The Composer Is Dead



Pre-Concert Art and Sound Activations

Before each concert, families can immerse themselves in all-ages art activities and diversions that encourage imaginative play.

BP HALL:

Walking Labyrinth + Finger Labyrinths

GARDEN LEVEL WEST:

Character Giant Blocks

GARDEN LEVEL EAST:

Thaumatropes

BLUE RIBBON GARDEN:

DIY Character Mini Blocks

KECK AMPHITHEATRE:

"Character Play"

Program

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 & 19, 2022

The Composer Is Dead

LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC François López-Ferrer, conductor Aviva Pressman, *Principal Actor

Lili BOULANGER D'un matin de printemps The Composer Is Dead **Nathaniel STOOKEY SHOSTAKOVICH** "Galop" from Moscow-Cheryomushki

*Appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

CREATIVE TEAM

Andrea Miller, Producer Marissa Herrera, Director Aviva Pressman, *Principal Actor Reggie DeLeon, *Understudy C. Kyle Gladfelter, *Stage Manager Azra King-Abadi, Lighting Designer Nancy Bernal, Costume Designer

* Appearing through the courtesy of **Actors' Equity Association**

PRE-CONCERT ACTIVITIES CREATIVE TEAM

Andrea Miller, Producer Erin O'Shea, Creative Consultant

WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL HOUSE STAFF

Ronald H. Galbraith, Master Carpenter John Phillips, Property Master Terry Klein, Master Electrician Kevin F. Wapner, Master Audio/Video Greg Flusty, House Manager

The stage crew is represented by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada, Local No. 33.



NATHANIEL STOOKEY

Nathaniel Stookey was born and raised in San Francisco, where he studied violin and composition. Nathaniel was a violinist and violist with the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra from 1986 through 1988. At 17, he was invited to

write a chamber work for the San Francisco Symphony's New and Unusual Music Series, the youngest composer ever to be so honored. Since then, he has worked with a remarkable range of artists all over the world. In 2000, having returned to the United States, Stookey received a three-year New Residencies award from Meet The Composer to serve as composer-in-residence with the North Carolina Symphony.

In 2006, the San Francisco Symphony premiered the new commissioned work, The Composer Is Dead, with libretto by Lemony Snicket, which was immediately taken up by the Toronto Symphony's New Creations Festival and has since been programmed by orchestras across North America including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Chicago Civic Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the Dallas Symphony. "I hope I'm not giving too much away by saying that The Composer Is Dead ends with a funeral march," said Nathaniel Stookey. "The march is made up of music about death by some of the world's greatest composers, a solid majority of whom are, alas, no longer with us. Classical composers have always had a preoccupation with death, partly because we are human, like you, partly because we grapple with the mysteries of the universe, partly because death sells records and always has, even before there were records.

LILI BOULANGER Sisters Nadia and Lili Boulanger

About the Composers

were the children of a highly musical family. Their parents were a prize-winning French

composer/choral conductor and a Russian princess and singer, and the two girls inherited extraordinary musical abilities. Nadia was born first

and would become a famed teacher, influencing a who's who of composers. Six years her younger, Lili was destined to become a talented composer.

Legendary composer (and family friend) Gabriel Fauré discovered that Lili had perfect pitch at the extraordinary age of two. Around that same time, Lili contracted bronchial pneumonia, which weakened her immune system and led to fragile health throughout her short life. Being an old man when the girls were born, their father Ernest died when they were still young, which was especially traumatic for Lili, who felt very close to him. Much of Lili's music after his death touched on themes of grief and loss.

One of the most prestigious honors a young musician could receive in those days was the Prix de Rome scholarship, which their father had won when he was 20. Nadia applied four times reaching as high as second place—but it was Lili who became the first woman to win it, when she was just 19. Her entry, a cantata called Faust et Hélène (based on Goethe), ultimately enjoyed many performances during her lifetime. Displaying influences of Fauré and Debussy, Lili's compositions were noted for their colorful harmony, instrumentation, and skillful text setting.

An acclaimed pianist and organist, as well as one of the first professional female conductors, Nadia became even more famous as a teacher of composition. Though a composer herself, she devoted much of her energy to promoting the music of her younger sister Lili, who died at age the young age of 24. (Lili dictated Pie Jesu, her last work, to Nadia.)

SHOSTAKOVICH

Shostakovich completed his Symphony No. 1 during the summer of 1925 and died exactly 50 years and 14 symphonies later. In his early years Shostakovich was influenced by the music of Aleksander Scriabin, Peter llich Tchaikovsky, Johann

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Sebastian Bach, and Ludwig van Beethoven. His works include 15 symphonies, many pieces of chamber music, and scores for ballets, operas, and motion pictures.

