FALL CHORAL SHOWCASE
“LIFE’S QUESTIONS”

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
Concert Hall
7:30 p.m

TREBLE CHORUS, TENOR BASS CHORUS, UNIVERSITY CHORUS
DR. MORGAN LUTTIG, CONDUCTOR
SKIP STRADTMAN, ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR
ASLAN CHIKOVANI, PIANO
CHARLES GETER, PIANO

PROGRAM

Treble Chorus

Where the Light Begins
Susan LaBarr
(b. 1981)

What Happens When a Woman?
Alexandra Olsavsky
arr. Artemisia (contemporary)

Music Down in My Soul
arr. Moses Hogan
(1957-2003)
Annie Mac Huff, Jenna Johnson, Annabella Orndorff, small group

Spes (Hope)
Mia Makaroff
(b. 1970)

Paper Crane
J. Reese Norris
(b. 1973)
Rose Mary Anders, Emma Chambless, Lizzy Erbach, Hanna Isbell, small group

*35th Program of the 2023 - 2024 season*
Tenor Bass Chorus

In My Room  
In My Room  arr. Tom Gentry  
(contemporary)

Travelin’ Home  
Travelin’ Home  arr. Andrea Ramsey  
(b. 1977)

Daniel Salazar, violin

What Shall We Do With a Drunken Sailor  
What Shall We Do With a Drunken Sailor  arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw  
(b. 1925, 1916-1999)

Jerusalem  
Jerusalem  Charles H. H. Parry  
(1848-1918)

San’Bonani/Namhla Kudibene  
San’Bonani/Namhla Kudibene  arr. Michael Barrett  
(contemporary)

Michael Walker, Joseph Carroll, Kenvelle Taylor, soloists

University Chorus

Falling Stars  
Falling Stars  Kevin T. Padworski  
(b. 1987)

Epilogue: Why I Do Not Weep  
Epilogue: Why I Do Not Weep  Christopher H. Harris  
(contemporary)

How Long?  
How Long?  Troy D. Robertson  
(b. 1978)

Skip Stradtman, conductor

Zigeunerleben  
Zigeunerleben  Robert Schumann  
(1810-1856)

Teandra Jackson, soprano
Olivia Seale Esposito, alto
Preston Lumpkins, tenor
Sam Powell, bass

Thulele Mama Ya  
Thulele Mama Ya  arr. Lisa Young  
(contemporary)

Ella Boyd, Shawn Flack, Jordan Waddell, Walker White, percussionists

Combined Choirs

MLK  
MLK  arr. Bob Chilcott  
(b. 1955)

Connor Hughes, tenor
PROGRAM NOTES

Each segment of tonight’s journey through life’s profound questions offers a lens through which we contemplate the intricacies of existence, identity, and self-reflection.

Treble Chorus sets the stage by questioning the very beginning of light itself (Where the Light Begins). The choir continues with a “shock” moment, transitioning immediately to the powerful and thought-provoking question of how we as individuals may take up space in this world (What Happens When a Woman Takes Power). Treble Chorus continues by contemplating how hope can transform the spirit (Music Down in My Soul, Spes) through the dark moments of our existence. The first segment concludes with the powerful story of Sadako Sasaki, a two-year-old child during the Hiroshima bombing (Paper Crane) who survived the initial explosion but was diagnosed with leukemia at the young age of eleven. She died less than one year later. This piece explores the broad questions of why tragedy strikes, and how we may help those in need while maintaining hope for our world.

As we delve deeper, the Tenor Bass Chorus expands our understanding of life’s more serious and humorous questions. We begin by questioning our most personal inner sanctuaries and how we may find comfort and solace in our own mind (In My Room). As we ponder a place of comfort, Travelin’ Home invites us to think of the myriad of ways we can navigate our journey “home,” in the most literal and metaphorical sense. We continue with a moment of comic relief in the classic sea-shanty, What Shall We Do With a Drunken Sailor. The Tenor Bass Chorus finishes the second set of tonight’s performance with an exploration of intention versus function in a piece that holds multiple meanings (Jerusalem) and our final piece combining the music and text of songs from two African cultures, IsiZulu and IsiXhosa.

Our third set, sung by the University Chorus, explores introspective and community-connecting questions. From where did the universe come and how do we keep our sense of wonder in its creation (Falling Stars)? What is human vulnerability and how do we navigate any dissonance between our inward feelings and our external perception (Why I Do Not Weep)? How do we portray the stories of others in a way that can be understood and appreciated (Zigeunerleben)? How do we face the relentless passage of time and stand up for what is right in the face of wrong (How Long)? Finally, University Chorus calls the audience to remain cognizant of life’s most thought-provoking questions while also not worrying about what is out of our control (Thulele Mama Ya).

