



QUAD CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
MARK RUSSELL SMITH, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

MASTERWORKS IV  
**THE RITE OF  
SPRING**

**FEB 7 & 8, 2026**

**STUDENTS @ SYMPHONY**

WELCOME

# THANK YOU

*for* **JOINING US**

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Welcome to the Quad City Symphony Orchestra and the historic Adler Theatre. This Masterworks Series IV brings together two composers who are innovative in their own RITE, yet share surprising connections despite their different backgrounds. Tonight's program explores music shaped by place, ritual, and movement, drawing inspiration from landscapes and traditions that continue to influence how humans gather, remember, and renew. From ancient imagery brought to life through dance to one of the most influential orchestral works of the twentieth century, this concert invites you to experience sound as a living, evolving force.



**Michael Wawrzynski**

*Music Educator*

*& Content Creator*

## THE ORCHESTRA

# QUAD CITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**Founded in 1915 as the Tri-City Symphony Orchestra**

*The Quad City Symphony Orchestra string section uses rotating seating. Players behind the named chairs change seats with each concert series and are listed alphabetically in the roster below.*

### **VIOLIN I**

Naha Greenholtz,  
*concertmaster*  
Emily Nash,  
*associate concertmaster*  
Sam Battista  
Dortha DeWit+  
Marley Haller  
Hillary Kingsley  
Corina Lobont  
Susan Oliverius  
Erik Rohde\*  
Abigail Schneider  
Naomi Schrank  
Sabrina Tabby+  
Rachel Walter  
Steven Wilke

### **VIOLIN II**

Madeline Capistran,  
*acting principal*  
Charles Abplanalp  
Kim Busic +  
Alexander Giger  
Renee Henley  
Peter Miliczky  
Alex Norris  
Samuel Rudy  
Danielle Simandl  
Carolyn Van De Velde

### **VIOLA**

Madlen Breckbill,  
*acting principal*  
Melissa Snell,  
*acting principal*  
Nick Munagian,  
*associate principal*  
Bridget Andes  
Timothy Hoorelbek  
Benjamin Lorentzen  
Barrett Stoll  
Jenwei Yu

### **CELLO**

Hannah Holman,  
*principal*  
Laura Shaw,  
*associate principal*  
Yoo-Jung Chang  
James Ellis  
Derek Handley  
Claire Langenberg  
Elisabeth Logan+  
Amy Phelps  
Kevin Price-Brenner  
Kate Vos

### **DOUBLE BASS**

David Scholl, *principal*  
Kit Polen,  
*associate principal*  
Joe Bauer  
David Chapman-Orr  
Julia Holst-Kanakares  
Brett Lewis  
Victor Stahoviak  
Michael Van Ryn

### **FLUTE**

Jessica Warren, *principal*+  
Ellen Huntington  
Jilene Haas

### **OBOE**

Andrew Parker, *principal*  
Barrett Seals  
Ashley Ertz

### **CLARINET**

Karrin Meffert-Nelson,  
*acting principal*  
Christine Bellomy  
Joe Sanchez,  
*acting clarinet 3/  
bass clarinet*

### **BASSOON**

Benjamin Coelho,  
*principal*  
Matthew Kowalczyk+  
Dana Ransom

### **HORN**

Marc Zyla, *principal*  
Steve Burian+,  
*assistant principal*  
Peter Kortenkamp  
Joshua Johnson  
Allison Tutton

### **TRUMPET**

Matthew Baker,  
*principal*\*  
Chris Haas, *acting  
principal*  
Lindsey Frazier

### **TROMBONE**

Robert Parker, *principal*  
Cole Davis

### **BASS TROMBONE**

Andrew Rózsa

### **TUBA**

Ronald Morton

### **TIMPANI**

Michael Geary, *principal*

### **PERCUSSION**

Aaron Williams, *principal*  
Gary Ciccotelli  
Tony Oliver+

### **HARP**

Lillian Lau, *principal*

### **PIANO/CELESTA**

Mary Neil

+ Denotes Instructor in the QCSO Private Lesson Program

\* denotes a musician who is on a leave of absence for the current season.

