

ALFRED SURENYAN

ARTISTIC PORTFOLIO

Composer • Educator • Conductor • Music Director

Curriculum Vitae • Teaching Philosophy • Catalogue of Works • Research •
Artistic Projects • Performance Documentation

Los Angeles, California

alfredsurenayan.org

“Music is ... A higher revelation than all Wisdom & Philosophy”
— Ludwig van Beethoven

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alfred@alfredsurenayan.org | Canoga Park, California | (818) 425-0704

ARTISTIC PROFILE

Alfred Surenyan is an Armenian-American composer, conductor, educator, and music director based in Los Angeles, California. His work combines contemporary orchestral composition, electroacoustic music, ethnomusicology, film music analysis, and arts education. With over three decades of experience in composition, orchestration, music instruction, nonprofit arts leadership, and music technology, Surenyan has developed a creative voice that merges traditional orchestral writing with modern production techniques and interdisciplinary artistic exploration.

He is the founder, music director, and conductor of the Andromeda Electric Orchestra, an ensemble dedicated to the exploration of electroacoustic orchestral performance, contemporary repertoire, and innovative concert experiences. Through the orchestra, he has focused on expanding the possibilities of the modern orchestra through the use of amplification, electronic integration, world music influences, and thematic programming inspired by science, mythology, history, and storytelling. His artistic vision seeks to bridge the worlds of classical performance, cinematic atmosphere, and contemporary sound design.

As an educator, Surenyan has taught piano, music theory, composition, music technology, audio production, recording, orchestration, and world music studies throughout Southern California. His teaching experience spans private instruction, colleges, schools, and music institutions, where he has worked with students of all ages and backgrounds. He is particularly interested in combining creativity with technology and encouraging students to explore both traditional musicianship and contemporary methods of music production.

His academic and creative research includes Armenian folk music, leitmotif analysis in film music, world music cultures, and the integration of folk traditions into contemporary orchestral composition. Current creative projects include the development of "The Dwarf Planets," a large-scale orchestral suite inspired by astronomy, mythology, and diverse musical traditions, including research into the music of Easter Island (Rapa Nui) and Hawaiian folk music. Additional research interests include the music of Star Wars, film scoring techniques, and the evolution of thematic development in contemporary cinema.

Through his work as a composer, conductor, educator, researcher, and arts organizer, Alfred Surenyan continues to advocate for innovative artistic collaboration, interdisciplinary creativity, and the ongoing evolution of contemporary orchestral music.

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EDUCATION

Claremont Graduate University – Doctor of Musical Arts, Composition (2009)

Dissertation: Armenian Rustic Scenes for Orchestra, A Study of Armenian Folk Music: The Fieldwork and Analysis of Komitas' Work- Written Dissertation

Research: Armenian Folk Music and Komitas

California State University Northridge – Master of Music, Composition (2001)

Graduate Recital: Awakenings (Graduate Thesis), Gothic Cantata, Armenian Fantasy

California State University Northridge – Bachelor of Music, Composition (1997)

Senior Recital: Insomnia, String Quartet No.1, Viola Sonata, Ikdwctci

Los Angeles Valley College – Associate of Arts, Music (1992)

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

Occupational Certificate – Orchestrator/Arranger

Credentials of Ministry – Universal Life Church

Advanced Certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)

EXECUTIVE & ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP

Zela Music Group, Inc. – Founder & Director

Parent company overseeing Pasha Music Production, Pasha Music Education, and Avid Reeder Music.

Responsibilities include artistic leadership, music publishing, curriculum development, and business operations.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Pasha Music Education (1997–Present)

Piano, Music Theory, and Music Technology Instruction

Private Lessons and Group Lessons

TAL Education – VIPX (2018–2019)

Online ESL Instruction

Arts Institute of CA – Inland Empire (2011–2018)

Audio Production, Music Editing, Composition Instruction

Pilibos Armenian School (2016–2018)

Music Production, Composition, World Music & Culture

Pasadena City College (2013)

Recording and Production Instruction

Vocal Director – South High School (2011)

Production: 100 Years of Broadway

Amadeus School of Music & Art (2008–2010)

Piano & Music Theory Instructor

Keye’s Music Scene (2000–2004)

Private Piano Instructor

Castlebay Lane Elementary (2000–2002)

