

Presents



TOUR CONCERT Directed by Dr. Brian Dehn

4pm • Sunday, June 4, 2023

Anaheim United Methodist Church 100 S State College Blvd Anaheim, CA 92806

WELCOME



Dear Friends of Meritáge,

Thank you for joining us for this wonderful season! We hope you will enjoy today's performance of *United in Song*. We have been working hard to perfect it for you and we are especially excited to perform it over the coming weeks for audiences in Europe!

Our tour is a great finale for a wonderful year full of concerts, master works, festivals, and fund raisers. Thank you for being part of it all! We look forward to seeing you again next season!

Sincerely,

STEPHEN SCHULIST, PRESIDENT

Board of Directors, FOCM dba Meritáge Vocal Arts Ensemble

Program

UNITED IN JOY AND ADORATION

Vi adoro	Manolo da Rold	
Paul Shirts and Mark Peter, soloists		
Dominus Illuminatis Mea (from Songs of Praise)	Robert Revicki	
Laura Taylor, Margorie Campos , Mark Salters, percussion		
Adoramus Te Christe Eric V	William Barnum	
Wendy Stokes, soloist		

UNITED IN STRIFE

The Reapers All with Their Sharp SicklesEli	sha West, arr. Seth Houston	
Hannah Park and Susan Jacobs, soloists		
Dies Irae (from Requiem, op. 252)	Zdeněk Lukáš	
De profundis (No. 5 from Maior caritas, op. 5)		

UNITED IN HOPE

Shall We Gather at the River	arr Fred Bock
Ain'-a That Good News	
Precious Lord, Take My Hand	arr. Roy Ringwald
Meghan Riopelle, soloist	
Zion's Walls	Aaron Copland, arr. Glenn Koponen

*****INTERMISSION*****

UNITED IN PRAYER

Down to the River to Pray
Quartet: Grace Lee, Paige Taylor, Shawn Taylor, Michael Liu
Esto Les DigoKinley Lange
Hannah Park, soloist

How Can I Keep From Singing?		arr. Jeff Blumenkrantz
	Andrea Flores, soprano	
Shenandoah		Traditional
	Shawn Taylor, tenor	
Ring Them Bells	-	Fred Kander and John Ebb
0	Lucy Dunn, alto	
Content to be Behind Me		Ben Moore
	Grace Lee, soprano	

UNITED IN SONG

Dúlaman	
	Abby Taylor, Paige Taylor, Jon Liu, Shawn Taylor, soloists
Loch Lomond	Scottish Folk Song, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams
	Michael Liu, soloist
Danny Boy	Londonderry Air, Frederick E. Wetherby,
	arr. Joseph Flummerfelt
	-

Amen arr. j	Jester	Hairston
Total Trians and Total		

Jon Liu, soloist

Artistic Director's Note

Today, Meritáge comes before you to showcase the awe-inspiring power of choral music and its profound ability to unite people from every part of the globe. As most of you know, many of us (including a few friends!) are preparing for our first performance tour in quite a while! We are bringing some of the highlights of American choral music but also acknowledging some of the most popular Irish and Scottish melodies as well. As we are all keenly aware, music, with its enchanting melodies and harmonies, along with its expression of the human spirit, possesses a transcendent quality that knows no boundaries or confines. It spans generations, borders, cultures. It is a universal language that speaks to the depths of our souls, and in that I see it weaving a magnificent aural tapestry of connection and understanding.

Within the realm of choral music, we bear witness to the mesmerizing convergence of individual voices, each imbued with its own unique timbre, resonance, and emotive range. You can ask the singers, I was a tad overbearing on this point in the last week or so! But my point was that, much like the varied voices within a choir, humanity itself is an intricate mosaic of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs. Everything that is wrong with the world today is because we do not know how to harmonize with each other. However, when we learn to join our voices together in harmony, perfect or not, a wondrous alchemy occurs. The walls that separate us crumble, the difference disappear, bridges are built, and we find ourselves embraced within the warm sonic embrace of a shared experience. I firmly believe a melody can connect us all.

Choral music stands as a testament to the vibrant tapestry of human existence. It revels in the kaleidoscope of diversity, seamlessly intertwining the threads of our individual stories, aspirations, prayers, fears, and dreams. You can see in the program this evening how we are addressing just a few of these concepts. Music serves as a harmonious reminder that, despite our disparities, we are bound by the profound tapestry of our common humanity, all yearning for connection and belonging. Through the power of song, we give voice to our joys, fears, and aspirations, hopefully kindling an unquenchable flame of empathy and compassion within each of us.

