

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art

1717th Concert



NATIONAL GALLERY ORCHESTRA,
RICHARD BALES, *CONDUCTOR*

Sunday Evening, November 20, 1983 at Seven
West Building, East Garden Court

KOMEI ABE, *Composer*

Born in Hiroshima on September 1, 1911.

Graduated from the Tokyo College of Music (Department of Music, Tokyo University of Arts) majoring in the cello in 1933. Continued schooling at the extension course of the college, and studied composition under Prof. Pringsheim. Completed the course in 1936. Concurrently studied conducting under Maestro Rosenstock who had been in Japan at that time. Became a member of the Japan Contemporary Composers Society (the present Japanese Society for Contemporary Music) in 1935, and has continued membership till the present. Served as Chairman of the Society from October 1960 to March 1963.

Formed the Chijin-kai in cooperation with the late Kishio Hirao, Saburo Takada, Kiyohiko Kijima, and others in 1949 and have since conducted several concerts introducing new compositions. Presently chairman and professor of the Department of Music, Kyoto Municipal University of Arts.

Major Compositions

String Quartets Nos. 1-11

Divertimento for Nine Instruments (1964)

Sextet (1964)

Cello Concerto (1937) — Awarded first place Weingartner Prize

Piano Concerto (1945)

*Symphony No. 1 (1957) — Awarded the Mainichi Music Award and
the Minister of Education Award

Symphony No. 2 (1960) — Encouraging Award Art Festival

Serenade for Orchestra (1963)

Sinfonietta (1964)

*U.S. Premiere played by National Gallery Orchestra on October 25, 1959.

PROGRAM

Ludwig van Beethoven . . . Symphony No. 4 in B Flat Major, Opus 60
(1770-1827) (1806)

Adagio –Allegro vivace

Adagio

Allegro vivace

Allegro ma non troppo

INTERMISSION

Komei Abe Sinfonietta (1964)
(b. 1911)

Allegro con brio

Moderato

Scherzo

Finale: Allegro assai

First Performance in The United States

This concert is broadcast by Station WGMS 570 AM and 103.5 FM.