

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PHILHARMONIC

## The Planets and Other Rising Stars

Branden Muresan, Music Director & Conductor



October 11 & 12, 2024 at 7:30pm

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
1221 WASS STREET  
TUSTIN, CA 92780

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### **Cello Concerto No 1, Op. 107**.....Dmitri Shostakovich

*(score and parts lent by the Los Angeles Public Library - Art, Music and Recreation Department)*

- I. Allegretto
- II. Moderato
- III. Cadenza (attacca)
- IV. Allegro con moto

Eiline Tai, cello

*Intermission*

### **The Planets Op. 32**.....Gustav Holst

- I. Mars, the Bringer of War
- II. Venus, the Bringer of Peace
- III. Mercury, the Winged Messenger
- IV. Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity
- V. Saturn, the Bringer of Old Age
- VI. Uranus, the Magician
- VII. Neptune, the Mystic



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**Eiline Tai**, 16, has performed internationally as a cellist, making her solo debut at age 10 with the Southern California Philharmonic after winning the Young Artist Competition. She has since performed in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Zipper Concert Hall, Jordan Hall, and the Kaufman Music Center. Her musical journey has taken her to play in countries including England, Switzerland, Germany, Liechtenstein, Canada, France, Slovenia, and Italy. In 2020, Eiline was selected to participate in the Piatigorsky International Cello Festival's Mass Cello Ensemble at Walt Disney Concert Hall. She also appeared on NPR's From The Top nationwide radio

show in January 2023. In 2024, she was named a winner of the National YoungArts Award in the United States.

Eiline has appeared as a soloist with several orchestras, namely the Southern California Philharmonic, Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, Bellflower Symphony Orchestra, Southwest Chamber Orchestra Pforzheim, and SNE Chamber Orchestra Bautzen. Her remarkable talent has earned her top prizes and awards from the Virtuoso & Belcanto Concerto Competition, Hill International Concerto Competition, Walgreens National Concerto Competition, WorldVision Music Contest, Gustav Mahler Prize Cello Competition, France Music Competition, Edith Knox Performance Competition, Southern California Philharmonic Young Artist Competition, Los Angeles Violoncello Society, and the Enkor International Music Competition, to name a few.

Currently, Eiline is a Kohl Scholar studying under Clive Greensmith at the Colburn School. She has received scholarships from esteemed institutions including the International Academy of Music in Liechtenstein, Morningside Music Bridge, and Orford Music Academy. Eiline frequently plays for Adrian Brendel and has participated in master classes with renowned musicians such as Frans Helmerson, Ivan Monighetti, Gary Hoffman, Jens Peter Maintz, Laurence Lesser, Xenia Jankovic, Claudio Bohorquez, Paul Katz, Richard Aaron, Hans Jensen, Steven Doane, and Peter Wiley.



Maestro **Branden Muresan** is a native of San Juan Capistrano, California, where he still resides and teaches. He began studying violin performance at age six, under the tutelage of Merillee Walker and Noumi Fischer. After earning his AA from Saddleback College, he went on to study at San Diego State University, where he was honored to be taken as a student by Igor and Vesna Gruppman, former students of Jascha Heifetz and David Oistrakh. At SDSU, he earned his Bachelor of Music Degree in Violin Performance, and in 2000 he graduated with a Master's in Music with a major in Instrumental and Orchestral Conducting, under the instruction of Dr. Donald Barra.

Branden began performing violin professionally at age 16 and has since become a well-known orchestral violinist from Baja California to Los Angeles. His most notable performances have been with the Irish Tenors, in Mexicali BC, at Luciano Pavarotti's last professional concert, and most recently on tour with Il Divo. Currently he is Assistant Conductor for the Long Beach Ballet Orchestra.

Professor Muresan began teaching private violin at age 18, and many of those students have pursued advanced music degrees at such prestigious colleges as Longy Conservatory of Music, CalArts, UCSD, USD, CSULB, and University of Utah. In a college setting, Professor Muresan began teaching at Grossmont College in 2001, University of San Diego in 2003, Mira Costa College in 2009, and has since been honored

to be an adjunct professor at his Alma Mater, Saddleback College, where he currently teaches.