Each choir in tonight’s program takes us on a profound exploration of the human experience, inviting us to contemplate the mysteries and inquiries that resonate within us all. The combined choirs close out the performance by celebrating both the enduring quest for answers and the profound beauty that resides in the very questions themselves (MLK).
Where the Light Begins
Jan Richardson (b. 1967)

Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.

Perhaps it takes
a lifetime
to open our eyes,
to learn to see–

the luminous line
of the map
in the dark

the vigil flame
in the house
of the heart

the love
so searing
we can’t keep
from singing,
from crying out.

Perhaps this day
the light begins
in us.

What Happens When a Woman?
Alexandra Olsavsky (Contemporary)

What happens when a woman takes power?
What happens when she won’t back down?
What happens when a woman takes power?
What happens? What happens?

What happens when she rules her own body?
What happens when she sets the beat?
What happens when she bows to nobody?
What happens when she stands on her own two feet?

What happens when a woman takes power?
What happens when she won’t back down?
What happens when a woman takes power?
What happens? What happens?

Woah
We rise above;
Woah
We lead with love;
Woah
We have won;
We are one;
We’ve just begun

What happens ...
What happens ...
Music Down in My Soul
African-American Spiritual

I hear music in the air.
I can feel it in the air.
There must be a God somewhere.

Over my head I hear music in the air.
There must be a God somewhere.

Over my head I hear singing in the air.
There music be a God somewhere.

I got this music down in my soul;
and it fills my heart with the joy of the Lord!

I’ve got it joy, everlasting.
I’ve got it peace, everlasting.
I’ve got it love, everlasting.

Love in my heart.
Oh yes, I got peace in my soul.
Oh yes, I got joy in my heart; joy today!

Do you love the Lord?
I love the Lord!

I got joy!
I got peace!
I got love!
In my soul!

Spes
Latin text from Ecclesiastes 8:1, 8
Sami text by Nils Aslak Valkeapää

Quis talis, ut sapiens est?
Et quis cognovit solutionem rerum?

Biekka oapmi lean
muhto liikká ealán
ja dat lea vissa eallima dárrkuhus
Ealán odne dál ja dáns
ja just dat lea madoheapme de in eali sat ihttn
nu ja máid dasto

Non est in hominis potestate
dominari super spiritum
nec cohibere spiritum
nec habet potestatem supra diem mortis

Hope
Translated by Mia Makaroff

Who is like the wise?
Who knows the explanation of things?

I belong to the wind,
but I live,
maybe that is the meaning of life.
I live here and now…
I won’t be alive tomorrow.
That is the way – and so what.

As no one has power
over the wind to contain it,
so no one has power
over the time of their death.

A person’s wisdom brightens their face
and changes its hard appearance.
Paper Crane
from the story of Sadako Sasaki

Paper crane
I will write peace on your wings and you’ll fly
heiwa [peace]
You will fly all over this world,
peace upon your wings
I will write peace on your wings,
and you will fly

This is our cry.
This is our prayer.
Peace for the world,
oh paper crane you’ll fly
you will fly around the world.

In My Room
Brian Wilson and Gary Usher

There’s a world where I can go
And tell my secrets to
In my room

In this world I lock out
All my worries and my fears
In my room

Do my dreaming and my scheming
Lie awake and pray
Do my crying and my sighing
Laugh at yesterday

Now it’s dark and I’m alone
But I won’t be afraid
In my room
Travelin’ Home
Edmund Dumas and Francis Baker Priest

Ye fleeting charms of earth
Farewell, your springs of joy are dry
My soul now seeks another home
A brighter world on high

I’m a long time travelling here below
I’m a long time travelling away from home
I’m a long time travelling here below
To lay this body down

Farewell kind friends whose tender care
Has long engaged my love
Your fond embrace I now exchange
For better friends above

I’m a long time travelling…
I’m a long time travelling…

What Shall We Do With a Drunken Sailor
English Sea Shanty

What shall we do with a drunken sailor?
Early in the morning
Way-hay, up she rises
Early in the morning

Put him in the longboat until he’s sober
Early in the morning
Way-hay…

Pull out the plug and wet him all over
Early in the morning
Way-hay…

What shall we do with a drunken sailor?
Put him in the scuppers with the hose pipes on him
Early in the morning
Way-hay…

What shall we do with a drunken sailor?
in the morning
Heave him by the leg with a runnin’ bowlin’
Early in the morning
Way-hay,…

What shall we do with a drunken sailor?
Way-hay…

What shall we do with the drunken sailor?
In the morning
Jerusalem
William Blake (1757-1827)

And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England’s mountain green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England’s pleasant pastures seen?
And did the countenance divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among those dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!
I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England’s green and pleasant land.

