

**95 Organizations Throughout the State of California  
Announce Programs Featuring Music Composed Within the Last Five Years  
As They Join in The California Festival:  
Two Weeks of Innovative and Compelling Music from Around the World,  
November 3-19, 2023**

LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO AND SAN FRANCISCO (August 1, 2023)—The Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Diego Symphony and San Francisco Symphony today announced that 95 organizations will participate in the [California Festival: A Celebration of New Music](#), presenting some of the most innovative and compelling music from around the world for two weeks, November 3-19, 2023, in venues throughout the state. [Announced](#) in January 2023 and conceived by LA Phil Music & Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel, San Diego Symphony Music Director Rafael Payare and San Francisco Symphony Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen, and the California Festival highlights the collaborative and innovative spirit that thrives in California by inviting musical organizations of all kinds to incorporate works written within the past five years into their broader season programs.

The 95 participating organizations include symphony orchestras, chamber music groups, jazz ensembles, choirs and more, performing in more than 80 concert halls, educational institutions, auditoriums, clubs and alternative spaces from north (Symphony of the Redwoods, Mendocino County) to south (San Diego Saints Choir) to east (Sequoia Symphony Orchestra, Tulare County).

Each organization has independently curated the new-music programs being announced today under the California Festival umbrella, ensuring that the performances are meaningful to their communities while expressing the inclusive, diverse creativity of California through multiple voices.

Spanning a distance of 650 miles, California Festival performances will offer audiences throughout the state the opportunity to hear almost **172** works composed since 2018, including a remarkable **32** world premieres, within two weeks. The range of musicians participating in the event is impressive, with professional arts organizations as well as 14 youth orchestras, and composers representing some 24 nationalities and spanning generations with ages ranging from 27 to 97. Written by emerging, mid-career and world-famous composers, the selected works encompass multiple genres of music. These pieces often address subjects of keen concern,

ranging from the natural environment (the challenge of climate change, the search for sanctuary and healing in wilderness after the pandemic, the omnipresent influence and experience of water) to the dynamics of history (the multiethnic, multinational workforce that built the western railroads, the lives of figures such as Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, protest movements in Latin America). There are compositions that respond to works by renowned 20<sup>th</sup> century European composers who settled in California (Arnold Schoenberg, Igor Stravinsky), pieces that meld the sounds of far-flung cultures (including a program designed as a tapestry of music submitted by women around the world) and works that create utterly contemporary soundscapes.

Information about the California Festival can be found on the newly launched California Festival website: <https://www.cafestival.org>. In addition to providing a comprehensive list of participating organizations, artists, repertoire and key venues, the website features an interactive map showing participation throughout the state. Editorial content includes "Excursions," a multisensory journey through the innovative musical landscape of the Golden State with texts and audio contributed by artists and composers. Contributing writers include Geeta Dayal, Andy Beta, Josh Kun, Tim Page, Daniel Corral and Sarah Cahill. Audio playlists and playlists exploring the sounds and voices of the Golden State are produced by Nadia Sirota, Matt Marble and John Schneider.

The website will also include learning resources such as the Composer's Toolkit, a framework with which music makers and composers-to-be can build their own compositions. Scaffolded to fit a range of ages and skill levels, these compositional activity prompts are adaptable for use in the classroom, the studio or at home. Participants will be encouraged to share their work, with an opportunity to be featured on <https://www.cafestival.org> in November 2023.

In a joint statement, Music Directors Gustavo Dudamel, Rafael Payare and Esa-Pekka Salonen said:

"California is an inexhaustible wellspring of creativity, openness and collaboration. We are so proud to be joined by more than 90 partner organizations located in every region of the state for the inaugural California Festival; their participation turns our celebration into a true statewide effort that reflects the full spectrum of ideas, voices and cultures that call California their home. Every one of these institutions will be presenting music that they

believe in, representing their unique communities with total artistic freedom. We could not be more excited to join our friends in showcasing the ideas and talent that this extraordinary state has to offer.”

The California Festival is supported by the [Association of California Symphony Orchestras](#), providing outreach to arts organizations in its network, informing them about the Festival and encouraging them to participate.

For a complete California Festival fact sheet, please click [here](#).

### **Participating Orgs List**

Angel City Chorale, (with Inner City Youth Orchestra of LA
Art of Elan
Bay Area Rainbow Symphony
Berkeley Symphony
Brightwork newmusic
BroadStage
Burbank Philharmonic Orchestra
Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music
CalArts
California Symphony
California Youth Symphony
Camarada
Camerata Pacifica
CAP UCLA
Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens
Chanticleer
Colburn School
Community Music Center

Culver City Symphony Orchestra
dublab
ECHO Chamber Orchestra
Festival Napa Valley
Fresno Philharmonic
Glendale Youth Orchestra
Golden State Youth Orchestra
Grand Feature Film Orchestra (i.e. Independent Arts and Media / Grand Arts Consortium)
Hausmann Quartet
Hear Now Music Festival
Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (w/Angel City Chorale)
iSing SV
Jacaranda Music
Juilliard with ARRAY Spaces
Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra
La Jolla Music Society
La Jolla Presbyterian Church Concert Series
LA Opera
Left Coast Chamber Ensemble
Light Opera Theatre of Sacramento
Long Beach Symphony
Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra
Los Angeles Master Chorale
Los Angeles Philharmonic
Lyric Opera of Orange County
Mainly Mozart

