

# **Symphony Orchestra**

Ryan Murray, conductor

TUESDAY, 7:00 P.M.  
DECEMBER 12, 2023  
CAPISTRANO CONCERT HALL

## PROGRAM

Purple Mountains

Shuying Li  
(b. 1989)

Carmen Suite No. 1

Georges Bizet  
(1838-1875)

- I. Prélude
- II. Aragonaise
- III. Intermezzo
- IV. Séguedille
- V. Les Dragons d'Alcala
- VI. Les Toréadors

Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
(1840-1893)

## PERSONNEL

**Violin I**

Jina Dain Chen \*  
 Stella Moschovas  
 Alla Chistyakova  
 Anna Kalmykov  
 Beti Girma  
 Kelly Melnik  
 Julie Guryanov  
 Elyssa Havey

**Violin II**

Yana Kombarova +  
 Amaliya Chistyakova  
 Nathaniel Bacon  
 Stirling Weismann  
 Andrea Morales  
 Mayling Lopez  
 Mohanna Zamzam  
 Stephanie Veliz  
 Merrilee Vice  
 Brittany Thorne

**Viola**

Emily Svendsen +  
 Emily Nikitchuk  
 Tristan Corpus  
 Zachary Noakes  
 Sam Gaitan  
 Audrey Utschig  
 Cynthia Kallemeyn

**Cello**

Laura Robb Martin +  
 William Masters  
 Ben Caltacci  
 Jason Bond  
 Jordan Powell  
 Makenna Mann  
 Elena Bolha

**Bass**

Andrew Finley +  
 Jim Mazzaferro

**Flute**

Hannah Conlee +  
 Evan Wright

**Oboe**

Ethan Pham-Aguilar +  
 Hailey Nelson

**English Horn**

Murray Campbell

**Clarinet**

Noah Blevins +  
 Kevin Le

**Bassoon**

Victor Nuno-Robles +  
 Martin Uytingco  
 Jack Zill

**Horn**

Ryan Datar +  
 Christian Orr  
 Anthony Munroe  
 Matthew Anselmi

**Trumpet**

Mason Rogers +  
 Marilette Brooks

**Trombone**

Michael Mencarini +  
 Michael Ruiz  
 Kent Giese

**Tuba**

Aaron David +

**Harp**

Aden Barbuta

**Timpani**

Christopher Harris +

**Percussion**

Lalique Montesini +  
 Evan French

*\* concertmaster / + principal*

**Ryan Murray** is the Director of Orchestra & Opera at Sacramento State, as well as the Artistic Director of Music in the Mountains and the Principal Pops Conductor of the Modesto Symphony. He is also newly appointed Music Director and Conductor for the Auburn Symphony, and the conductor for the Sacramento Youth Symphony's Premier Orchestra. An award-winning opera conductor, Ryan is currently the Music Director of Opera Modesto. He has served as assistant conductor for opera productions at the Sacramento Philharmonic and is the past Music Director of Fresno Grand Opera.

Ryan is a past winner of the Vienna Philharmonic's prestigious Ansbacher Fellowship for Young Conductors and spent the summer in residence at the 2014 Salzburg Festival. Ryan was awarded second place in the 2019 American Prize for Professional Orchestral Conducting, and has garnered national recognition for his dynamic, compelling performances of contemporary opera as the winner of the 2017 American Prize in Opera Conducting.

With an enthusiasm for film scores, Ryan enjoys the unique challenges of conducting movies in concert and was recently added to the *Disney & ICM Approved Conductors* list. Recent and upcoming performances include Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, Pixar Animation Studios' *Pixar in Concert*, and *Star Wars: A New Hope*.

Ryan holds degrees, *summa cum laude*, in Bassoon and Voice Performance from Sacramento State and holds a master's degree, with distinction, in Music Business from the Berklee College of Music. Ryan has previously attended the Cabrillo Festival's Conductors Workshop and was one of just eight conductors worldwide to be invited to the *Musiikin aika* Masterclass in Finland. He previously attended the Contemporary Music Symposium led by Alan Gilbert featuring the New York Philharmonic, the Aurora Chamber Festival in Sweden, the Lucerne Festival's Conducting Masterclass in Switzerland and the Eastman School of Music's Summer Conducting Institute.

Praised as "a real talent" (*The Seattle Times*) with "vivid, dramatic" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) and "enjoyable" (*Gramophone Magazine*) scores, **Shuying Li** is an award-winning composer who began her musical education in her native China. In her sophomore year at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, she won a scholarship to continue her

undergraduate studies at The Hartt School in Connecticut. She holds doctoral and master's degrees from the University of Michigan and is a research faculty member at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.

Shuying Li's compositions have been performed by Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Ningbo Symphony Orchestra (China), Alarm Will Sound, American Lyric Theater, Argus Quartet, Hartford Opera Theater, Donald Sinta Quartet, Norfolk Contemporary Ensemble, Orkest de ereprijs (Netherlands), Avanti! Chamber Orchestra (Finland), Cecilia Quartet (Canada), 15.19. Ensemble (Italy), Ascanio Quartet (Italy), Atlas Ensemble (Netherlands), among others. Shuying has received awards or grants from OPERA America, China National Arts Fund, ASCAP/CBDNA Frederick Fennell Prize, The American Prize, International Antonin Dvorak Composition Competition, New Jersey Composers' Guild Commission Competition, International Huang Zi Composition Competition, and the Melta International Composition Competition.

Shuying founded the Four Corners Ensemble in 2017. As Artistic Director and Conductor of the ensemble, Shuying's efforts have led to residencies and performances at Carnegie Hall's Weill Hall, the Polish Consulate General in New York City, OPERA America, the Shanghai Conservatory of Music, the University of Michigan, The Hartt School, and the Hartford Opera Theater. Shuying also pioneered the Operation Opera Festival in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and continued to build it into an annual festival for composers, vocalists, and pianists to collaborate on new chamber operas and chamber art songs.

Recent or upcoming projects include performances by Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, "The President's Own" United States Marine Band, Windscape Woodwind Quintet, The Chelsea Symphony, Washington-Idaho Symphony, Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Music Society of Central Virginia; an opera commissioned by the Shanghai Conservatory of Music with librettist Julian Crouch in development with the Houston Grand Opera supported by OPERA America; an orchestra consortium commission by 13 orchestras; and two band consortium commissions including a CBDNA West/Northwest Region "Bridgework" Commission. For more information, please visit: [www.shuyingli.com](http://www.shuyingli.com)