

Grammy-nominated **PETER BOYER** is one of the most frequently performed American orchestral composers of his generation. His works have received over 400 public performances by more than 130 orchestras, and thousands of broadcasts by classical radio stations around the United States and abroad. He has conducted recordings of his music with three of the world's finest orchestras: the London Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonia Orchestra, and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. His music has been heard in some of the most prestigious venues in the classical music world, including performances at New York's Carnegie Hall (five different works, two premieres), Los Angeles's Hollywood Bowl, Boston's Symphony Hall, the Tanglewood Music Festival, Cincinnati's Music Hall, Dallas's Meyerson Symphony Center, Fort Worth's Bass Hall, and recordings at London's Abbey Road Studios and AIR Studios.

Conductor Keith Lockhart chose Boyer for the Boston Pops 125th anniversary commission honoring the legacy of John, Robert, and Ted Kennedy. Acclaimed actors Robert De Niro, Morgan Freeman, and Ed Harris narrated the premiere of Boyer's *The Dream Lives On: A Portrait of the Kennedy Brothers* in May 2010, which was attended by many members of the Kennedy family, and received extensive national media attention. Boyer's work was the centerpiece of the TV special *An American Salute: The Boston Pops at 125*, produced and broadcast by WCVB-TV, Boston's ABC affiliate, which won a Boston/New England Emmy Award. The work was also performed at the 37th annual Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular on the Charles River Esplanade, for an audience of over 750,000, and telecast on WBZ-TV, Boston's CBS affiliate. The Boston Pops also performed Boyer's *Kennedy Brothers* at Tanglewood with narrator Alec Baldwin, and at Hyannis Port with narrator Chris Cooper, and released a commercial recording of the work on the BSO Classics label.

Boyer's work *Silver Fanfare* was chosen to open the 2015 season of the Hollywood Bowl, in a gala performance for a sold-out audience of over 17,000, which featured the iconic rock band Journey.

Conductor Miguel Harth-Bedoya appointed Boyer as the 2010-11 Composer-in-Residence for the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Gerard Schwarz, Conductor Laureate of the Seattle Symphony, commissioned and premiered Boyer's *Festivities* to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Eastern Music Festival in 2011. Boyer's music has been performed by the orchestras of Houston, Dallas, Nashville, Pacific, Phoenix, Buffalo, Fort Worth, Brooklyn, Kansas City, Virginia, Hartford, Toledo, Richmond, Grand Rapids, Elgin, Rhode Island, Portland, Winston-Salem, Fresno, Santa Barbara, Sarasota, Kalamazoo, Bamberg, Belgrade, the New York Youth Symphony, Young Musicians Foundation Debut Orchestra, and many others. The Pasadena Symphony appointed Boyer as its 2012-13 Composer-in-Residence and commissioned his Symphony No. 1; he conducted that orchestra for its premiere. Boyer's symphony is the centerpiece of his latest recording, made at Abbey Road Studios with the London Philharmonic, released worldwide by Naxos in February 2014.

Boyer's major work *Ellis Island: The Dream of America* for actors and orchestra, which celebrates the historic American immigrant experience, has been his most successful composition to date. Premiered in 2002, the work has received over 160 live performances by 70 orchestras, making it one of the most-performed American orchestral works of the last decade. Boyer's recording of this work was released by Naxos in its American Classics Series in 2005, and was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Classical Contemporary Composition. In 2010, the League of American Orchestras' *Symphony* magazine profiled *Ellis Island* as one of "a handful of recent works by living composers becoming orchestral standards."

In addition to his work for the concert hall, Boyer is active in the film and television music industry. In recent years, his skills as an orchestrator (one who works from composers' sketches and demos to create complete orchestral scores for recording) have been increasingly in demand. Boyer has contributed orchestrations to more than 30 Hollywood film scores, from studios including Warner Bros., 20th Century Fox, Paramount, Disney, Pixar, Universal, Sony/Columbia, MGM, Lionsgate, Marvel, and Relativity Media. Boyer has orchestrated music for several of Hollywood's top composers, including Michael Giacchino (*Jurassic World*, *Inside Out*, *Star Trek* [2009], the Oscar-winning *Up*, *Cars 2*, *Super 8*, *John Carter*, *Mission: Impossible III*, *Speed Racer*), Thomas Newman (the James Bond film *Skyfall*, *Finding Dory*), James Newton Howard (*The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 2*, *The Huntsman: Winter's War*), the late James Horner (*The Amazing Spider-Man*, *Living in the Age of Airplanes*), Alan Menken (*Mirror Mirror*), Mark Isham (*Dolphin Tale*, *The Conspirator*), Harry Gregson-Williams (*Arthur Christmas*), Heitor Pereira (*Minions*), Graeme Revell (*Pineapple Express*), John Ottman