San’Bonani/Namhla Kudibene
Traditional Zulu / Traditional Xhosa

San’bonani nonke, nisaphila nje?
Hololo, hololo, san’bonani.

Namhla kudibene.
Ingwe nengonyama.

Wen’uyabizwa.
Sabela

Good Morning/Jointly

Hello everybody, are you well?
Hololo, hololo, good morning.

Today we are together.
(Like) the lion and the tiger.

We have to respond (to the threat of war).
We will react.
Falling Stars
Rainer Maria Rilke

Do you still remember: falling stars,
how they leapt slantwise through the sky
like horses over suddenly held-out hurdles
of our wishes—did we have so many?—
for stars, innumerable, leapt everywhere;
almost every gaze upward became
wedded to the swift hazard of their play,
and our heart felt like a single thing
beneath that vast disintegration of their brilliance—
and was whole, as if it would survive them

Epilogue: Why I Do Not Weep
Sara Teasdale

They never saw my lover’s face, they only know our love was brief, wearing
a while a windy grace and passing like an autumn leaf.

They wonder why I do not weep, they think it strange that I can sing, they say
“Her love was scarcely deep, since it has left so slight a sting.”

They never saw my love, nor knew that in my heart’s most secret place I pity
them as angels do men who have never seen God’s face.

How Long?
Isaac Watts

How long, dear Savior, Oh how long
Shall this bright hour delay?
Fly swift around, ye wheels of time,
And bring the promised day.

His own soft hand shall wipe the tears,
Shall wipe the tears from ev’ry weeping eye.
And pains and groans and griefs and fears
and death itself shall die.
Zigeunerleben
Poetry by Emanuel Geibel

Im Schatten des Waldes, im Buchengezweig
Da regt sich’s und raschelt und flüstert zugleich.
Es flackern die Flammen, es gaukelt der Schein
Um bunte Gestalten, um Laub und Gestein.

Das ist der Zigeuner bewegliche Schar,
Mit blitzendem Aug’ und mit wallendem Haar,
Gesäugt an des Niles geheiligter Flut,
Gebräunt von Hispaniens südlicher Glut.

Ums lodernde Feuer in schwellendem Grün
Da lagern die Männer verwildert und kühn,
Da kauern die Weiber und rüsten das Mahl,
Und füllen geschäftig den alten Pokal.

Und Sagen und Lieder ertönen im Rund,
Wie Spaniens Gärten so blühend und bunt,
Und magische Sprüche für Not und Gefahr
Verkündet die Alte der horchenden Schar.

Schwarzäugige Mädchen beginnen den Tanz;
Da sprühen die Fackeln im rötlichen Glanz,
Heiß lockt die Gitarre, die Cymbel klingt,
Wie wilder und wilder der Reigen sich schlingt.

Dann ruhn sie ermüdet von nächtlichen Reihn;
Es rauschen die Buchen in Schlummer sie ein,
Und die aus der glücklichen Heimat verbannt,
Sie schauen im Traume das glückliche Land.

Doch wie nun im Osten der Morgen erwacht,
Verlöschen die schönen Gebilde der Nacht;
Es scharret das Maultier bei Tagesbeginn,
Fort ziehn die Gestalten, wer sagt dir wohin?

Romani Life
Translation by Alicia S. Carpenter

From deep in the forest, concealed by the trees,
a stirring and rustling is borne on the breeze.
A glimmer of torches, a flicker of light,
as patches of color take shape in the night.

Nomadic Romani, so wild, free of care,
with eyes flashing brightly, with dark flowing hair;
Some nursed at the bank of the Nile’s sacred flow,
some burnt by the fire of the warm Spain’s south-ern glow.

‘Round campfires ablazing with branches all piled,
the men making camp look untamed, brutal, wild.
There crouch all the women preparing the meal
and filling the goblets with wine as they kneel.

Then songs and old legends they sing in the night,
of gay Spanish gardens so blooming and bright,
and magical ancestral legends are told,
passed on to the young once again by the old.

A raven-haired maiden begins now to dance,
And bright as a torch, burns her passionate glance.
A strumming guitar and the cymbals ring,
As wild and wilder they all dance and sing.

To rest then, all weary from the nocturnal play,
To rest, deep in slumber, to dream as they may.
Since they from their beautiful homeland are banned,
it’s only in dreams they may visit their land.

