

SUNY New Paltz Department of Music Presents



Music Without Borders

Glassbrook Vocal Ensemble

Studley Theatre

Tuesday, Oct. 1

7:30 p.m.

Program

For the Love

Chaequan Anderson, Artistic Director
Teresa-Marie Gotanco, Collaborative Pianist

Of Creation & Things Lost...

From The Lord Birds

Christopher Tin (b.1976)

II. The Saddest Noise

“Spring...a time of year when bird songs flood the skies. But what is ordinarily a joyous sound is now riddled with sorrow, as the songs of the remaining birds remind us of the ones we’ve already lost.”

-Christopher Tin

The Fields of Athenry

arr. Michael Robert Smith (b.1989)

“My intention for this arrangement was to maintain the integrity of the song by keeping the melody and most of the harmony the same throughout, with small harmonic changes that call to mind the songs tragic nature. It is book-ended by a plaintive a cappella section based off of a fragment from the

chorus, evoking a faded memory of a time and place that has been lost.” - Michael Robert Smith

Choose Something Like a Star

Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

of the Divine...

Regina Caeli

O Come, Let us Sing unto the Lord
Great Day

Vicente Lusitano (c.1520-1561)

Emma Lou Diemer (1927-2024)

arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Jade Blocker, soprano

of Peace & Serenity...

Prayer of St. Francis

Peace Song (Beatitudes)

Geistliches Lied

Margaret Bonds (1913-1972)

Tim Brent (b.1984)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Of Love...

I Gaze Upon You

I Love You/What a Wonderful World

Gabriel Jackson (b.1962)

arr. Craig Hella Johnson (b.1962)

Texts & Translations:

The Saddest Noise

Between the March and April line—that magical frontier
Beyond which summer hesitates, almost too heavenly near.

The saddest noise, the sweetest noise, the maddest noise that grows and grows,—
The birds, they make it in the spring, at night's delicious close.
The saddest noise I know.

It makes us think of all the dead that sauntered with us here,
By separation's sorcery made cruelly more dear.

It makes us think of what we had, and what we now deplore.
We almost wish those siren throats would go and sing no more.
An ear can break a human heart as quickly as a spear,
We wish the ear had not a heart so dangerously near.

-Emily Dickinson

The Fields of Athenry

By a lonely prison wall
I heard a young girl calling
“Michael, they have taken you away
For you stole Trevelyan's corn
So the young might see the morn
Now a prison ship lies waiting in the bay”

Chorus:

Low lie the fields of Athenry
Where once we watched the small free birds fly
Our love was on the wing we had dreams and
songs to sing
It's so lonely 'round the fields of Athenry

Regina Caeli

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

By a lonely prison wall
I heard a young man calling
“Nothing matters, Mary, when you're free
Against the famine and the crown
I rebelled, they cut me down
Now you must raise our child with dignity”

Chorus

By a lonely harbour wall
She watched the last star falling
As that prison ship sailed out against the sky
For she lived in hope and pray
For her love in Botany Bay
It's so lonely 'round the fields of Athenry

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For he, whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

O Come, Let Us Sing Unto The Lord

O come, let us sing unto the Lord:
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth:
and the strength of the hills is his also.
The sea is his, and he made it:
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down:
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.⁷ For he is our God and we are his people:
he is our shepherd and we are his flock.
Glory be to the Father:
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning :
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

-Psalms 95, 96:1-3

I Can Tell the World

I can tell the world, yes, about this,
I can tell the nations, yes, that I'm blessed.

Tell 'em what my Lord has done,
Tell 'em that the conqueror has come,
And he brought joy to my soul.

My Lord done just what he said (Yes He did, Oh Lord, yes He did)
He healed the sick and He raised the dead.
He lifted me when I was down.
He placed my feet on solid ground.
That mornin', Hallelujah!

Oh Lord, He brought joy that mornin',
When He saved me.
Joy that mornin',
When He blessed me.
I'll tell it,
How He brought this joy to my soul.

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

- *A Prayer attributed to St. Francis*

Peace Song (Beatitudes)

Beati pacifici quoniam filii Dei vocabuntur

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

[Beati misericordes quia ipsi misericordium consequentur]

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure of heart,

Beati mundo corde ipsi [Deum videbunt]

For they shall see God.

Geistliches Lied

Laß dich nur nichts nicht dauren
mit Trauren,
sei stille!
Wie Gott es fügt,
so sei vergnügt
mein Wille.

Was willst du heute sorgen
auf morgen?
Der Eine steht allem für,
der gibt auch dir das Deine.

