

# SEN線 [line]

## DMA Recital || Robbie Bui, cello

February 16, 2024 || 5:00pm

Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

Estimated run time: 50 minutes

Eternal Escape (rev. 2006)

Dai Fujikura (1977)

Sen (線) II (1986)

Toshio Hosokawa (1955)

Bunraku (1960)

Toshiro Mayuzumi (1929-1977)

Wings vibrate <共鳴> (2023)

Akari Komura (1996)

*world premiere*

*featuring video projection by the composer*

Orion (1984)

Toru Takemitsu (1930-1996)

Kyle Adam Blair, piano

*featuring video projection by the cellist*

Program note for *Wings Vibrate* <共鳴>

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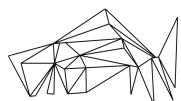
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## Robbie Bui

Robbie Bui is a contemporary cellist whose playing has been regarded for its intense physicality and fervent energy. Complemented by his additional background in composition, he puts deep consideration into music's theoretical construction blocks to yield corporeally gripping performances. Specializing in new music, Bui has dedicated himself to numerous works by living composers in solo and chamber settings.

Bui is currently recognized in ensembles such as La Jolla Symphony, Pacific Lyric Association, Ecce Ensemble, Palimpsest Ensemble, and Alinéa Ensemble, of which he is a founding member. Other groups in which he was a collaborator, composer, or mentee include Ensemble Dal Niente, Ensemble PHACE, JACK Quartet, NEC Contemporary Ensemble, nec[shivaree], New England Conservatory Symphony, Perfect 4th String Quartet, Tempest String Quartet, Transient Canvas, Worcester Chamber Music Society, and Phoenix Youth Symphony.

Some merits from his musical career include winning Best Contemporary Performance Prize of the La Jolla Symphony Young Artists Competition, as well as New England Conservatory's Honors Ensemble Competition, Orchestral Composition Competition, and Contemporary Ensemble Competitions. Between 2018 and 2021, he was the leading director of the monthly series, Tuesday Night New Music. Additionally, he has been recognized and awarded through organizations such as Tribeca New Music, Collage New Music, Arizona Musicfest, and the American String Teacher Association's National Orchestra Festival.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree with Honors from the New England Conservatory, where he was the Commencement Address speaker and a Presser Scholar. His primary teachers included composer Stratis Minakakis and cellist Mickey Katz. He then graduated with a Master of Arts in Contemporary Cello performance at University of California San Diego studying with Charles Curtis. Currently, he is a doctoral student at the same institution. In summers, he has attended institutes and festivals fostering both composition and performance disciplines including Darmstädter Ferienkurse, Klangspuren, Etchings Festival, Delian Academy, New Music on the Point, Orford Music Academy Contemporary Workshop, Vienna Summer Music Festival+Ensemble PHACE, Boston Conservatory, Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and Idyllwild Arts.

Beyond cello and composition, Bui is the Community Engagement Manager of the La Jolla Symphony and Chorus, implementing programs to improve the accessibility and outreach of music. And beyond music, Bui is a portrait/event photographer, avid language learner, fashion enthusiast, and an occasional hair stylist, and latte artist.



### **Akari Nomura**

Akari Komura (b.1996) is a Japanese composer-vocalist whose works center around contemplative engagement with listening and soundmaking. She is interested in curating a participatory performance space that invites a multi-sensorial experience for both performers and audiences alike. Her works have been presented at the Atlantic Music Festival, Composers Conference, Montreal Contemporary Music Lab, Nief-Norf, and soundSCAPE. She holds an M.M. in Composition from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in Vocal Arts from the University of California, Irvine. Akari is currently a Ph.D. composition student at the University of California San Diego.



### **Kyle Adam Blair**

Lyricism, complexity, and dissonance characterize the musical interests of pianist Kyle Adam Blair. A contemporary music specialist, his major pianistic focuses include the performance of new works in collaboration with composers, and the performance of works from the modern American art music repertory, particularly music of Elliott Carter, Aaron Copland, George Crumb, and Stuart Saunders Smith.



Blair's solo piano debut album *Palm Sunday* can be heard on New World Records, and he has performed and produced for releases from Bridge Records, Edgetone Records, and more.

He currently holds multiple appointments at the University of California, San Diego as Lecturer and Staff Pianist for the Department of Music, and Lecturer/Vocal Coach in the Department of Theatre & Dance.

Blair received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Contemporary Music Performance from UC San Diego in 2018 under the mentorship of Aleck Karis.