But as in the east now the darkness takes flight,
and leave the Romani, dark forms of the night.
The shuffling of hooves at the breaking of dawn;
They’ve vanished, they’ve vanished. Who knows
where they’ve gone!
Thulele Mama Ya
Traditional Zulu

Thula mama
Don’t cry

MLK
U2

Sleep tonight
And may your dreams
Be realized
If the thundercloud
Passes rain
So let it rain
Rain down on him
Mmm
So let it be
TREBLE CHORUS PERSONNEL

Dr. Morgan Luttig, conductor
Emma Mehigan, teaching assistant

Soprano 1
Rose Mary Anders
Ada Borer
Emma Chambless
Grace Dell
Sophia Ellis
Lizzy Erbach
Annie Mac Haupt
Hanna Isbell
Jenna Johnson
Annabella Orndorff
Ariana Schmitt

Soprano 2
Bibi Akpom
Sophia Allen
Hailey Beard
Dima Gambino
Hayley Green
Kenzie Harris
Sarah Hicks
Caroline Knab
Sarah Katherine Latham
Ally Skelton
Meredith Taylor

Alto
Genevieve Bangert
Charley Ann Brand
Hunter Brooks
Catherine Doherty
Cameron Frazier
Amelia Gaither
Madison Gore
Lily Johnson
Sarah Martin
Emma Mehigan
Catherine Mercatante
EL Ray
Becca Vinson

TENOR BASS CHORUS PERSONNEL

Dr. Morgan Luttig, conductor
Timothy Smith, teaching assistant

Tenor 1
Alexander Allison
Kenvelle Taylor
Peter Van der Wal

Tenor 2
Griffin Carpenter
Joseph Carroll
Shawn Flack
Robert Niemera
Timothy Smith

Baritone
Liam Hoxsie
Spencer Chang
Aiden Magouyrk
Christian Martin
Eli Phillips
Michael Walker

Bass
Evan Darden
Heath McWaters
August Mewes
Amon Nealy
Jeremiah Nixon
Jordan Waddell
## UNIVERSITY CHORUS PERSONNEL

**Dr. Morgan Luttig, conductor**
**Skip Stradtman, assistant conductor**
**Timothy Smith, teaching assistant**

### Soprano
Victoria Aguilar  
Olivia Alarcon  
Paige Beville  
Hannah Creel  
Pradya Desukar  
Hannah Given  
Kylie Grossie  
Paige Heller  
Katherine Henderson  
Madison Hullett  
Reese Hunter  
Teandra Jackson  
Kloe Justice  
Annabelle Morrison  
Rachel Plowman  
Grace Pruitt  
Olivia Seale Esposito  
Emily Welker

### Alto
Abe Hiraku  
Ella Fauson  
Grace Gill  
Madison Gore  
Courtney Harris  
Alex Holmquist  
Annika Karkkainen  
Cas Lisko  
Emily Monson  
Rylee Nicely  
Isabella Olguin Summers  
Isabella Parker  
Abby Parr  
Anna Parul  
Taylor Rainey  
Jordan Rambo  
Jenna Richardson  
Elizabeth Spaulding  
Joan Warner  
Carson Wieghat

### Tenor
Alexander Allison  
Cody Coykendall-Garcia  
Max Eisenberg  
Wes Fowler  
Conner Hughes  
Preston Lumpkins  
Macy McClurg  
Phillip McCown  
Robert Niemira  
Timothy Smith  
Michael Stokes  
Skip Stradtman  
Kenvelle Taylor

### Bass
JP Aufdemorte  
Christopher Bailey  
Douglas Bandoske  
Aiden Magouyrk  
Christian Martin  
Ryan McFarland  
MacHenry McIntosh  
Heath McWaters  
Jeremiah Nixon  
Sam Powell  
James Romines  
JoQuez Shepard
UPCOMING EVENTS

Faculty Recital: Eric Yates  
Wednesday, November 15  
7:30 p.m., Recital Hall

Huxford Symphony Orchestra  
Thursday, November 16  
7:30 p.m., Concert Hall

Jaichen Li, Piano  
Friday, November 17  
5:30 p.m., Recital Hall

Dakota Mincey, Saxophone  
Friday, November 17  
7:30 p.m., Recital Hall

Eliana Leonard, Clarinet  
Friday, November 17  
8:00 p.m., Recital Hall

Early Chamber Ensemble  
Monday, November 27  
5:30 p.m., Recital Hall

Jazz Lab Band  
Monday, November 27  
7:30 p.m., Concert Hall

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