As a conductor, Maestro Muresan began with founding and developing the East San Diego County Civic Youth Orchestra program in 2003, which is still running strong. After performing in several guest conducting spots, he was contacted to build and lead a new adult orchestra program in Poway, California, as well as the Four Seasons Youth Orchestra in Newport Beach. He also was interim conductor for the Saddleback College Orchestra during the 2011-2012 season. In 2009, Maestro Muresan was hired to conduct the Mira Costa Symphony Orchestra, and in 2012 he won the opportunity to conduct the Southern California Philharmonic Orchestra. These orchestras are thriving and growing under the direction and care of Maestro Muresan.



**Jessica Haddy** has been the concertmaster of the Southern California Philharmonic since 2016. She was a featured soloist for the ensemble performing works by Bruch, Beethoven and Rimsky Korsakov . As a soloist, Jessica has been invited to perform at the Laguna Beach Sunset Serenades and the Hortense Miller Estate concert series. In 2020, Jessica and harpist Jillian Risigari-Gai Lopez recorded an album featuring French and Argentinian composers. In the same year, she filmed a concert at the historic Long Beach Bembridge House with pianist Anthony Lopez, performing pieces celebrating the fall season. She has been featured on Mission Viejo's television network as a soloist and performed in the city's featured solo concerts.

Krutz Strings company based in Kansas City named Jessica Brand Ambassador in 2018, launching a social media campaign to feature string artists in the United States for the company. Each year, Jessica represents the company at NAMM convention in Anaheim.

Her event music company, Haddy Music performs at events and has been featured at several music festivals, including the Coast Film festival in 2023. Haddy Music is highly reviewed and was featured in Riviera Magazine's Best of OC for event music.

While working in Los Angeles during 2000-2010, Jessica has appeared in music videos with Elton John, Sheryl Crow, Sting, Il Divo, and Randy Travis. Jessica was also the violinist for the first musical stage production of Quadrophenia written by Pete Townsend of The Who.

A Laguna Beach resident, Jessica has a viola/violin studio in Laguna beach. Her students have positions as soloists and concertmasters in their school and youth orchestras. Her students have won prizes in international and local concerto competitions. In 2021, she became the strings director at the Waldorf school of Orange County and has been the strings coach and conductor at Corona Del Mar middle and high school since 2017.

Jessica would also like to thank her husband Ryan and daughter Ravelle for all their love and support!

# Southern California Philharmonic Personnel

## First Violin

Jessica Haddy\*\*\*  
Simeon Brown\*\*  
Daphne Artis  
Terry Blalock  
Donna Cho  
Christian Davoodian  
Hannah Glass+  
Cole Grace  
Karen Harms  
Justin Heo  
Lixing Min  
Benji Park  
Kenneth Park  
Carmel Shahriary  
Stefano Stefan  
Kim Stephens-Doll

## Second Violin

Stefano M. Stefan\*  
Beth McCormick\*\*  
Marjorie Criddle  
Manami "Mimi" Fisher  
Gina Jacobs+  
Lucia James  
Archer Joseph  
Jenny Kriakov+  
Lindsay McCarthy+  
Miles Murray+  
Katrina Orevillo  
Pamela Samuel  
Louis Sheng  
Justin P. Speakman+  
Susan Teitelbaum  
Ana Varela+

## Viola

Joi Ciarletta\*+  
Tobin Gomez\*  
Jessica Fanno\*\*  
Anna Baermann  
Eric Chang+  
Michael Cleary  
Jon Goldman+  
Jacob Logback+  
Aydin Safabakhsh  
Kerry Walther+  
Angie Whyel+

## Cello

Nancy Korb\*  
W. Peter Harvey\*\*  
Jessica Alfieri  
Emily Chien+  
Catherine Croisette+  
James Fenton  
Jason Greenberg  
Austin Hall+  
Judith Stearns Hall+  
Vivien Ide  
Daniel Louie+  
Pauline Merry+  
Joanne Noh+  
Kathleen Robinson  
Gabrielle Sanchez  
John Wilkerson

## Bass

Isaac Suarez\*  
Nathanial Gaber+  
Bob Stephens-Doll  
Christopher Sterling+

## Flute

Betty Whyte\*  
Carol Franch  
Ann Goldman+  
Randy Smith

## Piccolo

Carol Franchi  
Randy Smith

## Alto Flute

Randy Smith

## Oboe

Ann Ludwig\*  
Lisa Chattler  
Amelia Russo-Neustadt

## English Horn

Lisa Chattler

## Clarinet

Daryl Golden\*  
Oma Skyrus\*  
David Myer

## Bass Clarinet

Toni Reid  
Mark Day+

## Bassoon

Theresa Harvey\*  
Michael Tassos  
Stan Tyler

## Contrabassoon

Stan Tyler

## Trumpet

Timothy Shevlin\*  
Stephen Farkas  
Tohru Iwami  
Carl Privette

## Horn

Tod Beckett-Frank\*  
Frank Fox  
Roger Gottfried  
Kathy Lowe  
Shauna McFadden  
Alondra Peña  
Brian Pham

