

**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) <i>Annie Mac Huff, Jenna Johnson, Annabella Orndorff, small group</i>
Spes (Hope)	Mia Makaroff (b. 1970)
Paper Crane	J. Reese Norris (b. 1973) <i>Rose Mary Anders, Emma Chambless, Lizzy Erbach, Hanna Isbell, small group</i>

Tenor Bass Chorus

In My Room	arr. Tom Gentry (contemporary)
Travelin' Home	arr. Andrea Ramsey (b. 1977)
	<i>Daniel Salazar, violin</i>
What Shall We Do With a Drunken Sailor	arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw (b. 1925, 1916-1999)
Jerusalem	Charles H. H. Parry (1848-1918)
San'Bonani/Namhla Kudibene	arr. Michael Barrett (contemporary)
	<i>Michael Walker, Joseph Carroll, Kenvelle Taylor, soloists</i>

University Chorus

Falling Stars	Kevin T. Padworski (b. 1987)
Epilogue: Why I Do Not Weep	Christopher H. Harris (contemporary)
How Long?	Troy D. Robertson (b. 1978)
	<i>Skip Stradtman, conductor</i>
Zigeunerleben	Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
	<i>Teandra Jackson, soprano Olivia Seale Esposito, alto Preston Lumpkins, tenor Sam Powell, bass</i>
Thulele Mama Ya	arr. Lisa Young (contemporary)
	<i>Ella Boyd, Shawn Flack, Jordan Waddell, Walker White, percussionists</i>

Combined Choirs

MLK	arr. Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)
	<i>Connor Hughes, tenor</i>

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).

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

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 dárkkuhus
Ealán odne dál ja dás
ja just dat lea madoheapme de in eali sat ihttin
nu ja máid dasto

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

sapientia hominis illuminat vultum eius
et durities faciei illius commutatur

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 lodern die 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 zieht 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

Thulele Mama Ya

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

Baritone

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

Tenor 2

Griffin Carpenter
Joseph Carroll
Shawn Flack
Robert Niemera
Timothy Smith

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
Pradyna 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

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

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 Wiegat

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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