In my letter to the singers I alluded to the grand symphony of life, we all play a pivotal role, akin to the instruments of an orchestra but in an even more pure form—Our voices are us! What you hear is who we are and how we make sound showcases what we offer to the world. Just as each individual voice contributes to the creation of a musical masterpiece (like our spectacular Duruflé *Requiem* just two months ago), so too does each person contribute to the composition of a harmonious world. When we stand united, celebrating our uniqueness yet singing in unison, celebrate our similarities but singing a 13-part chord, we craft a symphony of the human spirit that resonates across continents, obliterating the artificial barriers created by us that separate us.

I thank each of you for being here tonight and showing how you treasure choral music as a beacon of our shared humanity. Let the melodies and harmonies guide us toward understanding, tolerance, and enduring peace. Together, I truly believe we can cultivate a world in which the harmonies of compassion and community drown out the dissonance of discord and division. Through the transformative power of song, and expressing and exploring what it means to experience life, we have the capacity to unite the world and herald a radiant future for all.

With profound gratitude and unwavering optimism, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you. Thank you for your support for Meritáge and we shall see you next season!

BRIAN DEHN Artistic Director

Texts Translations

Vi Adoro MANOLO DA ROLD

(Sung in Latin)

Pater noster, qui es in caelis. Mater amabilis. Ora pro nobis. Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi. Agnus Dei. Pan del ciello. Pater noster, qui es in caelis.

Our Father, who art in heaven Beloved mother. Pray for us. Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Lamb of God. O living bread of heaven Our Father who art in heaven

(Sung in Italian)

Vi adoro. Vi adoro. Ogni momento. O vivo pan del ciel. O vivo pan del ciel. O vivo pan del ciel gran Saramento. O vivo gran Sacramento. Vi adoro.

I worship you. I worship you. Every moment. O living bread of heaven. O living bread of heaven. O living bread of heaven. O living bread of heaven, o great sacrament.

Dominus Illuminatis Mea (from Songs of Praise) ROBERT REVICKI

Dominus illuminatis mea Dominus illuminatis mea Dominus illuminatis mea Dominus, Dominus illuminatis mea, Dominus illuminatis mea The Lord is my light and salvation, The Lord is my light and salvation, The Lord is my light and salvation, The Lord, The Lord is my light and salvation. The Lord is my light and salvation.

Adoramus Te, Christe

ERIC BARNUM

Adoramus te, Christe Et benediciumus tibi: Quia per sanctam crucem, Et passionem tuam Redemisti mundum. Domine, miserere nobis.

Christ, we adore thee And cast our blessings upon thee: Thou, who by thy holy crucifixion And through thy passion Redeemed the world, Lord, have mercy on us.

The Reapers All with Their Sharp Sickles

ELISHA WEST, ARR. SETH HOUSTON

The fields are all white, the harvest is near, The reapers with their sharp sickles appear, To reap down their wheat, and gather in barns, While wild plants of nature are left for to burn.

Come, then, O my soul, meditate on that day, When all things in nature shall cease and decay. When the trumpet shall sound, the angels appear, To reap down the earth, both the wheat and the tare.

'Twill all be in vain, the mountains must flee, The rocks fly like hailstones, and shall no more be: The earth it shall shake, the seas shall retire, And this solid world, then, will all be on fire.

exts Translations

So farewell, I leave you, pond'ring your way, The Lord seal instruction to what I now say. Hour souls to God's throne be pour'd out in pray'r, That you be prepared to meet Christ in the air.

Dies Irae (from *Requiem*, op. 252) ZDENĚK LUKÁŠ

Dies irae, dies illa, solvet saeculum in favilla, teste David cum Sibylla.

Quantus tremor est futurus, quando iudex est venturus, cuncta stricte discussurus!

Tuba mirum spargens sonum per sepulcra regionum, coget omnes ante thronum.

That day of wrath, that dreadful day, shall heaven and earth in ashes lay, as David and the Sybil say.

What horror must invade the mind when the approaching Judge shall find and sift the deeds of all mankind!

The mighty trumpet's wondrous tone shall rend each tomb's sepulchral stone and summon all before the Throne.

De profundis (No. 5 from *Maior caritas, op.* 5)

JOHN AUGUST PAMINTUAN Text in Spanish by Federico Garcia Lorca from Poema del cante jondo (Poem of Deep Song), 1921; Title in Latin: De profundis

Los cien enamorados Duermen para siempre Bajo la tierra seca. Andalucia tiene Largos caminos rojos. Córdoba, olivos verdes

(Psalm 130 (120))

Donde oner cien cruces, Que los recuerden, Los cien enamorados Duermen para siempre.