Monterey Symphony
MUSE/IQUE
Music @ Menlo
Music Association of California Community Colleges
Music in the Vineyards
New Century Chamber Orchestra
Ojai Music Festival
Orchestra Nova LA
Orchestra Santa Monica
Overtone Industries
Pacific Symphony
Pasadena Symphony & POPS
Philharmonic Society of Orange County
Piano Spheres
Project [BLANK]
Resonance Collective
Riverside County Philharmonic Association, Inc.
Sacramento Youth Symphony
Salastina
San Diego Jewish Men's Choir (with San Diego Saints Choir)
San Diego Master Chorale
San Diego New Music
San Diego Saints Choir (with San Diego Jewish Men's Choir)
San Diego Symphony
San Diego Youth Symphony & Conservatory
San Francisco Choral Society

San Francisco Conservatory of Music
San Francisco Contemporary Music Players
San Francisco Opera
San Francisco Performances
San Francisco Symphony
San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra
San Luis Obispo Symphony
San Luis Obispo Youth Symphony
Santa Barbara Symphony
Santa Rosa Symphony
Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Orchestra
Santa Rosa Young People's Chamber Orchestra
Sequoia Symphony Orchestra
Stanford University, Stanford Philharmonia
Symphony of the Redwoods
Synchromy
The Albany Consort
The Fortissima Collective
UC San Diego
UCSB Arts & Lectures
USC Percussion Group
USC, Thornton School of Music
Volti
Wild Up
Young People's Symphony Orchestra
Youth Music Monterey

## **About the Los Angeles Philharmonic**

Under the leadership of Music & Artistic Director [Gustavo Dudamel](#), the [LA Phil](#) offers live performances, media initiatives and learning programs that inspire and strengthen communities in Los Angeles and beyond. The Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra is the foundation of the LA Phil's offerings, which also include a multi-genre, multidisciplinary presenting program and such youth development programs as [YOLA](#) (Youth Orchestra Los Angeles). Performances are offered on three historic stages—[Walt Disney Concert Hall](#), the [Hollywood Bowl](#), and [The Ford](#)—as well as through a variety of media platforms. In all its endeavors, the LA Phil seeks to enrich the lives of individuals and communities through musical, artistic and learning experiences that resonate in our world today.

## **About the San Diego Symphony**

Founded in 1910, the San Diego Symphony is the oldest orchestra in California and one of the largest and most significant cultural organizations in San Diego. The Orchestra performs for more than 250,000 people each season, offering a wide variety of programming at its two much-loved venues, Copley Symphony Hall at Jacobs Music Center in downtown San Diego (now under renovation) and The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park on San Diego Bay. In early 2018, the San Diego Symphony announced the appointment of Rafael Payare as music director. Payare leads the orchestra's 82 full-time musicians, graduates of the finest and most celebrated music schools in the United States and abroad. The San Diego Symphony also serves as the orchestra for the San Diego Opera each season, as well as performing at several regional performing arts and community centers. For more than 30 years, the San Diego Symphony has provided comprehensive learning and community engagement programs reaching more than 65,000 students annually and bringing innovative programming to San Diego's diverse neighborhoods and schools. For more information, visit [www.sandiegosymphony.org](http://www.sandiegosymphony.org).

## **About the San Francisco Symphony**

The [San Francisco Symphony](#) is among the most adventurous and innovative arts institutions in the United States, celebrated for its artistic excellence, creative performance concepts, active touring, award-winning recordings, and standard-

setting education programs. In the 2020–21 season, the San Francisco Symphony welcomed conductor and composer [Esa-Pekka Salonen](#) as its twelfth Music Director, embarking on a new vision for the present and future of the orchestral landscape. In their inaugural season together, Mr. Salonen and the San Francisco Symphony introduced a groundbreaking artistic leadership model anchored by eight [Collaborative Partners](#) from a variety of cultural disciplines: Nicholas Britell, Julia Bullock, Claire Chase, Bryce Dessner, Pekka Kuusisto, Nico Muhly, Carol Reiley, and esperanza spalding. This group of visionary artists, thinkers, and doers, along with Salonen and the San Francisco Symphony, have set out to explore and develop new ideas inspired by the Partners' unique areas of expertise, including innovative digital projects, expansive and imaginative performance concepts in a variety of concert formats, commissions of new music, and projects that foster collaboration across artistic and administrative areas. Shaped by the dynamic partnership and shared vision of Mr. Salonen, the Collaborative Partners, and the Orchestra and Chorus, the San Francisco Symphony's [2023–24 season](#) reflects a spirit of collaboration, experimentation, and renewed dialogue through live music.

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