



*Theatre Raymond Kabbaz
Presents*

LOS ANGELES VIRTUOSI ORCHESTRA

Conducted by Carlo Ponti

With Piano Soloist HyeJin
Park and Italian Tenor
Pasquale Esposito with
encore song dedicated to
Sophia Loren.

**5.17.2024
8PM**



10361 West Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90064



ABOUT
LOS ANGELES VIRTUOSI ORCHESTRA

The Los Angeles Virtuosi Orchestra (LAV) is a dynamic ensemble devoted to the advocacy and support of music education, and all proceeds from this concert support music education in Southern California.

Founded in 2013 by Maestro Carlo Ponti, the orchestra is formed with the most talented musicians in the United States and is built on the core belief that an orchestra serves as a unique educational resource.

Consistent with LAV's mission, each concert showcases a promising young artist on the rise, demonstrating the value of music education and inspiring young musicians everywhere to reach new heights. For this concert on May 17th, the award-winning South Korean pianist Hye Jin Park, currently an Artist Diploma Candidate at the Colburn Conservatory of Music takes the stage to perform W.A. Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 12.

"The gifts imparted by the study of music are countless and it is a resource that can not only help young people find their calling but also teaches them skills and promotes qualities that can permanently enrich their lives, regardless of what path they later choose."

Carlo Ponti

The evening promises a rich variety of orchestral works performed by the professional orchestra, including one of three piano compositions written by French composer and pianist Eric Satie, W.A. Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 12, and L. Janáček's Idyll for String Orchestra.

The performance culminates as world-class tenor Pasquale Esposito delivers a rendition of the beloved Italian song "O Sole Mio." The song will be specially dedicated to Sophia Loren, who is anticipated to be in attendance. Ms. Loren stands as one of the most celebrated actresses in the international film industry. With a career that spans over six decades, she continues to captivate audiences with her enduring elegance and acting prowess. Esposito's tribute to Loren will be a highlight of the night, adding an extra layer of glamour and emotion to the event.





Program
"Symphonic Sensations"



E. Satie – Gymnopedie no. 3

W.A. Mozart – Piano Concerto no. 12 in A
Major, K. 414

Hye Jin Park, piano soloist

L. Janacek – Idyll for String Orchestra





ABOUT

CARLO PONTI

Maestro Carlo Ponti is the founder of LAV, prior to which he was the music director and principal conductor of the San Bernardino Symphony, and Associate Conductor of the Russian National Orchestra. He has also worked at the Conductor's Institute in Connecticut under Harold Farberman, with Andrey Boreyko, Mehli Mehta and Zubin Mehta in Los Angeles, and furthered his musical studies in Austria at the Vienna Music Academy under Leopold Hager and Erwin Acel.



Maestro Ponti was awarded Italy's Premio Galileo award in 2006 for exceptional musical achievement. In the United States, he was the recipient of the 2008 Artistic Achievement Award from the Virginia Waring International Piano Competition and the 2009 Spirit of Hope Award from the Childhelp Foundation for his contributions to the development and advancement of young musical talent through music education.

In Italy, he was co-recipient in 2011 of the Lupa di Roma prize in Rome, received the Premio Civitas 2014 award in Naples, was amongst the list of awardees of Italy's Assoutenti 40th Anniversary Awards in 2022 for his dedication to the development of orchestral music as a cross-cultural tool for the promotion of peace, unity and communication between nations, and in 2023 received the Ordine della Stella D'Italia distinction conferred by the President of the Italian Republic on the proposal of the Minister of Foreign Affairs for contributing to the worldwide development of classical music education and performance.



ABOUT

PASQUALE ESPOSITO



Esposito is an international crossover recording artist, acclaimed for his pop-opera delivery of songs, has released 13 albums and began touring internationally with his first musical revue: *Naples ... That's Amore* in 2005. Thereafter, he toured with his CD of *Original Compositions: A Brand New Me* (2009) and *Il Tempo* (2011). Following the success of spreading his rich Italian culture through music, he embarked on writing and producing his 1st PBS Special: *Pasquale Esposito Celebrates Enrico Caruso* in 2015.