General Music Instruction for K–5 Classes

Burbank Unified School District (2000–2001)

Substitute Teacher K–12

Jefferson Middle School (1999–2000)

Concert Band & Choir Instruction

MUSICAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Andromeda Electric Orchestra – Music Director & Conductor (2019–Present)

Conducting, Concert Production, Artistic Leadership, and Event Management

Zela Music Group, Inc. – Founder & Director (1997–Present)

Administration, Publishing, Orchestration, Arranging, Finale, Dorico, Logic, Pro Tools

California Philharmonic – Principal Music Librarian (2006–2008)

Music Preparation, Re-Orchestration, Conductor Scores

Claremont Graduate University – Music Department Assistant (2004–2006)

Stage Management, Recording, Music Studio Assistance

NON-PROFIT & COMMITTEE WORK EXPERIENCE

Andromeda Electric Orchestra – Founder, Music Director & Conductor (2019–Present)

Concert Production, Artistic Leadership, Event Management

Pagan Pride Los Angeles

Vice President & Board Member

Conference on Current Pagan Studies

Board Member & Keynote Coordinator

Gay and Lesbian Armenian Society (GALAS)

Community Outreach Projects

COMMISSIONS, PROJECTS & WORK FOR HIRE

Let There Be Goodness – Timothy Quirus, Director

Scoring of Short Film (2015)

Karen Tate

Commission editing and scoring short documentary Ana Tanrica (2010)

Pacific Trio: John Walz

Commission arrangement of An American in Paris (2010)

Commission original work: Piano Trio Folk Tales (2014)

Steve Martinez – Clarinet Performer

Commission of original work: Duo of Air and Fire for Clarinet and Cello (2014)

Flashes – Smoking Cowboy Entertainment

Scoring of Short Film Flashes (2009)

DISCOGRAPHY

Starchild

Collection of electronic/orchestral works

The Road Less Traveled

Electronic music collection spanning 20 years

Classical Rocks!!- Andromeda Electric Orchestra/ Alfred Surenyan/ Conductor

Live performance from Bransdall Gallery Theatre November 2022

CURRENT RESEARCH

Research and analysis of the music of Star Wars. Project planned for a publication of a complete musicological investigation of the Original Trilogy, Prequel Trilogy, and Sequel Trilogy.

Current ethnomusicology research into the music and cultural traditions of Easter Island (Rapa Nui) and Hawaiian folk music as source material and inspiration for the upcoming Dwarf Planets orchestral project.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Recipient of the Paul K. & Evelyn Cook Richter Memorial Fellowship (2004–2006)

SKILLS

- Classroom lecture and management
- Fundraising and nonprofit management
- Management of staff, interns, and assistants
- Research skills through libraries and databases
- Mac and PC Platforms
- Coordinating fundraising events
- Strong communication and volunteer coordination

MUSICAL SKILLS

- Expert level of Finale, Dorico, Logic Pro, and Pro Tools
- Music editing and proofreading
- Musicology of contemporary music
- Ethnomusicology research tied into musical composition
- Music copying and notation
- Orchestration & arranging for various ensembles

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Professional Musicians Local 47

ASCAP

American Composers Forum – Los Angeles Chapter

The Association of Concert Bands

REFERENCES

Available Upon Request

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TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

"I never teach my pupils. I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn." – Albert Einstein

Students today learn in ways that differ greatly from previous generations. The integration of technology into education has transformed the classroom environment and expanded the ways in which students engage with information. As an educator, I believe it is important to adapt to these evolving needs while maintaining strong foundational teaching practices. My teaching philosophy centers on creating an environment that encourages creativity, accessibility, critical thinking, and active participation.

I combine traditional instructional methods with modern educational technology in order to support a diverse range of learning styles and backgrounds. While I value direct classroom instruction, discussion, and structured lectures, I also recognize the importance of supplemental resources that students can access beyond the classroom. I regularly incorporate presentation materials, handouts, multimedia resources, online platforms, videos, and listening examples into my courses in order to reinforce concepts and provide additional support for student learning. These tools are especially valuable in assisting students with different educational backgrounds and learning needs.