## FIRST TIMER'S GUIDE



# BEFORE

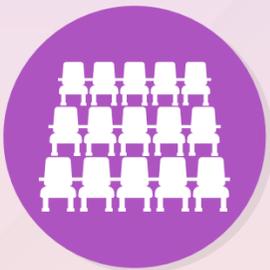
*the* **CONCERT**



Arrive 20-30 minutes before the start so you have time to find your seat and get comfortable.



Come as you are! You may see some people in evening dresses and others in jeans and a t-shirt. There is no dress code.



Try sitting in different spots each time you attend a concert to find the best spot for you to enjoy the music.



Take a quick selfie.

## FIRST TIMER'S GUIDE



# DURING

*the* **CONCERT**



If you arrive late, wait until a piece ends before entering the hall. Ushers can help you figure out the best time to enter, and prevent you from distracting performers and audience members during the performance.



If you are unsure when to clap, it's always safe to assume that a piece is complete when the conductor puts down their arms and faces the audience.



Phones must be silenced.



Pictures may be taken if there is no flash and the screen is dimmed for night mode. We don't want to disturb others or take away from their experience.



Some performances will have short intermissions. This is a great time to stand, stretch, or even make a trip to the restroom. Be quick because time goes fast.

## FIRST TIMER'S GUIDE



# AFTER

*the* **CONCERT**



Tag the QCSO in any pictures you share on social media.



Talk about your experience with your family and friends.



**@QCSYMPHONY**

**#qcso #qcsostudent**

MASTERWORKS IV

# THE RITE OF SPRING

SAT, FEB 7, 2026 7:30 PM  
ADLER THEATRE

SUN, FEB 8 2026, 2:00 PM  
CENTENNIAL HALL

**MARK RUSSELL SMITH**, *conductor*  
**The Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company**  
**Zhongmei Li**, *choreographer*

**JOHN STAFFORD SMITH**  
(1750-1836)

The Star-Spangled Banner\*

**ANGEL LAM**  
(b. 1978)

**Unearthing the Heart: The Thousand Grottoes at Dunhuang [30']**

1. Oasis:  
Crescent Lake - Singing Sand Mountains - Jade Gate Pass
2. Grotto 112: Reversed Pipa Dance
3. Grotto 220: Whirling Nexus - Heavens
4. Grotto 465 - Vajrabhairava and Consort slow duet
5. Vajrabhairava and Consort fast duet
6. Grotto 320: Nirvana

## INTERMISSION

**IGOR STRAVINSKY**  
(1882-1971)

**The Rite of Spring [33']**

### I. Adoration of the Earth

Introduction  
Dance of the Young Girls  
Ritual of Abduction  
Spring Rounds  
Ritual of the Rival Tribes  
Procession of the Sage  
The Sage  
Dance of the Earth

### II. The Sacrifice

Introduction  
Mystic Circle of the Young Girls  
Glorification of the Chosen One  
Evocation of the Ancestors  
Ritual Action of the Ancestors  
Sacrificial Dance

*\*Out of respect for those fallen in service of our country, we ask that you do not applaud after the playing of the Star-Spangled Banner.*

THANK YOU

# STUDENTS @ SYMPHONY

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CULTURE MATTERS HERE



QUAD  
CITY  
BANK &  
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## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM

b. 1978

*in Hong Kong, China*



## ANGEL LAM

*Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University, Doctorate of Musical Arts*

*Yale University, Artist diploma*

*Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Bachelor of Arts*

Angel Lam is a Grammy-nominated composer who writes compositions that reflect the stories of life and death and everything in between. Lam learned to play the zheng and qin as a child. The **zheng** is a 21 string zither that originated in the 3rd century BC. The **qin** is a 7 string, fretless zither and when performed symbolizes the union of heaven, earth, and humankind. Both instruments are used in Chinese folk music. She has written music for orchestras all over the world including a cello concerto dedicated to Yo-Yo Ma and another written for Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble. Lam teaches music composition, theory, and piano performance as a partner with Steinway and Sons.

## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM

# Unearthing the Heart: The Thousand Grottoes of Dun Huang

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We lead with composer Angel Lam. *Unearthing the Heart: The Thousand Grottoes of Dun Huang* is a work that welcomes you not just as a listener, but as a viewer. Typically, aside from moments of percussion (for which this piece has much!) and the conductor's gestures, motion is limited in most orchestral performances. Featuring the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, with choreography by Zhongmei Li, this piece transports you to the edge of the Gobi Desert in northwestern China, to an ancient city made possible by an oasis. Three movements in length, you will first experience arrival through the geography of Crescent Lake, Singing Sand Mountain, and the Jade Gate Pass, where wind, sand, and water shape both landscape and daily life.

Next, you will visit the thousand-year-old Mogao Caves, a complex of 492 Buddhist cave chapels carved into stone and time. Think that is too old to relate to? The first rock guitarist to play behind their back may have thought they invented the move, until Angel Lam brings you into Cave 112, revealing a dancer depicted in one of nearly 450,000 square feet of murals, seemingly performing a pipa lute behind her back about a century ago 🎸! Finally, you will emerge from the caves and move through the temples that remain, where ritual and motion reflect centuries of stories carried forward like water through a changing land.



Image: Grotto 46 Left interior wall, second panel. Also called cave 112.

## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM



## MAJOR EVENTS *of* 2025

MARCH  
29

A total solar eclipse crossed parts of Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, the first total solar eclipse visible from these regions since 2015. Events like this will not return to the same areas for decades.

APRIL  
8

Scientists confirmed that the Voyager 1 spacecraft, launched in 1977, remained the farthest human-made object from Earth, continuing to transmit data from interstellar space more than 15 billion miles away. No spacecraft has ever traveled farther.

JUNE  
14

The first expanded FIFA Club World Cup kicked off, featuring 32 teams from around the world for the first time. This marked a major shift in how global club soccer is organized and experienced.

DECEMBER  
8

Taylor Swift's Eras Tour, the highest-grossing concert tour in history, ended reshaping expectations for live music production, audience scale, and global cultural reach. Its scope and impact are unlikely to be matched within a single artist's lifetime.

*Image: Taylor Swift's Eras Tour*

# NOTES ON THE PROGRAM



1:07

2:13



## LISTEN TO OTHER WORKS *by* **ANGEL LAM**



### IN SEARCH OF SEASONS

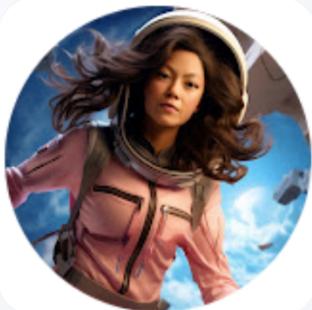
Yale Philharmonia



### RED PEONY SKY

*not Pink Pony Club* 😊

Hub New Music Ensemble



### SYMPHONIC JOURNAL: AMBUSH FROM TEN DIRECTIONS

Hong-Kong Sinfonietta



## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM



**b. June 17, 1882**  
*in Oranienbaum, Russia*  
**d. April 6, 1971**  
*in New York, New York*

# IGOR STRAVINSKY

*University of Saint Petersburg, Faculty of Law*

*Private composition studies with Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov*

Igor Stravinsky was one of the most influential composers of the twentieth century. Born in Russia, Stravinsky initially pursued formal studies in law before turning his full attention to music. Under the mentorship of composer Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, he developed a distinctive musical voice that would challenge traditional ideas of rhythm, harmony, and orchestration. Stravinsky rose to international prominence through his collaborations with Sergei Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes, producing groundbreaking ballets that reshaped modern music. His career spanned more than six decades and included works for ballet, orchestra, opera, and chamber ensembles, leaving a lasting impact on the sound and direction of Western art music.

## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM

### The Rite of Spring

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If Angel Lam invites us to witness ancient stories through movement, Igor Stravinsky asks us to feel them. *The Rite of Spring* was composed as a ballet and premiered in 1913 with dancers whose grounded, unfamiliar movements shocked audiences just as much as the music itself. Though originally written as a ballet with dancers, the work is most often heard today as a concert piece, inviting us to experience its ritual through sound alone. Following the premiere, a riot started for its avant-guard, anti-ballet approach. It is suggested however that the audience reaction was to the loud “earthbound lurching and stomping devised by (choreographer) Vaslav Nijinsky.” The score draws us into a prehistoric springtime ceremony marking the return of life after winter, when frozen ground softens and hidden currents begin to move again. Beneath the jagged melodies and driving rhythms is the sense of thaw and release, energy breaking free and reshaping what lies ahead.

Heard here in the Quad Cities, that quiet idea of renewal finds a familiar echo in the Mississippi River flowing just beyond these walls, linking distant places, ancient rituals, and this shared moment of listening.



Image: A posed group of dancers in the original production of Igor Stravinsky's ballet *The Rite of Spring*

## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM



## MAJOR EVENTS *of* 1913

APRIL  
24

The Woolworth Building opened as the tallest building in the world, transforming how cities looked and how people imagined modern life. Nicknamed the “Cathedral of Commerce,” it symbolized a new era of scale, ambition, and technological confidence. 792 feet tall, it was beat out in 1930 by 40 Wall Street (927’) and the Chrysler Building (1,046’). All in New York.

OCTOBER  
7

Henry Ford introduced the moving assembly line for the Model T, dramatically reducing production time. This innovation made automobiles more affordable and reshaped everyday life and transportation.

DECEMBER  
21

The first crossword puzzle appeared in the New York World newspaper. It quickly became a popular form of daily entertainment built on patterns, curiosity, and problem-solving.

