

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S



ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH SYMPHONY

& STRING ENSEMBLE

2025 OCYSE CONCERT

SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 16, 2025
Chapman University, Salmon Recital Hall

Colombian Marimba Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 33

I. Movement 1

Carlos Pineda IV, marimba

Sergei GOLOVKO (unknown)

Midsummer Rain

Grace Hsia, piano

Vera IVANOVA (b. 1977)

Serenade in D minor, Op. 36

I. Moderato ma non troppo
II. Allegretto vivace
III. Adagio cantabile

Julius VON BELICZAY (1835 - 1893)

Ancient Airs and Dances, Suite No. 3

I. Italiana
III. Siciliana

Ottorino RESPIGHI (1879 - 1936)

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GOLOVKO: COLOMBIAN MARIMBA CONCERTO NO. 1 IN A MINOR, OP. 33, MOVEMENT 1

Sergei Golovko's Colombian Marimba Concerto is a vibrant composition that showcases the marimba's expressive capabilities, blending traditional Colombian musical elements with contemporary classical techniques. The concerto is structured into three movements, each capturing distinct moods and themes.

The opening movement introduces listeners to a lively and rhythmic landscape, reflecting the rich musical traditions of Colombia. It features intricate marimba passages accompanied by a diverse ensemble, including drum set, electric guitar, and jazz piano, creating a fusion of classical and Latin American sounds. The movement is characterized by its energetic tempo and dynamic interplay between the soloist and ensemble.

IVANOVA: MIDSUMMER RAIN

Midsummer Rain...pictures a sudden rain on a sunny summer day, which starts suddenly, brings a lot of excitement to the day and a relief on a hot day. The piano part acts almost as a soloist, playing with a lot of textures reminiscent of a rain flow. String parts often have an accompanying function, employing a lot of pizzicatos, and from time to time taking over the main motive.

VON BELICZAY: SERENADE IN D MINOR, OP. 36

Julius von Beliczay was a Hungarian composer known for his Romantic lyricism and rich harmonies. His Serenade is a charming work for string orchestra, blending elegance, energy, and Hungarian folk influences.

The piece opens with a flowing and expressive Moderato ma non troppo, followed by a lively Allegretto vivace full of playful interactions. The heartfelt Adagio cantabile serves as the emotional core, showcasing warm, lyrical melodies. A hidden gem of the string serenade repertoire, Beliczay's work captivates with its balance of passion and grace.

RESPIGHI: ANCIENT AIRS AND DANCES, SUITE NO. 3

Ottorino Respighi had two sides to his musical personality. The first embraced the modern world: developing his unique voice, finding technicolor sounds. The second was pulled backwards in time: pouring over music from bygone eras. These two sides were not necessarily at odds. When Respighi transcribed and arranged dozens of 16th to 18th-century works, he made them speak his own language, repainting intimate textures with vivid modern colors.

In his thirties, Respighi was drawn to collections of 16th and 17th-century lute works. The lute, in its heyday, was prized for a quiet, delicate sound. Hearing a lute performance was like eavesdropping on a private conversation.

Respighi made three suites for string orchestra from these lute works, calling them *Ancient Airs and Dances*. The third suite bends towards darkness, melancholy. [The first movement] Italiana is a lute galliard (a lively dance with complicated steps) is clothed in string mist, slow-dancing in mid-air. [The third movement] Siciliana is a swaying lute spagnoletta (a well-known folksong form) takes the motion of a river, calm at first, full of turbulence later.

- Tim Munro

ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH SYMPHONY & STRING ENSEMBLE

Founded in 1970, the Orange County Youth Symphony (OCYS) and String Ensemble (OCYSE) is one of Southern California's finest youth symphony programs. The diverse roster represents student musicians from nearly 60 middle school, high school, and college programs from San Clemente to Fullerton and beyond.

In its 50+ year history, OCYS has traveled the world representing Orange County's best young adult musicians presenting performances in Austria, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and New York. It has appeared and participated in many prestigious performances and projects, including U.S. and West Coast premieres by composers such as Mark-Anthony Turnage and Kurt Schwetsik and a season-long project with Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 culminating in a documentary entitled *Beethoven's Ninth: Journey to Joy* that was selected by PBS SoCal for multiple broadcasts. Most recently, the orchestra was presented in a side-by-side concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, performing for a nearly sold-out audience.

Additional highlights of past seasons include masterclasses with Ray Chen, Midori, Hilary Hahn, and Sheku Kanneh-Mason, as well as a mini residency by the Kronos Quartet. An annual tradition, OCYS serves as the featured orchestra for the Philharmonic Society's acclaimed Concerts for Fifth Grade at the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. This concert series has provided music education for nearly a million students for more than thirty years. Additionally, OCYS and OCYSE appear in their own performances in prestigious venues across Orange County.