Those hundred lovers Are endlessly dorman Under the dry terrain. Andalusia has Long, red-dyed paths. Córdoba, green olive trees, Placing there a hundred crosses To reminiscence them, Those hundred lovers are endlessly dormant.

Shall We Gather at the River

ARR. FRED BOCK Music and Text: Robert Lowry

Shall we gather at the river, Where bright angel feet have trod; With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God?

Soon we'll reach the shining river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease; Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather at the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river; Gather with the saints at the river That flows by the throne of God.

When we reach the shining river, Laying ev'ry burden down; Grace our spirits will deliver, And provide us a robe and a crown! Yes, we'll gather at the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river; Gather with the saints at the river That flows by the throne of God.

lexts Translations

Ain'-a That Good News!

WILLIAM L. DAWSON

I got a crown up in-a that kingdom, Ain't-a that good news! I got a crown up in-a that kingdom, Ain't-a that good news! I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross. Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, Ain't-a that good news!

I got a robe up in-a that kingdom, Ain't-a that good news! I got a robe up in-a that kingdom, Ain't-a that good news! I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross. Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, Ain't-a that good news!

I got a Savior in-a that kingdom, Ain't-a that good news! I got a Savior in-a that kingdom, Ain't-a that good news! I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross. Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, Ain't-a that good news!

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ARR. ROY RINGWALD Hymntune: George N. Allen Text: Joyce Merman

Precious Lord, take my hand, Bring me home through the night, Through the dark, through the storm, To Thy light. I have been to the mount, I have seen the Promised Land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, Bring Thy child home at last, Where the strife and the pain All are past: I have dreamed a great dream That Thy love shall rule over land: Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand. Precious Lord, take my hand, Take Thy child unto Thee, With my dream of a world that is free For that day when all flesh Joins the glory Thou hast planned, Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

Zion's Walls

AARON COPLAND, ARR. GLENN KOPONEN

Come fathers and mothers, Come sisters and brothers, Come join us in singing the praises of Zion. O fathers, don't you feel determined To meet within the walls of Zion? We'll shout and go round The walls of Zion.

Down in the River

TRADITIONAL

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down. Oh, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, brothers, let's go down, Let's go down, come on down. Come on, brothers, let's go down, down in the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

exts Translations

Oh, fathers, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down. Oh, fathers, let's go down, down in the river to pray, As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, mothers, let's go down. Come on down.

Don't you wanna come down? Come on, mothers, let's go down, down in the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

Oh, sinners, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down. Oh, sinners, let's go down, down in the river to pray.

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.

Esto Les Digo

KINLEY LANGE from Matthews 18:19-20 Where two or three are gathered in My name, there will I be also.

Esto les digo Si dos de ustedes se ponen, Se ponen de acuerdo aqui en, En en la tierra para pedir, Pedir algo en oración, Mi padre que está en el Cielo, Se lo dará. Porque donde dos o tres se reunen en mi nombre, Allí estoy yo, En medio de ellos. This I say to you, If two of you are put, Are put in accord her in, In the earth to ask, To ask anything in prayer, My Father which is in heaven, Will give it to you. Because where two or three are gathered in my name, There am I, In the midst of them.

Dúlaman

MICHAEL MCGLYNN

A 'níon mhín ó, sin anall na fir shúirí A mháithairin mhín ó. cuir na roithléan go dtí mé Dúlamán na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach Dúlamán na farraige, be'fhearr a bhí in Éirinn Tá ceann buí óir are an dúlamán gaelach Tá dhá chluais mhaol are an dúlamán maorach Bróga breaca dubha are an dúlamán gaelach Tá bearéad agus triús are an dúlamán maorach Góide a thug na tíre thú? arsa an dúlamán gaelach Ag súirí le do níon, arsa an dúlamán maorach Rachaimid chun Niúir leis an dúlamán gaelach Ceannóimid bróga daora are an dúlamán maorach Ó chuir mé scéala chuici. go gceannóinn cíor dí 'Sé'n scéal a chuir sí chugam, go raibh a ceann cíortha Cha bhfaigheann tú mo 'níon, arsa an dúlamán gaelach Bheul, fuadóidh mé liom í, arsa an dúlamán maorach Dúlamán na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach Dúlamán na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach Dúlamán na farraige, be'fhearr a bhí, be'fhearr a bhí Dúlamán na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach

