

Williams out; Lockhart in

Illness forces film composer to withdraw from San Diego Symphony concerts

By **James Chute** JAN. 9, 2015



Conductor Keith Lockhart. Photo: Michael Lutch

John Williams has canceled his Jan. 30, 31 appearances with the San Diego Symphony, citing a “temporary minor health issue.”

Williams will be replaced as conductor in those concerts by Keith Lockhart, the maestro who succeeded the famed film composer as music director of the Boston Pops.

Lockhart is well known to San Diego audiences, having recently conducted his two orchestras here on tour: the BBC Concert Orchestra in February 2013 and the Boston Pops in November 2013, a program that included selections from Williams film music. Both concerts were presented by the La Jolla Chamber Music Society.

The program for the Jan. 30 and 31 “John Williams Celebration” in Jacobs Music Center will remain the same: Williams’ Suite from “Memoirs of Geisha” with cellist Johannes Moser, and selections from “Harry Potter,” “Raiders of the Lost Ark,” “Star Wars” and other Williams film scores. Several of the works will be accompanied by film clips from the movies.

Lockhart has conducted more than 1,500 Boston Pops concerts during his 19-year tenure, made numerous recordings, and has guest conducted most major U.S. and British orchestras.

More information and tickets: (619) 235-0804 or sandiegosymphony.com