Organization and clarity are essential components of my teaching approach. I believe students learn best when expectations and objectives are clearly communicated. For this reason, I provide structured agendas, outline daily goals, and maintain a learning environment that encourages accountability and engagement. At the same time, I strive to make the classroom a creative and collaborative space where students feel encouraged to ask questions, experiment, and develop confidence in their abilities.

Assessment is another important part of my educational philosophy. I utilize a variety of assessment methods including individual assignments, group projects, quizzes, creative exercises, written work, and classroom participation. Collaborative projects help students develop communication and problem-solving skills, while individual assessments allow me to better understand each student's progress and comprehension. I view assessment not only as a grading tool, but also as an opportunity to improve my own teaching methods and adapt to student needs.

In the area of music composition, I believe there are two essential elements that students must develop: technical skill and artistic philosophy. The technical side includes music theory, harmony, orchestration, musicianship, and compositional techniques. However, I believe these concepts should not exist only in abstraction; students should actively apply them through composition, analysis, and creative projects. By integrating creativity directly into the learning process, students gain a deeper understanding of musical structure while developing their own artistic voices.

Equally important is exposing students to a broad range of compositional philosophies, techniques, and musical perspectives. Contemporary music encompasses many approaches, aesthetics, and methods, and I believe students benefit from understanding these diverse ideas rather than being limited to a single

viewpoint. My role as an educator is not to impose a singular philosophy, but to guide students as they explore, question, and develop their own creative identities.

Over the years, I have found that this balanced approach—combining structure, creativity, technology, and artistic exploration—has been highly effective. Many former students have continued their studies and professional careers in music and the arts, and their continued feedback has reinforced my commitment to education. I continue to refine my teaching methods through reflection, experience, and ongoing learning, always seeking new ways to inspire and support the next generation of musicians and artists.

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COMPOSITIONAL PHILOSOPHY

My approach to composition is rooted in the belief that music is both a technical craft and a deeply personal artistic expression. While compositional techniques, theory, orchestration, and structure provide the necessary foundation, true musical voice emerges through exploration, experimentation, and the development of an individual artistic identity.

In my work, I seek to balance structure and freedom. I draw upon established compositional practices, yet I am equally interested in expanding those boundaries through new ideas, contemporary techniques, and the integration of technology. My compositional language often reflects a synthesis of traditional musical elements with modern approaches, allowing for a broad expressive range.

Technology plays an important role in my creative process. From electronic sound design to digital production tools, I incorporate modern resources to expand the sonic possibilities available to the composer. These tools do not replace traditional methods but instead enhance and extend them, creating opportunities for new textures, colors, and forms of expression.

A central aspect of my philosophy is the exploration of sound as a narrative medium. Whether through orchestral works, electronic compositions, or electroacoustic projects, I aim to create music that evokes imagery, atmosphere, and emotional depth. My work often reflects themes of exploration, transformation, and discovery.

Equally important is the understanding that there is no single “correct” compositional path. Music is shaped by culture, experience, and perspective. I believe in engaging with a wide range of musical traditions, styles, and philosophies in order to develop a more comprehensive and informed artistic voice.

Ultimately, my goal as a composer is to create music that is both intellectually engaging and emotionally resonant. By combining technical precision with creative exploration, I strive to produce works that communicate clearly while remaining open to interpretation and personal connection.

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ZELA MUSIC GROUP, INC.

Zela Music Group, Inc. serves as the parent organization overseeing multiple divisions in music production, education, and publishing.

PASHA MUSIC PRODUCTION

PashaMusic.com

Producer of the Andromeda Electric Orchestra, including concert production, artistic direction, and project development.

Produces and manages three YouTube channels:

- Pasha Music Network (including the series "Gaia Sings")
- Alfred Surenyan – Composer
- Andromeda Electric Orchestra

PASHA MUSIC EDUCATION

PashaMusicEd.com

A comprehensive music education program offering studies in piano, music technology, music theory, and composition.

Includes structured curriculum development and Certificate of Achievement awards for students.

AVID REEDER MUSIC

AvidReederMusic.com

Publishing division focused on music for professional ensembles and educational materials, including concert band music and piano supplemental repertoire.

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ANDROMEDA ELECTRIC ORCHESTRA

AndromedaEO.org

The Andromeda Electric Orchestra is an electroacoustic ensemble founded by Alfred Surenyan to explore new possibilities in orchestral performance. The orchestra brings together traditional orchestral instruments, amplification, electronic sound design, and contemporary concert presentation.

