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The City of Irvine

CYOSC was founded in 1989 by Robert Lau, a prominent Orange County conductor and teacher of violin. Under his artistic direction the orchestra performed a broad range of traditional, contemporary, and Western and Chinese music in concerts throughout the United States and Asia. The ensemble toured Taiwan in 1994 under the sponsorship of the Pacific Cultural Foundation, Beijing and Xi-an, China in 1996, and participated in the 1998 International Youth Culture and Art Festival in Tianjian, China. The group also supports local organizations in its home town of Irvine, CA, USA, including fundraising for the Southern California Chinese Cultural Center (2002). Maestro Lau officially retired during the 2005-2006 season, and the orchestra appointed Irvine-based performer and teacher Gene Wie as it's new Music Director.

Orchestra Members

Violin

Jeesong Ahn
 Heather Chen
 Peter Cheng
 Jonathan Chu
 Bryan Chung
 Adriana Hernandez (*)
 Angela Leu (*)
 Michael Liu
 Kathleen Mangusing (*)
 Aaron Morgan
 Steve Nam +
 Macie Slick
 Joseph Suh
 Chrysanthe Tan (*)
 Rich Thai
 Jonathan Wang
 Mason Yu **
 Zachary Yu
 Ken Zheng

Viola

Sean Chung +
 Cyrus Hwang +
 Melissa Kim
 Chris Noh
 Corinne Olsen (*)
 Brian Peng
 Phillip Triggs (*)
 Keoki Yuen

Violoncello

John Choi
 Warren Hagerty
 George Ma
 Andy Martens
 Naoko Maruko (*)
 Wesley Yu

Double Bass

Andrew deStackelberg
 Steven Liu (*)

Piano

Sarina Zhao
 Angela Chen
 Albert Zhu

** Concertmaster
 + Community Volunteers
 (*) Young Artist Coaches

PROGRAM NOTES

(with material sourced from Wikipedia.org, the free encyclopedia)

GUSTAV HOLST (1874-1934) is one of the prominent English composers of the early 20th century. Holst is most famous for his orchestral suite *The Planets*. Having studied at the Royal College of Music in London, his early work was influenced by Ravel, Grieg, Richard Strauss, and Ralph Vaughan Williams, but most of his music is highly original, with influences from Hindu spiritualism and English folk tunes. Holst's music is well known for unconventional use of metre and haunting melodies. Aside from the popular composition *The Planets*, the *St. Paul's Suite* is probably Holst's best known work, and is certainly the best known of his many compositions for the St. Paul's Girls' School in Hammersmith, a borough of London, where he served as musical director from 1904 until his death in 1934. He composed this piece specifically for the all-girl orchestra to perform. Originally composed for strings, Holst later added wind parts so that the suite could be played by a full orchestra.

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750) was a prolific German composer and organist whose sacred and secular works for choir, orchestra and solo instruments drew together the strands of the Baroque period and brought it to its ultimate maturity. Although he introduced no new forms, he enriched the prevailing German style with a robust contrapuntal technique, a control of harmonic and motivic organisation from the smallest to the largest scales, and the adaptation of rhythms and textures from abroad, particularly Italy and France. He is regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time. Revered for their intellectual depth, technical command and artistic beauty, JS Bach's works include the Brandenburg concertos, the *Goldberg Variations*, the keyboard suites and partitas, the *Mass in B Minor*, the *St Matthew Passion*, *The Art of Fugue*, *Sonatas and partitas for solo violin*, the *Six Suites for Unaccompanied Cello*, and a large number of cantatas, of which about 220 survive. Tonight's work was originally written for SATB vocal ensemble, and adapted with minor changes for string orchestra.

ARCANGELO CORELLI (1653-1713) was an influential Italian violinist and composer of Baroque music. The *Christmas Concerto* is one of his most famous pieces. It is officially known as the Concerto Grosso in G-minor, opus 6, number 8. Written in 1705, and contains six movements. According to the *New Oxford Companion to Music*, the work gains its name from the inscription "fatto per la notte di Natale" ("Made for Christmas Night"), and the closing Pastorale evokes the nativity scene in Bethlehem. The third movement was featured in the 2003 period action/adventure film *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*.

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809-1847) was a German composer and conductor of the early Romantic period. He was born to a notable Jewish family, being the grandson of the philosopher Moses Mendelssohn. His work includes symphonies, concertos, oratorios, piano and chamber music. After a long period of relative denigration due to changing musical tastes in the late 19th century, his creative originality is now being recognised and re-evaluated, and he is now among the most popular composers of the Romantic era, generally acknowledged as the great child prodigy after Mozart. Mendelssohn wrote twelve symphonies for string orchestra from 1821 to 1823 (i.e. between the ages of 12 and 14). These youthful symphonies were performed in house concerts at the Mendelssohn residence in Berlin with the young composer providing piano "continuo" in the Baroque style. Remaining unpublished during his lifetime, the sinfonias were fortunately preserved in the Berlin State Library where they safely survived the ravages of National Socialism against Mendelssohn's works. Three of these string works were reintroduced to the musical world in 1959 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth and all have now been published.

TRADITIONAL works of holiday music consist of carols for the Christmas holiday that have been popularized on radio, television and film over the past century and are now entirely cemented in the public perception of seasonal music. The works featured in tonight's performance are *Away in a Manger*, *Deck the Halls*, *Silent Night*, *Ding Dong Merrily on High*, *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*, and *Jingle Bells*.