LUCY LU, CONDUCTOR
ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH STRING
ENSEMBLE

Lucy Lu is an active teacher, soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. Ms. Lu's performances have taken her to numerous cities across the United States, China, and Europe, where she has played in some of the most prestigious concert halls. She served as Concertmaster of the Bellflower Symphony, Orchestra Collective of Orange Country and is currently the 1st violinist of Plaza String Quartet. Ms. Lu has performed with the Nie'Er Symphony Orchestra in China, Four Seasons Youth Orchestra, LA Chamber Choir, and Celestial Opera Company as a violin soloist and has performed at places such as the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Cerritos Performing Art Center, Irvine Barclay Theatre, Musco Center of the Arts, and Carpenter Performing Arts Center in the Los Angeles area. Ms. Lu also performs with the Dana Point Symphony Orchestra, Millennium Choir and Orchestra, Corona Symphony, La Mirada Symphony and Rio Honda Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Lu founded Violinbaby Music Studio where she trains young violinists, many of whom are accepted into renowned music organizations such as The Colburn School, Seattle Youth Symphony, Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra and Claremont Youth Symphony Orchestra. Her students have placed at many international violin competitions, such as the MAP International Music Competition where she was awarded the Honorable Instructor of the MAP-IMC 2022.

ARTISTS AND PERSONNEL

Ms. Lu also coaches youth orchestras such as Orange County Youth Symphony, CSUN Youth Philharmonic, Arcadia High School Symphony Orchestra, Four Seasons Youth Orchestra and South Coast Youth Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Lu received her Master's degree in violin performance from the Bob Cole Conservatory at California State University, Long Beach where she studied with Professor Linda Rose, Katia Popov and Moni Simeonov.



CARLOS PINEDA IV, MARIMBA

Carlos began playing the marimba at the age of 16, during his sophomore year, in the Sunny Hills High School Lancer Regiment, the award-winning marching band from Fullerton. Backed by his nine years of piano, starting at the age of five and ending at Certificate of Merit Level

10, and his constant involvement in concert percussion starting in 4th grade, he's joined a multitude of different professional groups of musicians such as the Gold Drum and Bugle Corp, Pacific Crest Drum and Bugle Corp, and now the Orange County Youth Symphony. As of right now, Carlos Pineda mainly studies percussion independently, in addition to periodically learning from a wide variety of instructors from around United States, such as Texas. He continues to audition for award winning organizations. Aside from percussion, Carlos likes to compose for percussion ensembles and video games, and enjoys reading in his free time.



Check out our merch!

More information at the
OCYS table in the lobby



MARIMBA CONCERTO

Carlos Pineda IV, marimba
 Ronin Del Castillo, piano
 Ian McFarland, congas
 Johnny Martinez, drumset
 Chloe Hopper, electric bass

ORANGE COUNTY YOUTH STRING ENSEMBLE | Lucy Lu, conductor

First Violin

Ellis, Le, *concertmaster*
 Peter Chen,
assistant concertmaster
 Duy Dang
 Ethan Lou
 Kai Leng
 Jack Yang
 Saoirse Murray
 Tristen Lee
 Brian Chen
 Samuel Wei
 Audrey Lau
 Kayli Wu
 Amelia Zheng
 Brandon Ho

Second Violin

Nicole Zheng, *principal*
 Leah Vu
 Erin Kang
 Samuel Huang

Emma Lee

Kevin Li
 Andrew Hsia
 Claire Claypool
 Nina Xu
 Benjamin Kang
 Sharlene Lau
 Joyce Yang
 Grace Yang
 Aanya Mansukhani

Viola

Kayden Ishii, *principal*
 Kiyone Tsuchida
 Chelsey Yu
 Edward Ma
 Sibbo (Tiger) Zhu
 Samantha Yee
 Ian (Rei) Ishii
 Ean Lin
 Ellie Shueh
 Taryn Tien

Cello

Grace Zhu, *principal*
 Seowoo (Lia) Kim
 Jake Xia
 Benjamin Oh
 Beckett Cheng
 Sean Chung
 Julian Lai
 Rachna Rathore
 Kenji Kothari
 Annie Lee
 Clarissa Lin
 Aivy Frazier
 Felicia Lee
 Amber Lin
 Jamie Chang
 Jenny Cao
 Stephany Chow
 Inara Yang

Double Bass

Lumar Goss, *principal*
 Tracy Beaton
 Hanna Saeidi
 Kenya Rosales

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Lucy Lu, OCYSE Conductor & OCYS Strings Coach
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FEBRUARY

20 London Symphony Orchestra

MARCH

- 9 Vienna Philharmonic:
Beethoven & R. Strauss
- 9 Special Event: Philharmonic Ball
- 11 Vienna Philharmonic:
From the New World
- 22 Tetzlaff Quartet
- 26 Israel Philharmonic Orchestra
- 31 12th Annual High School
Orchestra Festival

APRIL

- 4 Chineke! Orchestra
- 6 Randall Goosby
- 25 Alina Ibragimova
& Cédric Tiberghien

MAY

- 4 Mutter-Bronfman-Ferrández Trio
- 5 Orange County Youth Symphony
& String Ensemble Finale
- 30 Los Angeles Philharmonic
- 31 Violins of Hope (through June 10)