The ensemble serves as a performing platform for original compositions, reimagined repertoire, and interdisciplinary artistic projects. Its work reflects a commitment to expanding the language of the modern orchestra while creating concert experiences that are accessible, imaginative, and artistically distinctive.

Programming often draws from themes of space exploration, mythology, storytelling, history, and modern technology. Through these projects, the orchestra bridges classical performance, cinematic atmosphere, and contemporary sound design.

Under Surenyan's direction, the Andromeda Electric Orchestra continues to develop a distinctive artistic identity through concert production, community engagement, artistic collaboration, and innovative electroacoustic orchestral music.

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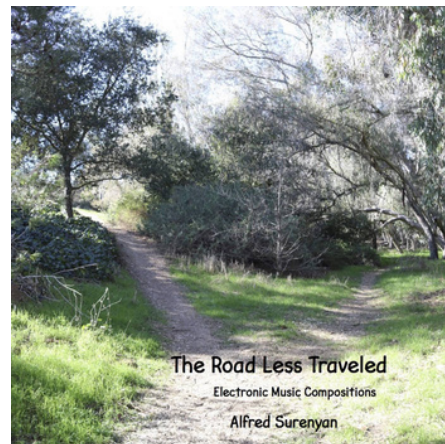
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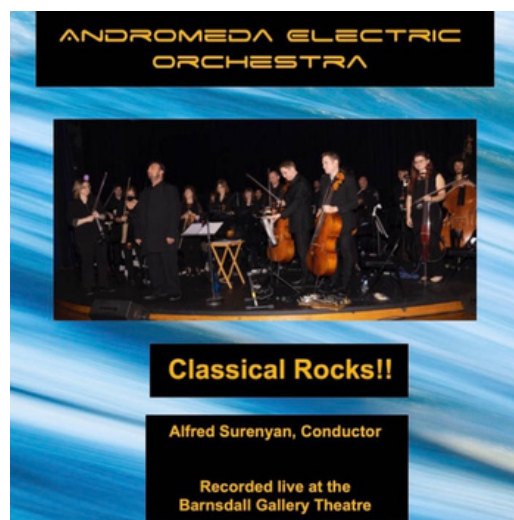
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DISCOGRAPHY



Starchild and The Road Less Traveled
Found on Alfred Surenyan's Bandcamp



Classical Rocks!!

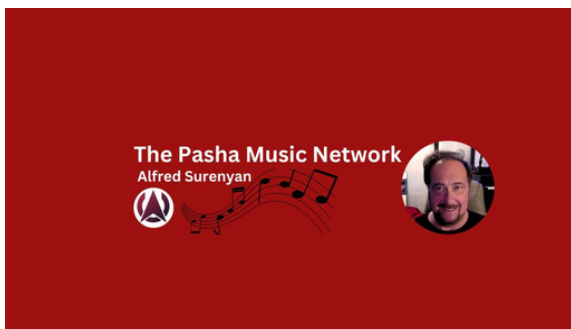
Found on Andromeda Electric Orchestra Bandcamp

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YouTube Channels

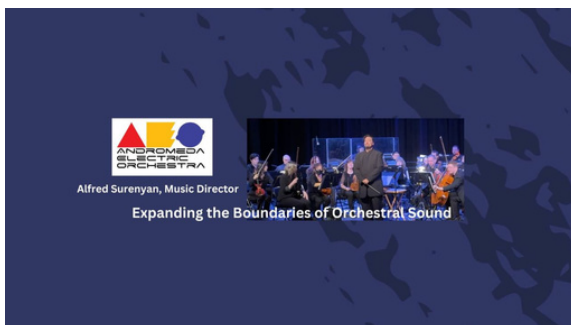
Channels Produced by Pasha Music Production



The Pasha Music Network
Music History, World Music
Music Education



Alfred Surenyan-Composer
the music of Alfred Surenyan



Andromeda Electric Orchestra
Performances, Information,
Education



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COSMIC SERIES

The Cosmic Series is a collection of orchestral, chamber, and electronic works composed by Alfred Surenyan, inspired by astronomy, space exploration, science fiction, and the philosophical human imagination of the universe. These compositions journey through distant star systems, imagined worlds, and inner landscapes of wonder, curiosity, and transcendence. Blending scientific inspiration with speculative vision, the series explores not only the cosmos above us, but humanity's enduring desire to understand its place within the vastness.