He had one of the most difficult careers ever endured by an artist, a life tormented by suffocating political repression, foreign invasion, and personal tragedy. The essence of Shostakovich's mature musical language - a sardonic wit, a Mahler-like fusion of the tragic and the commonplace, and an assured handling of the orchestra - were present in his music from the beginning.



For more information about our learning programs, please visit us on the web at laphil.com/learning

DO WE NEED THE LIST

BELOW? THEY ARE LISTED

ON THE NEXT SPREAD /

MAYBE THE HEADER SHOULD

BE ABOUT THE

CREATIVE TEAM

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About the Artists



ANDREA MILLER Producer

How did you get started as a Producer?

I started producing events, workshops, classes, and more because I wanted to create the kinds of spaces where I felt like I belonged.

What do you like most about your job?

My favorite part of my job is being creative with other creative people. Every day involves figuring out ways to make an idea become real.

Do you play any instruments?

I played piano for many years, I can play a little acoustic guitar, and I have two Native American flutes that were made for me that make me very, very happy.



MARISSA HERRERA
Director &
Casting Director

What is your earliest musical memory?

My earliest musical memory is my Abuelo working in the yard and listening to Mexican Ranchera and Mariachi music on his little radio and singing along to them. When I hear those songs today, I smile and I think about my Abuelo. That's the thing about music, it has the ability to capture beautiful memories of people and places from parts of our lives so we don't forget them.

How did you get started as a Director?

I started my career as a dancer and in theater. I had the opportunity to work with many incredible directors who believed in my talent and leadership, and they became my mentors. I studied their process of storytelling and soon began to develop my own.

Do you play any instruments?

As a former dancer, I have a huge appreciation for musicians. Music gives me life!



AZRA KING-ABADI Lighting Director

What is your earliest musical memory? Music has always been

a part of my life. Whether it be singing or playing instruments at school, in Brownies or listening to Persian music at home with my father. I played the clarinet for eight years in school.

How did you get started as a Lighting Designer?

Growing up, I wanted to be a costume designer. In my first year of my undergraduate work, my professors assigned me to lighting design and I've enjoyed it ever since. I learned to paint growing up and lighting design is painting the stage with light.

What do you like most about your job?

I love getting to tell a story to the audience by expressing emotions and psychology in a non-realistic way. Hopefully, that will make the audience feel something. I love helping the audience to feel the story and the emotions of a character's journey.



NANCY BERNAL
Costume Designer

What is your earliest musical memory? My first musical memory was watching

The Sound of Music at age six on public television. In high school I also had the opportunity to see the Phantom of the Opera in a live theater.

How did you get started as a Costume Designer?

I have always loved fashion but had no interest in the fashion industry, so I pursued a career in film, television, and television commercials.

What do you like most about your job? I really enjoy the creative process that fashion provides, working with and

meeting creative people. I also enjoy creating characters through costumes, researching who they might be, and why people wear what they wear.



C. KYLE GLADFELTER*
Stage Manager

How did you get started as a Stage Manager?

I spoke to my

professor who suggested that I might be good at stage managing. It was then that I switched majors to theater arts and took the stage management class.

What do you like most about your job?

The best part about my job is being the centerpointe of everything; there's a certain chaos in it all, and it's my job to wrangle that chaos. I get to watch different creative minds work together to create a unique piece of art. With it, comes a sense of community, and it often makes the work feel like a home.

Do you play any instruments?

I've played the guitar, and drums/ percussion for 18 years. I used to be in some bands in high school and college.



AVIVA PRESSMAN*

Principal Actor

What is your earliest musical memory? My dad was a choir teacher, so I spent a

lot of time sitting on his shoulders while he conducted, or listening to him sing at synagogue.

How did you get started as an actor?

I actually started as a singer, and realized I needed to learn to act if I was going to do musical theater. When I started working on it. I fell in love!

What are your hobbies?

I like to draw and paint, play board games, lift weights, study medicine, and snuggle with my husband.

Do you play any instruments?

I'm actually a really good recorder player. My first paying job was playing recorder with a baroque choir when I was 8 years old. I also play a little bit of piano.



REGGIE DELEON*

Understudy

What is your earliest musical memory? Hearing Rock, Pop,

and Soul albums my Parents used to play on the record player!

How did you get started as an actor?
My first audition was for the musical
"The King & I" where I was cast as Prince

Chululongkorn, and I haven't stopped since!

Do you play any instruments?

I played the bass drum in my high school marching band! I also play a little piano and ukulele.



ERIN O'SHEA
Creative Consultant

How did you get started as a producer?

