere of *For Blue Promise* by the world-



Flutist Amelia Lukas at Alberta Rose for "Natural Homeland: Honoring Ukraine" concert. Photo by Joe Cantrell.

renown and prolific Japanese composer Michiru Oshima - a piece written for the festival and inspired by Amelia's bass flute playing. Link to recording below. Oshima has gained a wide reputation for "her ability to create grand, dramatic soundscapes and captivating melodies."

• ArtsWatch Article: Note, the whole article is interesting but the content for Amelia Lukas is further into the article, scroll down to the "A-Ha Moment" heading

- <u>https://www.orartswatch.org/rich-washes-of-color-and-sound-amelia-lukas-at-siletz-bay-</u> <u>music-festival/</u>

• Flutist Amelia Lukas: <u>https://amelialukas.com/</u>

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- Composer Michiru Oshima: <u>https://michiruoshima.com</u>
- Link to Recoding of *For Blue Promise*, by Michiru Oshima: World Premiere at the Siletz Bay Music Festival, 2023 (length, 16:35): <u>Recording</u> of For Blue Promise. Performed by Amelia Lukas on bass, alto and c-flute, violinist James Stern, cellist Jason Duckles and pianist Michelle Crow.

Composer's Note: During my visit to the Siletz Bay Music Festival several years ago, I found myself captivated by the enchanting beauty of the Oregon coast as I traversed it by car. While gazing out at the vast expanse of the sea, I couldn't help but conjure visions of the mystical world beneath its surface, with distant whales adding to the intrigue.

The ocean, an expansive realm teeming with diverse life forms, dwarfs the land inhabited by humanity. In this aquatic realm, denizens of the deep coexist harmoniously, adhering to the intricate balance of nature. In stark contrast, the human race, driven by insatiable avarice, has often wreaked havoc upon the environment. It is imperative that we contemplate the significance of every creature that graces our planet.

This symphony eloquently conveys the ethereal realm beneath the waves. Let us collectively immerse ourselves in the subaquatic wonderland it evokes, and appreciate its profound beauty. Above all, let us remember that the power of human imagination is a force of unparalleled magnitude.

### An Excerpt - From the Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow to Today for Amelia

"Little Orphan Annie. My grandparents would take me to musicals up at the North Shore Theater where I grew up in Massachusetts. We saw bunches of stuff, *Pinocchio* and *Les Mis*. But Annie was the one. Something about her spirit just really spoke to me, and the power of song, and the optimism. "The sun will come out tomorrow." I watched that movie on repeat. I mean I just drove everybody nuts for years. And when they took me to the ballet, and orchestra concerts and everything, I just kept pointing at "that beautiful, shiny silver instrument." I kept pestering them that I wanted to play the flute, ever since I was like 4 years old. And finally at the age of 6, my parents acquiesced, and we found a teacher, and that was that." (Oregon ArtsWatch article)

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