

SCHERZO

Interviews with the notable musicians & fascinating personalities of our day

with WESLEY FERREIRA

RICHIE HAWLEY

A debut concerto at the age of 9 with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, 17 years as Principal Clarinetist of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and with a teaching post at Rice University, Richie Hawley is truly one of the most accomplished clarinetists around. He sits down to answer some questions.

What's the best part about being a musician?

The incredible amounts of travel.

What's the hardest part about being a musician?

The incredible amounts of travel.

What's the buzzword you never want to hear again?

"Dropped their latest album"

"Dropped their freshest idea"

"Dropped a new menu item"

"Dropped....."

Do you have a work uniform or wardrobe staple?

Vests.

What is your cocktail of choice?

A Manhattan.

Do you have a necessary vice?

A Manhattan made with Highwest's campfire bourbon, and Carpano Antiqua vermouth 3-1 ratio. Garnished by a single luxardo cherry.

Who was your hero growing up, and who's your hero today?

Clarinetist Mitchell Lurie.

Same now.

What item can you not live without? My clarinet.

What worries you most about the classical music sector? Horrible programming. No innovations.

What musical recording would you recommend?

Anything by Anderson Paak.

What phone app do you love to use? I hate iPhones and all smartphones and their apps.

What film never gets old?

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.

What's your morning routine?

Coffee and more coffee.

What is your favorite form of exercise?

Sleeping.

How much do you sleep?

Not enough.

Do you prefer the calm of nature or the vibrancy of a city?

I loathe the city.



Ok, but what's your favorite city in the world?

Home... Santa Barbara.

What's the one thing you would be interested in exploring if you were starting your career right now?

Virology.

What are you obsessed with creatively right now? Top secret projects that are soon-to-be revealed!

What do you think is the biggest accomplishment in your career so far?

Being principal clarinet of one of the major orchestras in the world and performing three concerts a week for two decades.

What's the one piece of advice you'd give college graduates today?

Get a business degree to augment your music degree (MBA).

What's the one thing that you think people need to hear right now?

Just wait, this will be over soon.

CODA

If you could meet any one living person in the world tomorrow, who would it be? Wesley Ferreira!!!!

How is it that we haven't met?

If you could cast someone to play you in a movie, who would it be?

Yul Brynner.

If you ruled the world, what's the first thing you would change?

The selfishness of society.

If you could sing a duet with any artist, living or dead, who would it be and what song? I don't sing around any other humans!

If you were to pick what is inscribed on your gravestone, what would it be? THAT WAS A BLAST!

If you could take back one sentence you've uttered in your past, what would it be?

"Hey, could you hold this for me?"