Sei nur in allem Handel
ohn Wandel,
steh feste!
Was Gott beschleußt,
das ist und heißt
das Beste.

Amen.

I Gaze Upon You

I gaze upon you and the sun grows large
Soon it will overwhelm our day
Awake with heart and colour in your head
To chase away the night's bad dreams

Awake that I may follow where you go
I have a body that waits to follow you
From the gates of day to the gates of dusk
A body to spend with you a life of love.

-Gilbert Bowen (1914-1996)

I Love You/What a Wonderful World

We can be together now and forever, I love you, I love you
And when I'm praying, I hear Him saying, "I love you, I love you"
People all over the world, they're opening up, they're coming around
And they're saying, "I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you
I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you, I love you"

Through the seas, the skies, the moon and clouds of white
Bright blessed day, the dark sacred night
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world
The colors of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky
But also on the faces of the people going by
I see friends shaking hands, saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying, "I love you."

Let nothing afflict you
with grief;
be calm!
As God ordains,
so may my will
be content.

Why worry today
about tomorrow?
The One is in charge,
who gives also to you what is yours.

In all your doings
be steadfast;
stand firm!
What God decrees
is, and is acknowledged,
the best.

Glassbrook Vocal Ensemble

Chaequan Anderson, Artistic Director
Teresa-Marie Gotanco, Collaborative Pianist

Glassbrook Vocal Ensemble is a professional choir based in Ewing, New Jersey, seeking to enrich the lives of those in diverse communities by supplying the highest caliber of choral music-making. The ensemble presents captivating concert experiences through collaborations with local musicians and arts organizations, balancing traditional choral music with premieres of new compositions to create varied programs for modern audiences.

Sopranos

Olivia Benson
Jade Blocker
Nicole Michel
Kristen Schenk

Altos

Alice Beals
Brandi McLeod
Bess Anne Ploener
Alissa Poh

Tenors

George Johnson III
Dan Myers
Kev Schneider
Michael Robert Smith

Basses

Steven Barnett
Jay Besch
Steven Berlanga
Joseph Fulciniti

Chaequan Anderson is an active choral conductor and music educator based in Princeton, New Jersey. He has varied choral experience directing school, community youth and children, and professional choirs. As a teacher and conductor, Chaequan has held positions with Trenton Children's Chorus, and Westminster Conservatory, and has served as a guest conductor and clinician with ensembles in Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania.

Currently, Chaequan is Director of Middle School Choirs at Montclair Kimberley Academy, Associate Director & Conductor Cantores at Princeton Girlchoir, and the Founder and Artistic Director of Glassbrook Vocal Ensemble.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music and Kodály Certification Levels I & II from Westminster Choir College, and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, The State University of New Jersey. While at Rutgers, Chaequan served as the Graduate Teaching Assistant for the Rutgers University Glee Club and Kirkpatrick Choir. Professional memberships include the American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Educators, the Organization of American Kodály Educators, the National Association of Negro Musicians, & New Jersey Music Educators Association.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Teresa-Marie Gotanco is a music educator, director, and performer based in north New Jersey. She is currently in her first year as a program coordinator with Paterson Music Project in Paterson, New Jersey.

Prior to her involvement at Paterson Music Project, Ms. Gotanco enjoyed an extensive career as an accomplished pianist, traveling around the New York/New Jersey region to play for various churches, choral performances, and musicals. Among the musicals she has played for are *Once on this Island*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (for which she also served as Choirmaster and Assistant Musical Director), *Sweeney Todd*, and *Cats*. With a passion for voice science, vocal health, and authentic expression in performance, she has led choirs, taught voice classes, and provided vocal coaching to clients from all walks of life – from beginners, to college students, to emerging professionals. One of her favorite engagements was working as a coach and accompanist with Barnard College, working with students on repertoire from many genres: pop, jazz, musical theater, and opera.

Ms. Gotanco has also worked as a professional vocalist since 2018, when she made her professional singing debut as a soprano concertist and soloist with the Princeton Baroque Chorus. In 2019, Ms. Gotanco was featured as part of a septet at Carnegie Hall under the baton of Mr. John Rutter, and during that summer, she had the privilege of performing at the Apollo Theater in Syros, Greece, during the Festival of the Aegean. While there, she was able to hone her craft as an operatic coloratura soprano, performing iconic pieces such as the famous Queen of the Night's aria from Mozart's *The Magic Flute* and the Doll's song from Offenbach's *The Tales of Hoffmann*. Most recently, she took part in the launch of a new professional choir, Q'ara, based out of Rockland County, New York.

Ms. Gotanco holds a Bachelor of the Arts in Music from Rutgers University.

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