

Pacific Symphony: Volunteer Challenge #33

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Hello, Pacific Symphony Volunteers!

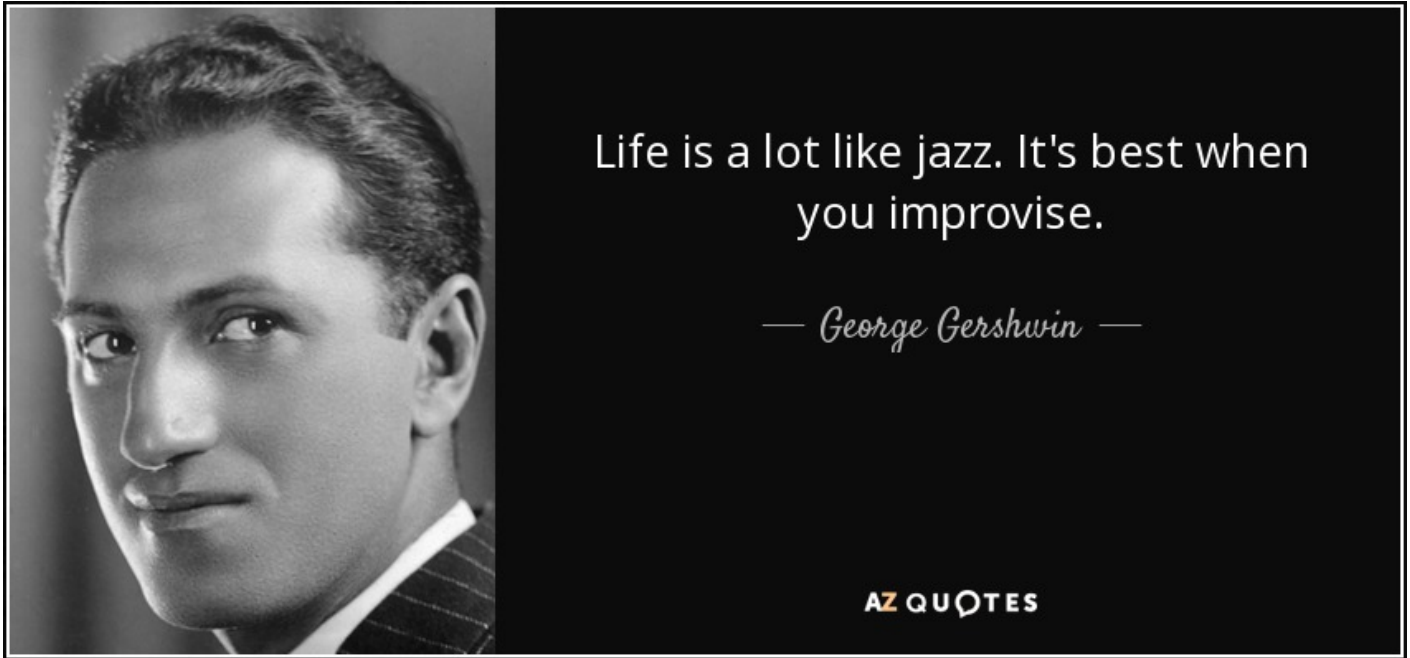
Well, the weekend is here and with it another wonderful concert by Pacific Symphony! **This Sunday, August 9th at 7:00PM**, you can tune into **KUSC 91.5FM** to hear our Symphony perform George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue. Pacific Symphony recorded it this past season at the Henry and Renee Segerstrom Concert Hall. I know that many of you attended this concert and will recall how amazing it was!

George Gershwin (born Jacob Bruskin Gershowitz) began his career as a "song plunger". This unusual term was given to vocalists or pianists who, in the early 1900's, worked for music or department stores promoting new sheet music. This is the way new songs were made available to the public before good quality recordings became popular. Typically, the pianist (Gershwin) would sit in the store at the piano and customers could have the sheet music played for them before purchasing it for themselves! After a while, this term changed to "song demonstrator." Some other well-known performers and composers also got their start this way. They include Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin, Harry Cohn and many more.

Gershwin went on to compose his best known orchestral piece, Rhapsody on Blue, in 1924, and eventually added An American in Paris, Swanee, I Got Rhythm and Summertime to his roster of hits. Very unfortunately, Gershwin was taken from us too soon at the early age of 38. He is remembered for the very positive and profound effect he had on popular music and culture and for the standard of excellence he brought to American music.

Listen to a recording of Summertime, performed by the beautiful Ella Fitzgerald here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u2bigf337aU>





Lastly, I wanted to share a goodbye video from AmeriCorps Fellow Christine Zhang. Christine recently completed her in-office AmeriCorps term with the Symphony, but continued to work remotely from a new location as she prepared to start medical school! She had her first day of school orientation yesterday, so it is finally time to say good bye and thank you for all she has done for the Symphony and our volunteers! Please go back to the top of the page to click on the attachment to see Christine's goodbye.

Until we see you again, please stay well. Stay safe. Know how much we miss you.

Warm regards,

Abby

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 Christine Zhang Goodbye Video.mov
8.2MB