



PUTTING PASSION INTO PRACTICE



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

I Am Loved, I Will Sing!

Performed by the

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Concert Chorale

Christopher Aspaas, *conductor*

Nikos Myrogiannis-Koukos & Annika Stucky, *assistant conductors*

Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao, *collaborative pianist*

September 28th

7:00 p.m.

ROBERT CARR CHAPEL

Fort Worth, TX

PROGRAM

I Am Loved	Christopher Harris
	<i>Concert Chorale</i>
O Praise the Lord	Ulysses Kay
Miserere	Mark Butler
Non Nobis Domine	Rosephanye Powell
	<i>Chorale Canticum Novum</i>
Deus in Adiutorium	Juan Gutiérrez de Padilla
	<i>Concert Chorale</i>
The Cloths of Heaven	Mari Valverde
Nocturne	Adolphus Hailstork
This Sky	Carlos Cordero
	<i>Chorale Voces Viventem</i>
This Little Light of Mine	arr. Moses Hogan
	<i>Concert Chorale</i>

NOTES ON OUR PROGRAM

We are in an interesting season in our country: a new schoolyear filled with uncertainty; a pandemic raging through our communities; calls for racial justice and social change fueling clashes between us. Normal is no more. For a while last spring, I and many others were worried that choir as we know it was cancelled.

In planning for this fall, I came across a presentation handout by Dr. Marques Garrett of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln called, “Beyond Elijah Rock: Non-Idiomatic Choral Music of Black Composers,” and had an idea: a concert of composers not traditionally considered a major part of the Western canon of Choral music, but not the music that we might expect (folksongs, spirituals, Gospel, etc.). So, over the course of several weeks, our program emerged. Each Chamber Choir was assigned three works and we also prepared three combined works.

Tonight’s repertoire celebrates life, love, faith, and the joy of singing. A mix of sacred and secular, the program moves through a variety of moods and colors. We recorded this program in the beautiful Robert Carr Chapel on TCU’s campus. A special thanks to the Office of Religious Life and Mallory Nason for helping us access this space.

Our opening piece, *I Am Loved*, comes from composer Christopher Harris, the Director of Choral Activities at Arkansas Tech University. This work was featured on the TMEA All-State program several years ago, and includes a virtuosic piano part that captures the vibrant energy of new-found love.

Canticum Novum (New Song and our first Chamber Choir tonight) opens their set with Ulysses Kay’s *O Praise the Lord*, a piece that alternates between angular fanfares and exciting polyphonic lines. Its texture is more complex than most choral music of the later 20th century and provides an exciting exercise in independence. This is followed by Mark Butler’s *Miserere*, a work dedicated to the leadership of Dr. Jeffrey Redding, a master teacher, pedagogue, and friend. *Miserere*’s advanced harmonies and layered melodies stand out compared to the other works on the program—one can hear the influence of jazz and other contemporary idioms. This set closes with Rosephanye Powell’s *Non Nobis Domine*, an extremely popular and well-known work that weaves together driving rhythms and elegant lines.

The Chamber Choirs combine for a work from the Mexican Baroque! The choral works of Juan Gutiérrez de Padilla have emerged in recent decades as gems from this hemisphere, and “Deus in adiutorium intende” is no exception. This motet for double-choir expresses each line of the text with new music and a different attitude than the last through changing rhythmic pulse and virtuosic voice leading. The layered and spinning “Alleluia, Amen” at the end is a prime example of counterpoint at its finest.

Voces Viventem (Voices Alive) begins with a work by Texas-native, Mari Valverde, that sets the words of W. B. Yeats. Its elegant piano part and well-crafted melodies

draw in the listener to the plea, “tread softly, because you tread on my dreams.” The centerpiece of this set comes from Adolphus Hailstork: a setting of poetry by James Curtis that depicts the “beauty of a summer night.” Each section of the ensemble is singing independently from the others while a soprano soloist describes the beauty of nature at found only in the night. The final piece in this set comes from Venezuelan composer, Carlos Cordero, who studied at the University of Houston, and whose work, *Ayudamé*, opened the Chorale’s program at SWACDA last spring. My analytical skills are no match for my Music Theory colleagues, but the piece seems to be filled with 17th chords and beyond (really, really far out) and dazzles the listener with color and texture. It is a roller coaster of excitement!

We end our program with the only setting of folk music: *This Little Light of Mine*, arranged by the late Moses Hogan. He creates an easy, flowing underpinning to the soloist throughout, with a moment in the style of the African-American Spiritual in the middle. I know of no other piece that captures the “shine” of our inner light the way that this does.

This has not been an easy process: learning to sing with masks; learning to sing with tremendous distance between us; singing with sometimes two or three per part instead of six or more; acquiring music with less rehearsal time; rehearsing in different venues and formations daily... That written, these students have proven day after day that, as Glennon Doyle writes, “We can do hard things.” And, we have learned that hard things are not quite as hard when we take them on *together*.

I hope that you can join us for our next program on November 1st called, *This Night, These Stars, My Dreams...* Works by Eric Whitacre, Stanford Scriven, Eric Barnum, current student, Patrick Vu, and many more.

THANKS to the faculty and staff that daily contribute to our students' success:

The TCU College of Fine Arts, Dr. Richard Gipson, Interim Dean

The TCU School of Music, Dr. Kristen Queen, Interim Director

The TCU School of Music Administration, Faculty, and Staff

The TCU School of Music Vocal Faculty, Angela Turner-Wilson, Division Chair

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

I Am Loved

Christopher Harris

I am wild, I will sing to the trees,
I will sing to the stars in the sky,
I love, I am loved, he is mine,
Now at last I can die!

I am sandaled with wind and with flame,
I have heart-fire and singing to give,
I can tread on the grass or the stars,
Now at last I can live!