## NOTES ON THE PROGRAM



1:07



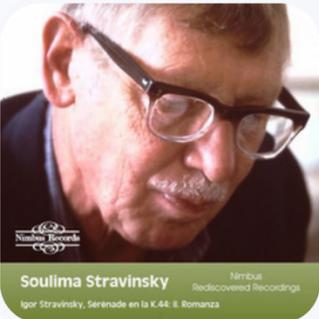
2:13

## LISTEN TO OTHER WORKS *by* **IGOR STRAVINSKY**



### The Firebird - 1919 Version

Chicago Symphony Orchestra



### Serenade en la, K. 44

II. Romanza

Soulima Stravinsky



### Symphony in Three Movements

III Con Moto

San Francisco Symphony

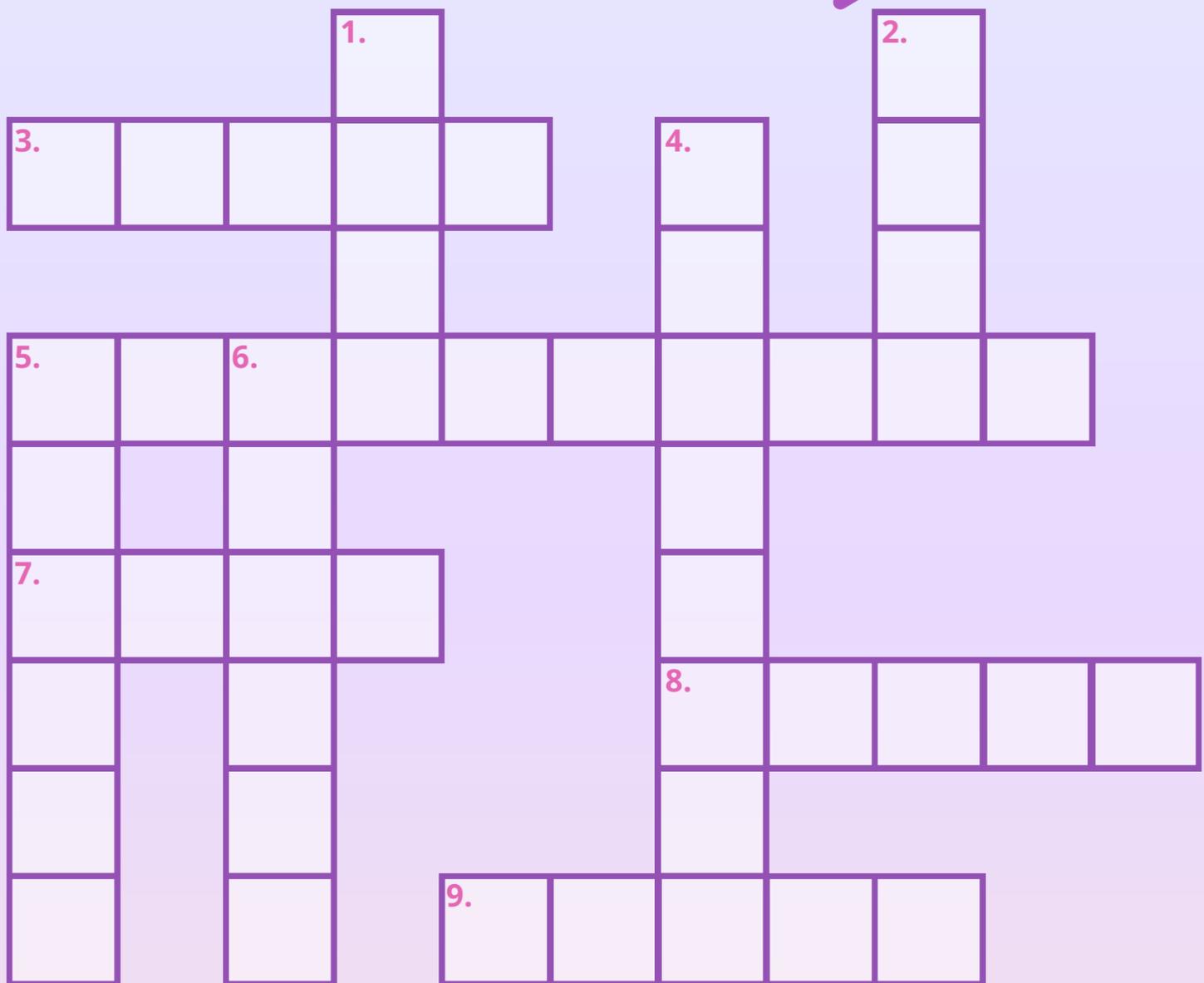


JUST FOR FUN

# CROSSWORD

*but make it*

# CLASSICAL



## DOWN

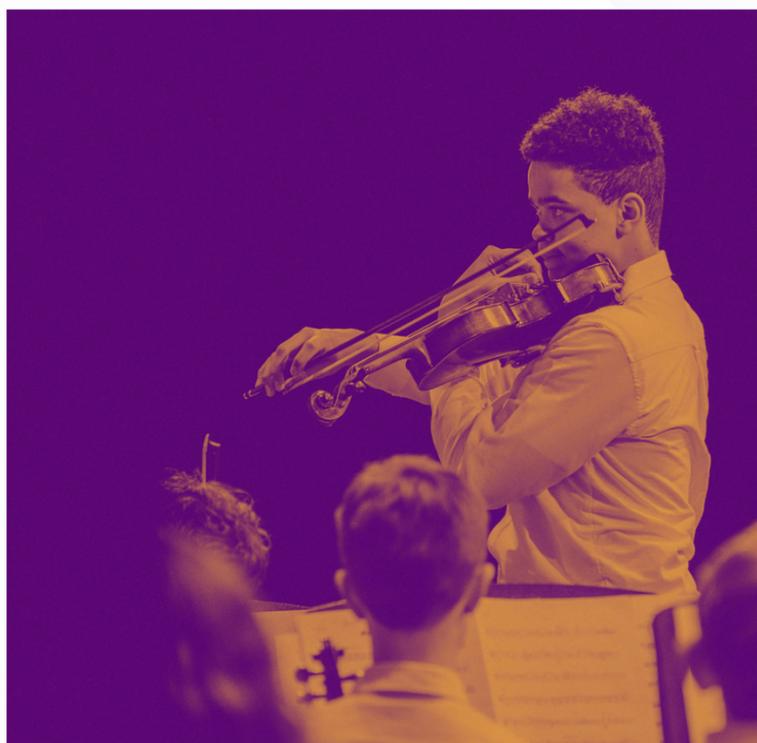
1. Ancient Chinese lute depicted in Mogao Cave murals, and echoed in Lam's work.
2. Historic trade route linking cultures, music, and movement.
4. Ancient Silk Road city inspiring Angel Lam's *Unearthing the Heart*.
5. Season of renewal at the heart of Stravinsky's most shocking ballet.
6. Shared thread connecting ancient caves, dance, and *The Rite of Spring*.

## ACROSS

3. Lifeline in the Gobi Desert made possible by water.
5. Twentieth-century composer whose music famously sparked a riot in Paris.
7. Ceremonial act central to Stravinsky's groundbreaking score.
8. Grammy-nominated composer whose work opens the program.
9. Thousand-year-old cave complex carved into stone near Dunhuang.

*Answers on the last page >>>*

## UPCOMING EVENTS



## COMING UP *at the* **QCSO**

### **QCSYE WINTER CONCERTS**



**FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

The Quad City Symphony Youth Ensembles (QCSYE) consists of four school-year orchestras for musicians of all ability levels, ages 7 to 18. The program provides a rigorous and inspiring learning environment founded on musical excellence for string, woodwind, brass, and percussion musicians. Students develop valuable musical, social, and leadership skills which set them up for success in school and beyond. Financial aid is available so everyone can participate regardless of ability to pay.

MASTERWORKS V

### **BEETHOVEN'S SECOND SYMPHONY**



**MARCH 7 & 8, 2026**

Celebrate rhythm, energy, and innovation with Bernstein's vibrant dances from *On the Town*, the world premiere of Rebecca Burkhardt's captivating *Ballet for Cello and Orchestra* featuring principal cellist Hannah Holman, and Beethoven's spirited and uplifting *Second Symphony*.