Translations

Dúlamán na farraige, be'fhearr a bhí, be'fhearr a bhí Be'fhearr a bhí in Éirinn

Oh sweet girl,

that's over there are the charming men O gentle mother, send me the spinners Dúlámán na binne buí, Gaelic dúlámán Dúlaman of the sea. Ireland was better A golden yellow head is the Gaelic dúlámán There are two bald ears are the clam shell Black spotted shoes are the Gaelic dúlámán There is a beret and trús are the clam shell Goide brought you to the country? said the Gaelic dúlámán Flirting with your daughter, said the wise man Let's go to Newry with the Gaelic dólaman We will buy expensive shoes that are the most expensive Since I sent her news, I would buy her a comb The story she sent me was that her head was combed You don't get my daughter, said the Gaelic dúlaman Mouth, I'll take her with me, said the squire Dúlámán na binne buí, Gaelic dúlámán Dúlamán na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach Dúlámán na binne buí, Gaelic dúlámán Dúlamán na binne buí, dúlamán Gaelach Dúlaman of the sea.

it was better, it was better Ireland was better

Loch Lomond

SCOTTISH FOLK SONG ARR. RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

By yon bonny banks and by yon bonny braes, Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomond, Where me and my true love were ever wont to gae, On the bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond. O you'll take the high road, and I'll take the low road And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, But me and my true love will never meet again On the bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond.

'Twas there that we parted, in yon shady glen On the steep, steep side of Loch Lomond, Where deep in purple hue the Highland Hills we view, And the moon coming out in the gloaming.

O you'll take the high road, and I'll take the low road And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, But me and my true love will never meet again On the bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond.

The wee birdies sing and the wildflow'rs spring, And in sunshine the waters are sleeping, But the broken heart it kens, nae second spring again Tho' the woeful may cease from their grieving.

O you'll take the high road, and I'll take the low road And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, But me and my true love will never meet again On the bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond.

exts Translations

Danny Boy

LONDONDERRY AIR, FREDERICK E. WETHERBY, ARR. JOSEPH FLUMMERFELT

Oh, Danny Boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling From glen to glen, and down the mountain side. The summer's gone, and all the roses falling, It's you, it's you must go and I must bide. But come ye back when summer's in the meadow, Or when the valley's hushed and white with snow, It's I'll be here in sunshine or in shadow, Oh, Danny Boy, oh Danny Boy, I love you so! But when ye come, and all the flowers are dying, If I am dead, as dead I well may be, You'll come and find the place where I am lying, And kneel and say an Ave there for me. And I shall hear. though soft you tread above me, And all my grave will warmer, sweeter be, For you will bend and tell me that you love me, And I shall sleep in peace until you come to me!

Amen ARR. JESTER HAIRSTON

[Intro] Amen, amen

Amen, amen, amen

(Sing it over) Amen, amen Amen, amen, amen

[Verse 1]

(See the little baby) amen (wrapped in a manger) amen (on Christmas morning) amen, amen, amen

(See Him in the temple) amen (talkin' with the elders) amen (who marveled at His wisdom) amen, amen, amen

[Chorus]

Amen, amen, amen, amen

[Verse 2]

(See Him at the Jordan) amen (where John was baptizin') amen (and savin' all sinners) amen, amen, amen

(See Him at the seaside) amen (talkin' to the fishermen) amen (and makin' them disciples) amen, amen, amen

For details of all forthcoming concerts

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Mark Peter Heidi Peter Kathy Pierce Jamie Randell Meghan Riopelle Leslie Rudolph Marc Russo Sandy Schaefer Teri Schulist Paul Shirts Cameron Spicer Wendy Stokes Laura Taylor Paige Taylor Shawn Taylor Abby Taylor Deanna Torchia Richard Ullrich

Our Artistic Director



BRIAN DEHN

Brian Dehn has conducted his ensembles in some of the world's most remarkable venues including Carnegie Hall, the Sistine Chapel, St. Mark's in Venice, St. Peter's in Rome, St. Mathias in Budapest, St. Tomaskircke in Vienna, St. Patrick's and The Riverside Church in New York, St. Anne's Cathedral in Sydney, St. Mary's Church in Cambridge, St. Patrick's and St. Mary's in Dublin, and the Beijing Central Conservatory. His selection of top-quality repertoire and special work with vocal development has him in frequent demand as a guest clinician with choirs throughout California and the Western United States.

