

CLASSICAL MUSIC

WRITTEN BY
MORGAN
MITCHELL

01

Of Mice and Men

Based on John Steinbeck's novella, the Livermore Valley Opera's fall performance features the tragic story of migrant ranch workers George and Lennie, the music of the late Carlisle Floyd, and direction from CSU East Bay professor emeritus Marc Jacobs. *Bankhead Theater, Livermore, livermorearts.org.*

OCTOBER 7-15



2

02

American Kaleidoscope

Berkeley Symphony's season kicks off with an exploration of the diversity of the American experience. The Marcus Roberts Trio joins the symphony for George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* and James P. Johnson's response to that piece, *Yamekraw: A Negro Rhapsody*. Rounding out the program are Samuel Barber's *Second Essay for Orchestra* and Peter S. Shin's meditation on his Korean American identity, *Relapse*. *Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley, berkeleysymphony.org.*

OCTOBER 15



3

03

Emo Orchestra featuring Hawthorne Heights

If you're nostalgic for the peak of emo music, and for the sounds of bands like Taking Back Sunday and My Chemical Romance, you can't miss the Emo Orchestra's reinvention of these beloved melodies. Joined by rock band Hawthorne Heights, Emo Orchestra combines the music of the 2000s



5

2. A gathering of the Berkeley Symphony.

3. The Emo Orchestra adds a new spin to classic tunes.

5. Omid Zoufonoun.

04

Handel-Rivers of Inspiration

As winter approaches, California Symphony invokes rain with this water-centric concert. Handel's *Water Music* debuted on a royal barge on the River Thames (where King George I insisted it be repeated three times). Accompanying it are Robert Schumann's *Symphony No. 3*, inspired by the Rhineland, and resident composer Viet Cuong's *Chance of Rain*. *Leshner Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek, lesherartscenter.org.*

NOVEMBER 11-12

05

Let Us Break Bread Together with the Hits of Tina Turner

The Oakland Symphony is joined by the Oakland Symphony Chorus for a holiday extravaganza. Conducted by Omid Zoufonoun, this year's performance at Paramount Theatre highlights the hits of the late great Tina Turner. Attendees will have simply the best time. *Paramount Theatre, Oakland, paramountoakland.org.*

DECEMBER 10

BEYOND the EAST BAY

San Francisco Opera takes on the 2023 Pulitzer Prize winner for music, *Omar*, a moving story inspired by the real experiences of a 19th-century Islamic scholar forced into slavery. *November 5-21, sfopera.com.*