



BOB JONES UNIVERSITY  
**CONCERT, OPERA  
& DRAMA SERIES**

P R E S E N T S

WHAT MAKES IT GREAT:

BEETHOVEN, THE PANDEMIC,  
AND THE POWER OF CONNECTION

Rob Kapilow, *Conductor*



Submit questions for Rob Kapilow at [bju.edu/q](https://bju.edu/q)



## Rob Kapilow

In this dynamic and engaging performance, **Rob Kapilow** takes listeners inside iconic musical masterpieces. Together with acclaimed soloists and ensembles, he unravels, slows down and recomposes key passages to hear why a piece is so extraordinary.

The *New York Times* calls Kapilow “a winning combination of Leonard Bernstein and Bill Nye the Science Guy, an infectiously enthusiastic explainer of the inner mechanical workings of music.”

“Not since the late Leonard Bernstein has classical music had a combination salesman-teacher as irresistible as Kapilow,” says the *Kansas City Star*. “He’s as lively as a top-flight sports announcer and as entertaining as a stand-up comedian. But he’s also got substance in spades.”



## **Beethoven, the Pandemic & the Power of Connection**

Addressing themes that are strikingly resonant today, this new trio of *What Makes It Great?* performances explores Beethoven's best-known masterworks through the lens of isolation and the need for connection.

In October of 1802, Beethoven wrote a deeply personal and impassioned note to his brothers known as the Heiligenstadt Testament. In words that sound like they could have been written today, he describes how his growing deafness forced him to “isolate myself, to live in loneliness ... Like an exile ... Separate from the world.” This sense of isolation led him to write some of the most remarkable music with the aim to create connection. Though the pandemic has removed much of the celebration surrounding Beethoven's 250th birthday year, looking at his revolutionary music through the lens of our current moment offers us new ways of hearing these canonical masterpieces and a thought-provoking perspective on our own need for connection.

### **Beethoven's *Archduke Trio***

Widely considered to be the greatest piano trio ever written — the equivalent in the piano trio repertoire of the *Fifth Symphony* or the *Emperor Concerto* — this iconic work boldly replaces the polite, private, amateur world of chamber music with virtuosic, public music of symphonic scope.



## Horszowski Trio



Jesse Mills

Rieko Aizawa

Ole Akahoshi

Tonight's featured piece, the Archduke Trio, showcases exceptional performances by the Horszowski Trio. Giving performances that are "lithe, persuasive" (*The New York Times*), "eloquent and enthralling" (*The Boston Globe*), and described as "the most compelling American group to come on the scene" (*The New Yorker*), the **Horszowski Trio** has quickly become a vital force in the international chamber music world. Since their debut performance in New York City in 2011, they have toured extensively throughout North America, Europe, the Far East and India, traversing the extensive oeuvre of traditional piano trio repertoire and introducing audiences to new music that they have commissioned and premiered.



FOUNDER'S MEMORIAL AMPHITORIUM  
Thursday, October 8, 2020  
7:30 p.m.

2020/2021 BJU Performing Arts season at [bju.edu/arts](https://bju.edu/arts)



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Chimes will sound and lobby lights will flash three minutes before the end of intermission. After the houselights are dimmed following intermission, guests will not be readmitted to their seats.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited. Cameras and recording equipment are not permitted in the amphitorium during any performance. We request that personal communication devices be turned off during the program.