Electronic Works

- * Starchild Suite
- * Space 101
- * Journey Through Time and Space

Chamber Works

- * The Journey Awakens- for Violin and Piano
- * A Distant World- For EWI and Electronics
- * Alpha Centauri: Triple Star System- A Musical Journey
- * From Sea to Space

Orchestral Works

Upsilon Andromedae: Binary Star System

Works in Development

Chamber

- * Apollo to Artemis: The Lunar Legacy
- * Mars: The Next Frontier

Orchestral/ Large Scale

- * Beyond The Atmosphere: Journey into Space
for Electric Orchestra, Solo Flute and Chorus
- * 55 Cancri Star System: Concerto for Electric Orchestra
- * The Dwarf Planets: Suite for Electric Orchestra

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CATALOGUE OF WORKS

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- Other Arrangements
- Arrangements for Electric Orchestra
- Electric Chamber Music

ORCHESTRAL WORKS

- Idkwctci (1996–97) for chamber orchestra, SWC 11
- Awakenings (1999–2000) for orchestra, SWC 18
- Armenian Rustic Scenes (2009) for orchestra, SWC 27
- Vanished (2020) for EWI and Strings, SWC 40
- Whispers In The Dark (2022 Orchestration) for Electric Orchestra, SWC 4b
- Summer Breeze: Elegy for my Mom (2023 Orchestration) for Electric Orchestra, SWC 36a
- Armenian Fantasy (2023 Orchestration) for Electric Orchestra, SWC 17a
- Upsilon Andromedae: Binary Star System (2023) for Electric Orchestra, SWC 45

CHAMBER WORKS

- String Quartet Movement (1992), SWC 1
- Horse Back Riding (1992) for Flute & Guitar, SWC 2
- Mood Variations (1994) for flute, clarinet, bassoon, violin, viola, cello, SWC 5
- String Quartet No.1 “The Legend” (1995), SWC 8
- Viola Sonata (1996), SWC 9
- Poem (1997) for flute and guitar, SWC 12
- Yerahz! (1998) for oboe and piano, SWC 15
- Armenian Fantasy (2000) for winds, piano, percussion, strings, SWC 17
- Pagan Priests: A Magical Dance (2003) for flute, violin, harpsichord, and strings, SWC 22
- String Quartet No.2 (2003), SWC 25
- Romani Sonata (2004) for violin and piano, SWC 24
- Poem No.2 (2004) for flute, guitar, SWC 25
- Armenian Suite (2012) for Oboe and Piano, SWC 29
- Folk Tales (2014) for violin, cello, and piano, SWC 31
- Duo of Air and Fire (2014) for clarinet and cello, SWC 32
- The Journey Awakens (2016) for violin and piano, SWC 33
- Summer Breeze: Elegy for my Mom (2017) for violin and piano, SWC 36

- Finding Nemesis (2020) for Wind Octet, SWC 34
- Shimmering Hope (2020) for MalletStation, Guitar, Cello, SWC 41
- Sunrise (2020) for EWI and piano, SWC 43
- A Distant World (2022) for EWI and Electronics, SWC 44
- Alpha Centauri: Triple Star System – A Musical Journey (2022) for Electric Ensemble, SWC 42
- From Sea to Space (2025) for Electric Ensemble, SWC 47
- The Village (2025) for Acoustic Violin, Acoustic Cello, 6 String Electric Violin, 5 String Electric Violin, SWC 48
- Echoes of Time: Elegy for my Dad (2025) for Cello and Piano, SWC 49

SOLO INSTRUMENT WORKS

- Magical Moment (1994) for solo guitar, SWC 6
- Bagatelles (1994) for solo piano, SWC 7
- Inner Peace (1998) for solo piano, SWC 13
- Determination (1999) for solo clarinet, SWC 16
- The Seasons: Images of the Pagan God (2013/22) for Electric Cello, SWC 30
- Phases of the Moon: Images of the Pagan Goddess (2022) for Electric Violin, SWC 45