– Sara Teasdale

O Praise the Lord

Ulysses Kay

O praise the Lord, all ye nations:
Praise Him all ye people; o praise the Lord.
For His merciful kindness is great toward us;
And the truth of the Lord endureth forever.

– Psalm 117 *alt.*

Miserere

Mark Butler

Miserere nobis,
Have mercy on us,

Domine Deus, filius Domine Deus
O Lord God, the son of Lord God

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus Dominus.
For you alone are the Holy Lord.
– from the “Gloria,” *alt.*

Non Nobis Domine

Rosephanye Powell

Non nobis, Domine,
Not to us, Lord,

Sed nomini tuo da gloriam.
but to your name give glory.
– Psalm 113:9

Deus in Adiutorium

Juan Gutiérrez de Padilla

Deus, in adiutorium meum intende:

O Lord, make speed to save me:

Domine, ad adjuvandum me festina.

O Lord, make haste to help me.

*Gloria Patri et Filio Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
et Spiritui Sancto: and to the Holy Ghost:*

sicut erat in principio

As it was in the beginning,

et nunc et semper,

is now and ever shall be,

et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.

World without end. Amen. Alleluia.

– Psalm 69:2

The Cloths of Heaven

Mari Valverde

Had I the heaven's embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
 Of night and light and the half-light;
I would spread the cloths under your feet:
 But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.

– W. B. Yeats



Nocturne

Adolphus Hailstork

Have you known the beauty of a summer night
with a white streak of stars in a charcoal sky?
Have you heard the insects with their countless array of sounds,
endlessly busy through the otherwise silent night?
Have you walked in the field with the cool wind
and the black grass rustling around you?
Have you at last turned your face to the brilliant sky above,
and seen the suns floating there, each a fiery universe?
Have you lost yourself in that broad expanse so that the black
grass and the humming insects and the chill breeze have all vanished?
Have you felt the wonder that flows without end in those mighty
spaces where countless fires burn in the surrounding darkness?
Have you kissed the night and its promise, when it turned its
expectant face to your lips?
If you have done those things, lover, then come and watch these
skies, then come and watch these fields, with me, my love.

– Rev. James Curtis

This Sky

Carlos Cordero

This sky where we live
Is no place to lose your wings.
So love, love, love.
– Hafiz, translated by Daniel Ladinsky

This Little Light of Mine

arr. Moses Hogan

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine!
My God gave it to me, oh children, I'm gonna let it shine!
In my home, all over the world, let it shine!

– Harry Dixon Loes, *alt.*

The **TCU Concert Chorale**, the University's flagship choral ensemble, is committed to the exploration and performance of the finest repertoire from the 16th century to today. One of six choral ensembles in the School of Music, the Chorale is a highly-select, auditioned group of forty-five singers including music majors as well as students from other academic disciplines. All members of the Chorale recognize the important role of the arts in their personal and professional development.

In this pandemic season, the Chorale has divided into two chamber choirs for the purposes of managing risk while maximizing our ability to make music. Rehearsals for these smaller ensembles allow us to use more facilities at TCU and also provide the opportunity for simultaneous rehearsals and student-led sectionals. All of our rehearsals meet or exceed the standards set by the CDC and recent research for spacing and time allotted.

The Concert Chorale has had a remarkable history under the leadership of Texas visionaries B. R. (Bev) Henson (1929-1998) and Ronald Shirey (1933-2009) with TMEA, SWACDA, and National ACDA Conference appearances. Under Shirey's leadership, the Chorale performed numerous times at Carnegie Hall.

The Chorale frequently collaborates with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, the TCU Symphony, and numerous choral ensembles from Dallas/Ft. Worth. The Chorale was also featured as one of two university choirs to perform at the 2018 TMEA Annual Conference and recently performed at the SouthWestern American Choral Directors Association Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas.



The TCU Concert Chorale in PepsiCo Recital Hall, Spring 2019

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Concert Chorale

Faith Adams	Calen Garza	Tristan Olvedo
Isaiah Allen	Olivia Garza	Sydney Palomo
Aubrey Bosse	G. G. Nathan Gepanaga	Emily Platon
Amber Bowen	Grace Griffin	Hayden Ponder
Jordan Brinkschroeder	Janson Guillen	Rachel Rowe
Rachel Brookover	Joshua Haupert	Abbey Senenich
Jacob Brown	Rachel Heiser	Tristen Smith
Chloe Bruns	Abigail Hurd	Andy Stellar
Kayden Burns	Adrianna Jagodzinski	Tyler Stuart
Sarah Clark	Jack Johnson	Annika Stucky
Isaak Crum	Peyton Macha	Patrick Vu
John Dubois	Ben McKean	Andrew Walters
Jacob Dyksterhouse	Maddie Miller	Jessica Webba
Coleton Evans	Anna Morgan	Maggie Williams
Kalina Fajardo	Nikos Myrogiannis-	
Olivia Flores	Koukos	

THE VOCAL ARTS AT TCU

MISSION

To educate and empower students of the Vocal Arts to perform at the highest level
in their art and in their lives

VISION

To take our place as a leading center of excellence in Vocal Arts:
regionally, nationally, and globally

GOALS

To emphasize collaboration

To instill professional and personal integrity

To encourage diversity of thought, skills, and musical expression

To enrich the TCU community and beyond

TCU SCHOOL OF MUSIC



If music is your passion,
TCU is your school.

The new TCU Music Center (projected completion Fall 2020) will place a world-class facility in TCU's new Creative Commons.

At the heart of this new building is a state-of-the-art performance hall—the **Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU**. This new facility will significantly transform our campus, our programs and the Fort Worth performing arts community.

www.music.tcu.edu

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