I have always enjoyed drawing, makingbuilding and creative play since my father was a carpenter and my mother was an excellent maker of most things. What do you like most about your job? Being an artist that can take in the world and make something new from it is magical and I love helping people visually express themselves.

Do you play any instruments?

I play around on my father's old bass guitar sometimes and once played drums for an Aztec dance group our family was a part of for a few years. I love collective expression and creative experiences and appreciate every chance I get to facilitate them

* Appearing through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

About the Conductor



FRANÇOIS LÓPEZ-FERRER

Spanish-American conductor François López-Ferrer came to international attention after a critically acclaimed debut at the 2018 Verbier Festival, where he substituted for Iván Fischer at short notice in a shared program with Sir Simon Rattle and Gébor Takécs-Nagy. He is currently a Dudamel Fellow with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

In demand as a guest conductor, López-Ferrer's recent or upcoming highlights include debuts with the Orquesta Nacional de España, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia, Verbier Festival Orchestra, Berner Symphonieorchester, Orquesta Sinfónica Radio Televisión Española (RTVE), Orquesta Sinfónica de Castilla y León, Orquesta de Valencia,

Orquesta Sinfónica de Navarra, Orchestra di Padova e del Veneto, Musikkollegium Winterthur, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile, Orquesta de Extremadura, Joven Orquesta Nacional de España, Orquesta Joven de la Sinfónica de Galicia, Orquestra Sinfônica do Paraná, and the Orquestra Sinfônica de Porto Alegre.

As Associate Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO) and the May Festival, he conducts the CSO's Young People's Concerts and provides artistic support to the CSO's Music Director, Louis Langrée, and the May Festival's Principal Conductor, Juanjo Mena. López-Ferrer is one of six participants to be featured in the 2022 Bruno Walter National Conductor Preview with the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. He previously served for two years as associate conductor of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Chile (OSNCH) and Principal Conductor of the Ballet Nacional Chileno, and he was the youngest-ever Conductor-in-Residence of the OSNCH's Summer Concert Series.

López-Ferrer was winner of the inaugural 2015 Neeme Järvi Prize awarded at the Menuhin-Gstaad Festival and received third prize at the 2018 OFUNAM International Conducting Competition. He was previously a member of the prestigious Deutsche Dirigentenforum.

López-Ferrer holds a Master's degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Haute École de Musique de Lausanne, under the tutelage of professor Aurélien Azan Zielinski, and a Bachelor of Music degree in Composition from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where his teachers included Joel Hoffman, Miguel Roig-Francoli, and Michael Fiday.

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Michele and Dudley Rauch Chair

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L. Beckmen Chair

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John Lofton

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(Vacant)

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Principal

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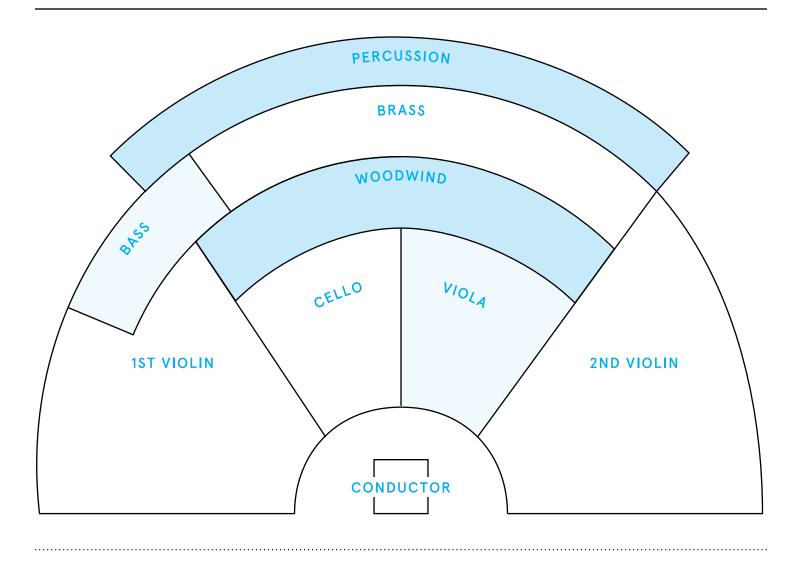
Jeffrey Strong

TROMBONES

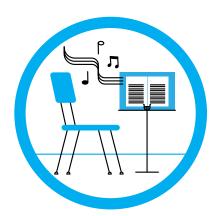
David Rejano Cantero Principal

Seating Chart: Where Do We Sit?

As you listen, write down words and adjectives that describe each instrument's personality. What do you hear? Based on the way it is described in the story and in the pieces. Is each instrument's identity entirely unique? Or do instruments within a given orchestral section tend to share personality traits? Are there any instruments in different sections that share the same characteristics?



