

ROMAN FUKSHANSKY Principal Clarinet

Hometown:

St. Petersburg, Russia, and Mountain View, California.

When did you join Berkeley Symphony? 2007

What is your favorite part about being a Berkeley Symphony musician?

The broad array of repertoire seems quite

adventurous, as well as a good mix of the classic staples. It is always a fun and pleasant experience to work through each program with my colleagues. We have also been quite fortunate in the Artistic leadership that we've had - from Kent to Joanna, and now with Joseph. All of them have been able to respond to the community's input while displaying good leadership by exposing the community to new and exciting programming.

What is your favorite piece of music that you've performed with Berkeley Symphony?

Difficult to narrow it down, but I particularly enjoyed Elgar's Enigma Variations from several years back.

What other orchestras, ensembles, or other performing arts groups do you perform with?

Sun Valley Music Festival Orchestra (Idaho), San Francisco Symphony, San Francisco Opera, Symphony Napa Valley, California Symphony, Oakland Symphony, etc.

What is your current favorite classical artist/ensemble?

Pianist Yevgeniy Kissin has long been one of my most admired artists.

What is your current favorite non-classical artist?

Klezmer legend Giora Fiedman.

What locations in Berkeley do you enjoy?

Caffe Strada is where you can usually find me between rehearsals. Walking all over campus is also a good way to take a break.

Aside from rehearsing or performing music, what do you enjoy in your free time? Traveling and exploring new places with my family, particularly long road trips.