Dehn is also founder and artistic director of Meistersingers, a semi-pro group also based in Orange County. He is currently pursuing his Doctorate of Musical Arts at Claremont Graduate University, where he has been awarded the Department and Blaisdell fellowships. He recently completed 15 years of teaching at the high school level where his ensembles were awarded consistent "Superior" ratings, and invitations to prestigious festivals around the state, including an invitation to perform at the 2018 ACDA Western Region Convention. He took his programs on performance tours to New York, Spain and Portugal, San Francisco, China, Italy, Ireland, England, and Australia. For over 20 years he has also held positions as Director of Music for a variety of Southern California churches, currently serving as Director of Music Ministry for First Christian Church of Orange.

As an accomplished tenor soloist, Dehn has performed in Chicago Symphony Hall for Chapman University, The New Century Singers, The California Women's Chorus, Pasadena Pro Musica as well as soloist for many other professional music ensembles, colleges and churches throughout Southern California. An accomplished ensemble singer in his own right, he has performed with Zephyr, De Angelis, and the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

Dehn maintains membership in a number of music organizations including the American Choral Directors Association, International Federation of Choral Music, Music Educators National Conference, California Music Educator's Association (where he was a presenter in 2016), Chorus America, and the National Association of Church Music, where he served as board member for Church Literature. He lives in Orange, California, with his wife, Chelsea, and their two sons.

Our Accompanist



MARK SALTERS

Mark Salters is opera co-director, vocal coach, and pianist at California State University, Fullerton. Originally from New York, he served on the coaching staff of the Opera Department at the University of Michigan under Gustav Meier. Prior to that, he was on the faculty of the Yale University graduate opera program headed by noted director Tito Capobianco.

Salters has accompanied master classes by many well-known singers and coaches, including Frederica Von Stade, Roberta Alexander, Vladamir Chernov, Carlo Bergonzi, Sherill Milnes, Madame Régine Crespin, Richard Bonynge, Rodney Gilfry, George Shirley, Carol Neblett, Horst Günther, Marni Nixon, Paul Sperry, Richard Pearlman, Lili Chookasian, as well as many others. In addition, he has worked with conductors and directors from Los Angeles Opera, New York City Opera, Frankfurt Opera, St. Louis Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera. He has also served on the music staffs of the University of Connecticut, Opera Theater of Connecticut, and the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven, Connecticut.

Currently, Salters regularly acc-ompanies the National Association of Teachers of Singing symposiums in Los Angeles and Orange County, as well as the Classical Singers Association classes and concerts. He has also worked for Opera Pacific, Opera Ala Carte, Cal State Long Beach, Pacific Chorale, Pacific Symphony, Riverside Opera, Southland Opera, and the Intimate Opera Company. He also serves as Director of Music and Principal Organist at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton church in Irvine.

As an active freelance accompanist, Salters regularly accompanies many of the finest young vocal artists of the Los Angeles area in recitals and competitions.

THANK to all succe Insecond YOU

to all who have contributed to the success of Meritáge Vocal Arts Ensemble for our 2022-2023 concert season

CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE (\$2500+)

(includes four tickets to all Meritáge concerts plus four tickets to our annual fundraiser) Bill Boland and Chuck Murphy District 4 Arts Grant Lucy Dunn Orange County Community Foundation Teri and Steve Schulist Bill and Janet Shelly Stan Wong

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(includes two tickets to all Meritáge concerts plus two tickets to our annual fundraiser) Liana Koeppel Taylor PayPal Giving Fund PIMCO Foundation Nick Yee

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Secretary Teresa Raridan **Friends of Choral Music (FoCM)** helps support community choral programs, including funding for music, orchestras, vocalists, venues, school scholarships, and outreach programs. 100% of the profit from board-sponsored events is used to help keep choral arts viable in our community.

Friends of Choral Music meets at least six times a year, and is responsible for governance, finance, and fundraising. The board is also responsible for all operating responsibilities of Meritáge and Starlight Carolers. FoCM consists mostly of singing members of these choirs that volunteer their time and services to the board.

Friends of Choral Music is a non-profit IRC 501 (c) (3), Tax Id 95-4584695.

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To make your tax-deductible donation, speak with any singer or visit our website, www.meritage-vocalarts.org

> Please mail your contribution to: Meritáge Vocal Arts Ensemble 174 W. Lincoln Ave. Suite 200 Anaheim, CA 92805

Questions? Please call us at (714) 519-6370 or send an email to: office@Meritage-VocalArts.org. Please include your name(s) as you want them to appear in our program



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Program Design: Paul Shirts