About Our Musicians



Number of full-time staff musicians

Age of the youngest member of the orchestra 19.01

Average years spent at the LA Phil

Age of the oldest member of the orchestra

The Los Angeles Philharmonic string section utilizes revolving seating on a systematic basis. Players listed alphabetically change seats periodically. The musicians of the Los Angeles Philharmonic are represented by Professional Musicians Local 47, AFM.

+ on sabbatical

LA Phil Resident Fellows

* Judith and Thomas L. Beckmen

Instrument Guide



Includes 1st violin, 2nd violin, viola, cello, and bass



Includes flute, oboe, clarinet, and bassoon



Includes horn, trumpet, trombone, and tuba



Includes timpani, marimba, snare drum, cymbals, and more

About The Composer is Dead

The authorities have ordered an investigation to uncover the truth behind the suspicious death of an unnamed composer. An inspector is assigned to the case, and quickly loses patience as he interrogates each instrument of the orchestra as they all present alibis with varying degrees of credibility. The Composer is Dead explores the infinite potential of the symphony orchestra by incorporating a variety of musical genres including: classical, salsa, jazz, marching band, techno, rock and more!

Famous Last Words

In *The Composer is Dead*, you will hear quotations from the following pieces, in this order:

- BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3 "Eroica": Movement 2, Funeral March
- BACH St. Matthew Passion: No. 68 "Here at Thy grave, sit we all weeping"
- BRAHMS German Requiem: Movement 1, "Blessed are they that mourn"
- MOZART Requiem: Introitus
- HAYDN Seven Last Words of Christ: Introduction
- SCHUBERT Symphony No. 8 in B minor "Unfinished": Movement 1
- MAHLER Symphony No. 5: Movement 1, Trauermarsch (Funeral March)

- CHOPIN Piano Sonata No. 2, Op. 35: Movement 2, Funeral Music
- TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 6 "Pathetique": Finale, Adagio lamentoso
- STRAVINSKY Rite of Spring: Part 2 (Sacrifice): Glorification of the Chosen One
- SCHOENBERG Pierrot Lunaire: Die Kreuze (The Crosses)
- BERLIOZ Symphonie fantastique: Finale, Hexensabbat (Witches' Sabbath): Dies Irae

Listening Journal

- 1) What kind of sounds do you hear? Does it sound like a big group of musicians or a small group?
- 2) What different dynamics do you hear? Is the music loud, soft, or in the middle? Does it slowly get louder or softer?
- 3) How would you describe the tempo? Is it fast or slow or both?
- 4) How does listening to this piece of music make you feel? Does the music remind you of anything?
- 5) What two words would you use to describe this piece of music?
- 6) Did you like this piece of music? Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not?

ili BOULANGER <i>D'un matin de printemps</i>	
Nathaniel STOOKEY The Composer Is Dead	
HOSTAKOVICH "Galop" from Moscow-Cheryomushki	

Support for Toyota Symphonies for Youth



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With support from the LA Phil Affiliates, the Junior Patrons program enhances the concertgoing experience of children who attend LA Phil performances, ensuring they feel included in our LA Phil family. The generosity of Junior Patrons contributes directly to the LA Phil's artistic endeavors, audience engagement initiatives, and learning and community programs. The names of our current Junior Patrons – the future musicians and music lovers of our community – are listed below. We invite your children to join the LA Phil's Junior Patron program and enjoy a variety of unique benefits. For more information on how to become a Junior Patron, please email volunteer@laphil.org.

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* As of 1/14/22

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Hayden Yang

Charlotte Natalie White

Matilde Alexandra White

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BOX OFFICE — GROUP SERVICES

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Angelia Franco
TICKET SELLER
Laurel Harris
IST ASSISTANT TREASURER
TOMOOFTOW Kitchen
2ND ASSISTANT TREASURER
JOSE VIllasenor
TICKET SELLER

FINANCE Jyoti Aaron CONTROLLER

Adriana Aguilar

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NORM KINARD
PARKING & TRAFFIC MANAGER
MARK Ladd
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS
GINA LEONI
OPERATIONS MANAGER, THE FORD
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Edgar Tom
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TOM WAILDON
OPERATIONS MANAGER, HOLLYWOOD BOWL

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Anthony Crespo
PROGRAM MANAGER, YOLA AT TORRES
Camille Delaney-McNeil
DIRECTOR, BECKMEN YOLA CENTER
Fabian Fuertes
SENIOR MANAGER, YOLA
Julie Hernandez
FACILITIES MANAGER, BECKMEN YOLA CENTER
LOCENZO JOhnson
PROGRAM MANAGER, YOLA AT INGLEWOOD

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