

# PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRAILBLAZING PIANIST LARA DOWNES TO HOST FROM THE TOP  
LIVE AT THE BREMAN MUSEUM  
SUNDAY, APRIL 7 AT 5:00 PM  
[TICKETS AND INFO](#)

From the Top, the hit NPR program that showcases young classically---trained musicians, will record a new episode at the Breman Museum in Atlanta on Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 5:00 PM with guest host, pianist Lara Downes. The concert recording is part of the 2019 Molly Blank Concert Series Celebrating Jewish Contributions to Music and will revolve around the theme of Jewish music. Tickets for From the Top can be purchased at <https://www.thebreman.org/Events> or call 678.222.3700

From the Top at the Breman will feature:

**17-year-old pianist Helen Bryant** from Waleska, GA performing *Intermezzo* and *Mazurka from Arabesques for Piano* by Alexandre Tansman.

**14-year-old cellist Sarah Kave** from Tarzana, CA performing: *Jewish Song* from "From Jewish Life" for Cello and Piano by Ernest Bloch, with Lara Downes, piano.

**17-year-old violinist Takumi Taguchi** from Shoreline, WA performing: *Figaro Variations* on Rossini's 'Barber of Seville' by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco with Lara Downes, piano.

**18-year-old composer Benjamin Beckman** from Los Angeles, CA, a student of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program, presenting his piano quartet "Three Views". Ben Beckman's appearance on From the Top is supported by the ASCAP Foundation Irving Caesar Fund.

**PRESS RELEASE - BREMAN MUSEUM***NPR's FROM THE TOP - LIVE! AT THE BREMAN MUSEUM*

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**18-year-old clarinetist Javier Morales Martinez** from Los Angeles, CA performing: *Andantino - Vivace e leggiero* from the Sonata for Clarinet and Piano by Leonard Bernstein, with Lara Downes, piano.

*The episode airs on participating stations and by podcast during the week of June 3.*

**Lara Downes** is among the foremost American pianists of her generation, an iconoclast dedicated to expanding the resonance and relevance of American music for diverse audiences. Her most recent album, *Holes in The Sky*, is a collection of music written and performed by today's leading female artists, celebrating the transformative power of female creativity and self-expression. The music tells the story of what girls can contribute to the world when they are given a chance, and features guest artists Judy Collins, Simone Dinnerstein, Rhiannon Giddens, Magos Herrera, Leyla McCalla, Alicia Hall Moran, Rachel Barton Pine, Hila Plitmann, Ifetayo Ali-Landing and The Girls of Musicality. The album is presented in partnership with PLAN International Because I Am A Girl, supporting the rights and empowerment of girls and young women around the globe. Lara is a trailblazer on and off-stage and follows a musical roadmap that seeks inspiration from the legacies of history, family, and collective memory. Downes's playing has been called "ravishing" by *Fanfare Magazine*; "luscious, moody and dreamy" by *The New York Times*; and "addicting – Downes plays with an open, honest heart;" by the *Huffington Post*.

Lara Downes is a Yamaha Artist. She is represented by CADENZA ARTISTS LLC, 12021 Wilshire Blvd #710, Los Angeles, CA 90025. [www.CadenzaArtists.com](http://www.CadenzaArtists.com).

**NPR'S FROM THE TOP** - Broadcast on more than 220 stations nationwide to an audience of nearly half a million listeners, *From the Top* is the most popular weekly one-hour music program on public radio. Young performers share their passion for classical music, and speak about their non-musical lives, from career goals and family to hidden talents, school, and community life. *From the Top* appeals to diverse audiences but is especially suited for ages 7 and up.

**From the Top program contact:** Erin MacCurtain, [emaccurtain@fromthetop.org](mailto:emaccurtain@fromthetop.org). Lisa Bellamore, [lbellamore@gmail.com](mailto:lbellamore@gmail.com). For more information, please visit: [fromthetop.org](http://fromthetop.org).

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**About the William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum**

The Breman Museum, a preeminent cultural center in the Southeast, connects people of all backgrounds in understanding and appreciation of Jewish history, culture and arts. Its midtown Atlanta location hosts a special, permanent Holocaust exhibition highlighting the resilience of local survivors, plus comprehensive archives on Southern Jewish History, the most extensive of their kind. The museum's galleries are a showcase for exclusive exhibitions and compelling displays. Known for its events, concerts, lectures, genealogy resources, educational workshops, and enlightening tours for visitors of all ages, the Breman Museum welcomes the public to view its galleries Sunday through Thursday 10 AM – 5 PM and Friday 10 AM - 4 PM.