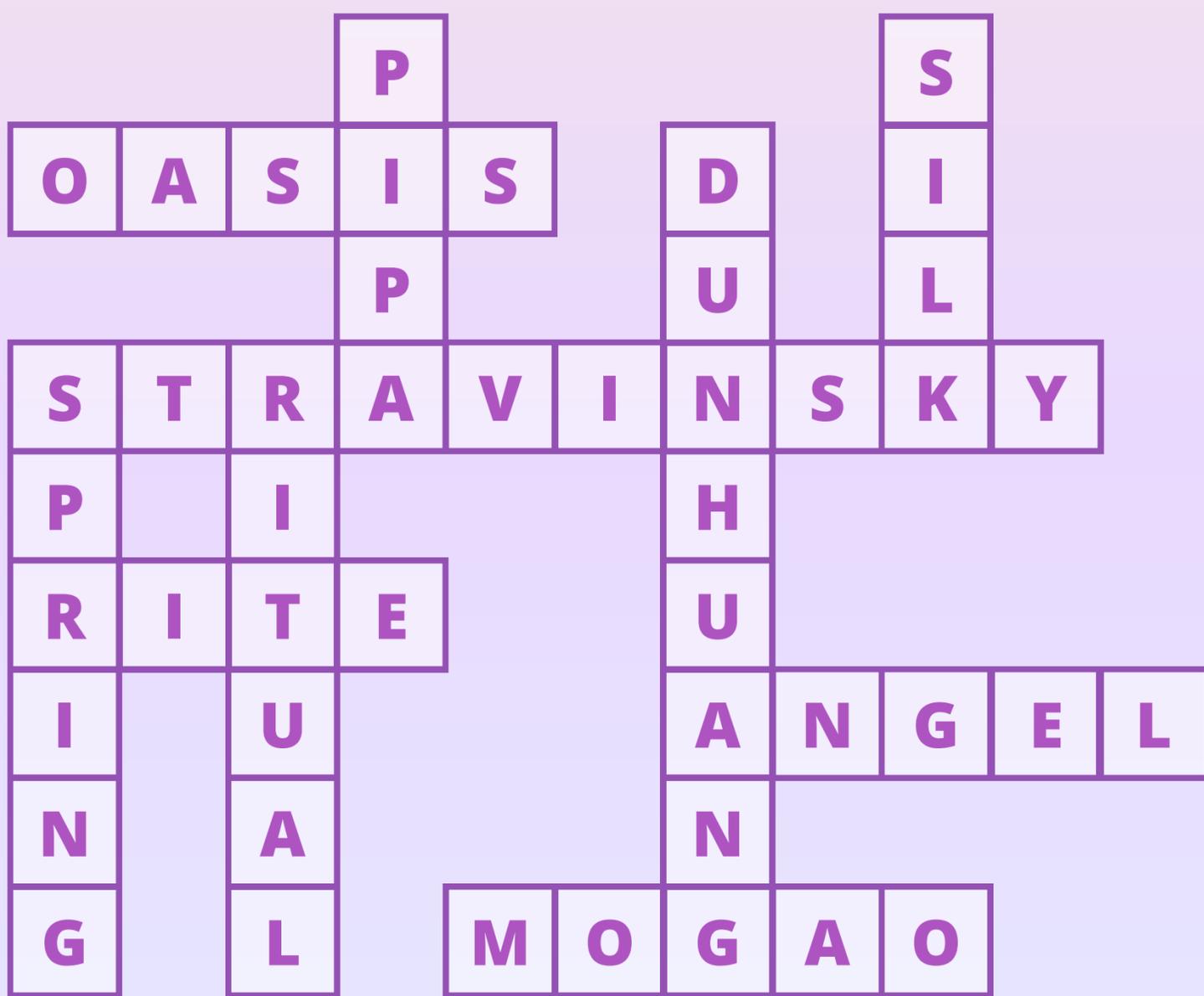
A PLAYFUL INTERLUDE

# CROSSWORD

*but make it*

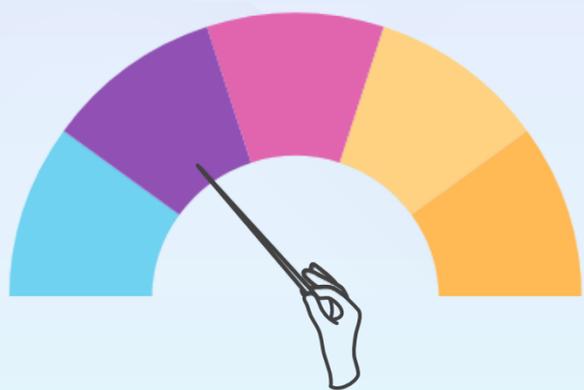
# CLASSICAL

*answer key*



*how'd you do?*

## RANK YOURSELF



**0 Correct:** "I was here for the vibes."

**3 correct:** "I was just warming up."

**5 correct:** Sight-reading, but slaying.

**8 correct:** Concertmaster energy!

**10 correct:** You unlocked Composer Mode!