Esposito had a successful debut at San Francisco Opera in June 2015 with the premiere of Marco Tutino's *Two Women* (an opera adaptation of the 1960s film *La Ciociara* -with Sophia Loren). In Spring 2018, Esposito released his 2nd Public TV Special on PBS Stations: *Pasquale Esposito Celebrates Italian Piazzas*.

In January 2020, Esposito filmed two additional PBS TV Specials in Naples, Italy at the historic Teatro Politeama. The first was a Christmas Special: *In the Spirit of Christmas* (released in December 2021) conducted by Maestro Adriano Peninno and the second was a Special titled: *Il Tempo (Time)* conducted by Maestro Ettore Gatta (released in December 2020). Pasquale was accompanied in both specials by the Orchestra Talenti Napoletani.

Currently, Pasquale is recording his second Christmas album set for release in the Fall of 2024 and is in production with a second album of original compositions comprising of rock-opera tunes set for release in 2025. Esposito established Notable Music and Arts Organization, a non-profit promoting music education in Spring 2012. The organization provides music instruction to underserved students and develops and produces educational programming for public television. Esposito received his BA in vocal performance with distinction from San Jose State University's School of Music in 2009.



ABOUT

HYE JIN PARK



Hye Jin Park is currently an Artist Diploma Candidate at the Colburn Conservatory of Music in Los Angeles where she studies with Fabio Bidini. She envisions music as a channel for empathy and connection with audiences across the world, and strives to share the composer's intentions through her interpretations.

Hye Jin was awarded First Prize at the 2021 Amigdala International Competition in Italy and Second Prizes at the ICA International and YMIC Competitions that same year, judges describing her performances "sensitive" and "clear". She also participated in the Malaga International Piano Festival in Spain and took First Prize at the Festival's Piano Competition. Other accolades include awards at the National Student Music Competition in Korea, the Korea-Russia International Cultural Exchange Association Competition and at the Haneum Piano Competition.

Recital appearances at Perugia's Music Fest and in her native Korea at the Lee-Won Cultural and Sejong Centers for the Performing Arts won Hye Jin critical acclaim, as well as engagements at the Chamber Music and Concert Hall in Aachen, Germany, and at the Colburn School's Zipper Hall in Los Angeles where she studied and performed under Geraldine Walther and Maestro James Conlon.

Notable orchestral performances include solo appearances with Romania's Oltenia Philharmonic and Banatul Timisoara Orchestras in 2014, and with the National Symphony of Moldova and Vienna's CMS Chamber Orchestra in 2016.





Orchestra

Violin 1

Sarah Thornblade, concertmaster

Shelly Ren, associate
concertmaster

Kathleen Sloan, assistant
concertmaster

Dimitry Olevsky

Ruzanna Sargsyan

Amy Tang

Violin 2

Yihuan Zhao, principal

Ina Veli, asst. principal

Erlinda Romero

Elizabeth Dickenson

Daphne Tsao

Samantha Lee





Orchestra

Viola


Matt Nabours, principal
Laura Jesson, asst. principal
Alison Perrine
Tess Scott-Suhrstedt

Cello

David Mergen, principal
Evgeny Tonkha, asst. principal
Garik Terzian
Pola Benke

Bass

Thomas Harte, principal
Stephanie Payne, asst. Principal





Orchestra



Oboe

John Winstead, principal

Karen Hernandez




Horn

Matthew Otto, principal

Lacey Waggener

Piano Soloist – Hye Jin Park

Tenor – Pasquale Esposito



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Chef Josette LeBlond is the founder of Normandie Bakery, a French bakery and restaurant located in Los Angeles that features a varied menu including popular French dishes and pastries, as well as Pâtés. Discover Chef Josette's mouth-watering dishes on our website, and by visiting us at Normandie Bakery!

Looking for the best French restaurant in Los Angeles? You probably found it!



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Upcoming event

La troupe du Théâtre Raymond Kabbaz
présente

des chroniques de la vie conjugale

Textes :

Sedef Ecer, Sonia Ristic et Jean-Michel Ribes

en français

RUPTURES



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Anabel Garraud
Andréa Fesi
Andréa Taberner
Caroline Dumas
Chloé Broutechoux
Christine Oustry
Estelle Renouard
Jeff Herry
Marlène Boucat
Pierre Leloup
Sarah Majeau
Sergio Parreira

Mise en scène
Pierre Leloup

30 et 31 mai 2024
20h

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