## Trombone

Craig Chorbagian\*  
David Ludwig

## Bass Trombone

John Lowe

## Tenor Tuba

Sam Song

## Bass Tuba

Jason Trimble

## Harp

Chiara Solar\*  
Anna Reynolds

## Percussion

Greg Ozment\*+  
Andrea Avazian\*  
Andrew Alvidrez  
Trevor Dolce  
Melissa X. Marius  
Diana Marie Petersen

## Piano

Melissa X. Marius\*

## Organ

Richard Jones



**Dmitri Dmitriyevich Shostakovich** (1906-1975) was a Soviet-era Russian composer and pianist who became internationally known after the premiere of his First Symphony in 1926. He achieved early fame in the Soviet Union, but had a complex relationship with its government. His 1934 opera *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* was initially a success but later condemned by the Soviet government, putting his career at risk. In 1948 his work was denounced under the Zhdanov Doctrine, with professional consequences lasting several years. Even after his censure was rescinded in 1956, performances of his music were occasionally subject to state interventions. Nevertheless, Shostakovich was a member of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR (1947) and the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union (from 1962 until his death), as well as chairman of the RSFSR Union of Composers (1960–1968). Over the course of his career, he earned several important awards, including the Order of Lenin, from the Soviet government.

His **Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major, Op. 107**, was composed in 1959. Shostakovich wrote the work for his friend Mstislav Rostropovich, who committed it to memory in four days. He premiered it on October 4, 1959, at the Large Hall of the Leningrad Conservatory with the Leningrad Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Yevgeny Mravinsky. The first recording was made in two days following the premiere by Rostropovich and the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Aleksandr Gauk. This concerto is widely considered to be one of the most difficult concert works for cello.

The first movement begins with a four-note main motive some believe is derived from the composer's musical cryptogram D-S-C-H for his name. This motive is also related to a theme from the composer's score for the 1948 film *The Young Guard*, which illustrates a group of Soviet soldiers being marched to their deaths at the hands of the Nazis. This opening motive recurs throughout the concerto, except in the second movement.

The second, third and fourth movements are played continuously: the second movement is initially elegiac in tone; the cadenza stands as a movement in itself; and the fourth movement features a return to the opening motif.



**Gustav Theodore Holst** (born Gustavus Theodore von Holst; 1874-1934) was an English composer, arranger and teacher. Best known for his orchestral suite *The Planets*, he composed many other works across a range of genres, although none achieved comparable success. His distinctive compositional style was the product of many influences, Richard Wagner and Richard Strauss being most crucial early in his development. The subsequent inspiration of the English folksong revival of the early 20th century, and the example of such rising modern composers as Maurice Ravel, led Holst to develop and refine an individual style.

**The Planets, Op. 32**, is a seven-movement orchestral suite written between 1914 and 1917. In the last movement the orchestra is joined by a wordless female chorus. Each movement of the suite is named after a planet of the Solar System and its supposed astrological character.

The innovative nature of Holst's music caused some initial hostility among a minority of critics, but the suite quickly became and has remained popular, influential and widely performed. The composer conducted two recordings of the work, and it has been recorded at least 80 times subsequently by conductors, choirs and orchestras from the UK and internationally.

### **THE PLANETS - VII. Neptune, the Mystic**

#### **Chorus 1**

Soprano 1: Lynn Segrist  
Soprano 2: Susanne Anderson  
Alto: Linda Gavin-Morand

#### **Chorus 2**

Soprano 1: Coleen Bentley (Oct. 11 only), Dawn Marie Lemonds  
Soprano 2: Megan Waters  
Alto: Sara Minton (Oct. 11 only), Tracey Dodge

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SoCalPhil Holiday Spectacular	December 2, 2024
Young Artists Showcase No. 1 (Instrumental)	February 28 & March 1, 2025
Young Artists Showcase No. 2 (Vocal)	April 4 & 5, 2025
Young Artists Showcase No. 3 (Piano)	May 30 & 31, 2025

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