

# Jose Luis Ramirez, Violin



Q: What instrument(s) do you play?

A: Violin

Q: When and how did you get started in music?

A: I was 8 — my dad plays in the State of Mexico Symphony and pretty much my entire family are musicians and play professionally, so I had no choice!!

Q: When did you begin playing with the SOST?

A: Since 2003

Q: Educational background?

A: I trained with my dad, then at the "escuela Ollin Yolistly" in Mexico City. I received a bachelor and a master of violin performance at the University of Houston.

Q: Who has been your greatest influence in music?

A: My dad, my sister (plays with the Houston ballet and opera) and my teacher Fredell Lack.

Q: What is your "day job?"

A: I teach and play in the Houston area.

Q: Hobbies or activities outside of SOST?

A: I like food and I can cook! I also travel all over the world very often with the Orchestra of the Americas. Recently I started teaching at a music festival in Italy and I really enjoyed it, so I'll be doing it a bit more.

Q: Favorite music?

A: Classical, late romantic. My favorite composer is Gustav Mahler.