SONGS & VOCAL WORKS

- Insomnia (1994–96) for soprano, clarinet, violin, and cello, SWC 10
- I Stand Alone (2002) for baritone, flute, violin, cello, and piano, SWC 20
- Harvest Moon (2005) for soprano, flute, harp, and string quartet, SWC 26

CHORAL WORKS

- Gothic Cantata (1998) for small choir, flute, organ, tubular bells, and strings, SWC 14

ELECTRONIC & ELECTROACOUSTIC WORKS

- Starchild Suite (1992–93) for MIDI computer, SWC 3

- Whispers in the Dark (1992) for live violin, electric guitar, and MIDI computer, SWC 4 & SWC 4a (2010, Revised)
- Ancient Voices (2002) for MIDI computer, SWC 19
- The Sonic Whale (2015) for Theremin and Electronics, SWC 21, No. 1
- Space 101 (2015) for Theremin and Electronics, SWC 21, No. 2
- Journey Through Time and Space (2015) for Theremin and Electronics, SWC 21, No. 3
- America Wants To Work: A Musical Response for MIDI Computer, SWC 28
- Diamond Lucy (2017) for MIDI Synthesizers, SWC 35
- Manifestation (2017) for Electronics, SWC 37

FILM SCORES

- Flashes: A Short Film by Smoking Cowboy Entertainment

OTHER ORIGINAL WORKS

- Nameless Notes (1991) for trumpet, tenor saxophone, rhythm section
- Let There Be Goodness (short) Directed by Timothy Quirus

ARRANGEMENTS FOR 18-PIECE BIG BAND JAZZ

- Star Wars Suite – John Williams: May The Force Be With You / Star Wars Theme
- Star Wars Suite – John Williams: Cantina Band
- Star Wars Suite – John Williams: Ewok Celebration
- Up Where We Belong
- Bohemian Rhapsody
- Charade – Henry Mancini
- Christ Lag In Todesbanden – J.S. Bach
- Nameless Notes – Alfred Surenyan
- Chariots of Fire

OTHER ARRANGEMENTS

- The Addams Family – Vic Mizzy & Marc Shaiman; arranged for guitar, alto saxophone, synthesizer, bass, and drums
- An American in Paris – George Gershwin, arranged for string quartet

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ELECTRIC ORCHESTRA

- Symphony No. 1 – Joseph Bologne
- Symphony No. 2 – Joseph Bologne
- The Entertainer – Scott Joplin
- Symphony No. 40 – W.A. Mozart
- Overture to The Marriage of Figaro – W.A. Mozart
- Symphony in C – Marianna Martines
- Star Wars Suite for Electric Orchestra – John Williams
- A Fifth of Beethoven – L. van Beethoven / Walter Murphy
- Baroque Hoedown – Jean-Jacques Perrey & Gershon Kingsley
- Battlestar Galactica Theme – Stu Phillips & Glen Larson
- Beauty and the Beast – Alan Menken
- Chariots of Fire – Vangelis
- Dr. Who Theme – Ron Grainer
- E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial – John Williams
- Für Elise – L. van Beethoven
- Game of Thrones – Ramin Djawadi
- Gymnopédies 1–3 – Erik Satie
- Habanera – G. Bizet
- Lost in Space – Lost in Space
- Memory – Andrew Lloyd Webber
- Minuet in G Major and G Minor – J.S. Bach
- Ode to Joy – L. van Beethoven
- Somewhere Over the Rainbow – Harold Arlen

- Star Trek Theme – Alex Courage
- Superman March – John Williams
- The Mandalorian – Ludwig Göransson
- The Pink Panther – Henry Mancini

ELECTRIC CHAMBER MUSIC

- Cantina Band Theme – John Williams
- Jabba Flow – J.J. Abrams & Lin-Manuel Miranda
- Jabba's Baroque Recital – John Williams

TITANIC BAND COLLECTION

- Comic Cakewalk- Robert Vollstedt
- Der Rosenkavalier- Richard Strauss
- Elite Syncopations- Scott Joplin
- Nearer, My God, To Thee- Traditional Hymn

CONCERT BAND

- Botany Bay/ Folk Song- Grade 1
- Symphony No.1/ Joseph Bologne- Grade 5
- The Wellerman/ Folk Song- Grade 1
- Rage over a lost Penny/ Beethoven- Grade 2