(*Fantastic Four*), and the late Michael Kamen (*Open Range, First Daughter, Against the Ropes*). Boyer has worked alongside many of Hollywood's leading orchestrators and arrangers, including J.A.C. Redford, Tim Simonec, Pete Anthony, Brad Dechter, Ladd McIntosh, Kevin Kliesch, Tim Davies, Jon Kull, and Mark Watters.

With his background encompassing the fields of both concert music and film music, Boyer has been involved with several high-profile productions of film music in concert. In 2012, as a member of the music team for *Pixar in Concert*, Boyer orchestrated suites from the scores to *Toy Story 3* by Randy Newman and *Wall-E* by Thomas Newman. Premiered by the San Francisco Symphony, *Pixar in Concert* has been performed by major orchestras worldwide. Boyer has had repeated engagements for *The Lord of the Rings in Concert*, serving as assistant/cover conductor for the CAMI Music productions of *The Return of the King* with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (2014) and the Munich Symphony Orchestra (2015), and for *The Fellowship of the Ring* with the Seattle Symphony (upcoming in July 2016). Boyer has worked with conductors Ludwig Wicki, Justin Freer, and Shih-Hung Young on these productions. Boyer worked alongside J.A.C. Redford on the music team which prepared James Horner's *Titanic Live* for its premiere at London's Royal Albert Hall in 2015.

For television, Boyer has twice arranged and orchestrated music for the Academy Awards (Oscars), and contributed orchestrations to several episodes of the ABC series *Once Upon A Time* for composer Mark Isham. Boyer composed original scores for episodes of The History Channel series *Engineering an Empire*; cues from his scores were included in the A&E Networks Production Music Library, from which they have been used in many television programs. Boyer has also scored several short films, and his music has appeared in various documentary projects.

As conductor, Boyer has led such orchestras as the Brooklyn Philharmonic, Hartford Symphony, Rhode Island Philharmonic, Richmond Symphony and Pasadena Symphony in concert, and has conducted recording sessions from London's famed Abbey Road and AIR Studios to the scoring stages of Los Angeles, including the Streisand Scoring Stage at Sony Pictures, the Eastwood Scoring Stage at Warner Bros., and Capitol Studios. Boyer conducted shows for multi-platinum recording artist Josh Groban on his *Stages* tour in 2015.

Boyer's work has been profiled and reviewed in such media outlets as the Associated Press, *USA TODAY*, *Variety*, CNN.com, *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Hartford Courant*, *Symphony Magazine*, *BBC Music Magazine*, *Gramophone*, and many others. He has received seven national awards for his work, including two BMI Awards for young composers, the First Music Carnegie Hall commission, and the Lancaster Symphony Composer's Award.

Boyer was born in Providence, Rhode Island in 1970, and began composing at the age of 15. His first major composition was a large-scale Requiem Mass in memory of his grandmother, composed while only a teenager. He was named to the first All-USA College Academic Team, comprised of "the 20 best and brightest college students in the nation," by *USA TODAY* in 1990. Boyer received his Bachelor's degree from Rhode Island College, which awarded him an honorary Doctor of Music degree in 2004. He received Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from The Hartt School of the University of Hartford, which named him its 2002 Alumnus of the Year. There his teachers included Larry Alan Smith and Harold Farberman. Following his doctoral work, Boyer studied privately with John Corigliano in New York, then moved to Los Angeles to study film and TV scoring at the USC Thornton School of Music, where his teachers included the late Elmer Bernstein. In 1996, Boyer was appointed to the faculty at Claremont Graduate University, where he holds the Helen M. Smith Chair in Music.

In 2003, Boyer launched Propulsive Music, a publishing company representing his music. In 2009, Bill Holab Music became the rental and sales agent for Propulsive Music. Boyer resides in Altadena, in the San Gabriel Foothills just north of Los Angeles.