

Marilyn I. Walker  
School of Fine &  
Performing Arts

UNIVERSITY  
CHOIR



**Brock University Choral Ensembles**  
**Directed by Rachel Rensink-Hoff**

Saturday, March 26, 2022, 7:30pm  
Recital Hall, FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre

**Brock University**  
Faculty of Humanities

**BEAUTY IN THE BLUR**

Program

I

Non Nobis, Domine Rosephanye Powell  
Fire Katerina Gimon  
Return to the Blur Carmen Braden, with the Brock University Choir  
Under Pressure David Bowie, arr. Mac Huff

II

Villanelle (*from Les nuits d'été*) Louis Hector-Berlioz  
*Cassandra Sullivan, soloist*  
Estrellita Manuel Ponce  
*Marcus Tranquilli, soloist*

III

Garten Mother's Lullaby Irish folk song  
arr. Neil Ginsberg  
*Zack Guo, student conductor*  
Kiiriminna Finnish folk song  
arr. Mia Makaroff  
*Joclyn Dunlop, Haley Padbury & Abigail Shatford, soloists*  
Paruparong Filipino folk song  
arr. George Hernandez  
*Nicolette Salire, student conductor*  
*Kendall Simon & Cassandra Sullivan, soloists*

Hela Rotan Indonesian folk song  
arr. Ken Stevens

IV

Wanting Memories Ysaye Barnwell  
*Marcus Tranquilli, student conductor*  
Le Temps De Vivre Georges Moustaki  
arr. Francois Provencher  
*Isaiah Burry & Cassandra Sullivan, soloists*  
Can we Sing the Darkness to Light? Kyle Pederson

## NOTES & TRANSLATIONS

Non Nobis, Domine

*Not to us, but to your name be the glory.*

--Psalm 113:9

Villanelle

*When the new season comes,  
When the cold has gone,  
We two will go, my sweet,  
To gather lilies-of-the-valley in the woods;  
Scattering as we tread the pearls of dew  
We see quivering each morn,  
We'll go and hear the blackbirds  
Sing!  
Spring has come, my sweet;  
It is the season lovers bless,  
And the birds, preening their wings,  
Sing songs from the edge of their nests.  
Ah! Come, then, to this mossy bank  
To talk of our beautiful love,  
And tell me in your gentle voice:  
Forever!  
Far, far away we'll stray from our path,  
Startling the rabbit from his hiding-place  
And the deer reflected in the spring,  
Admiring his great lowered antlers;  
Then home we'll go, serene and at ease,  
And entwining our fingers basket-like,  
We'll bring back home wild  
Strawberries!*

--Théophile Gautier

Estrellita

*Little star, of the distant sky,  
You see my pain, you know my suffering.  
Come down and tell me if you love me still  
Because sad alone is this heart  
That asks for love from you.  
You are my star, a beacon of love.  
You alone can give light to the heart.  
Little star, tell me you still love me  
Because sad alone is this heart  
That desires love for you.*

--Michael Ponce

Kiiriminna

*Here comes a group that's not weighed down by sorrow  
We've walked round the country  
And we're always joyful  
Hei kiiriminna kaarimminna  
Kiiri miina kairaa  
We are five pretty lasses  
Like Midsummer flowers  
We went looking for a sweetheart  
For we lost the last one*

*Switching to a new sweetheart  
Probably won't hurt me  
If only I could get a better sweetheart  
And a bit of money too  
You mustn't be sad, you should be joyful  
If you don't feel good  
You must brag even more  
Here comes a group  
That's not weighed down by sorrow  
We've walked round the country  
And we're always joyful*

#### Paruparong

A humorous song comparing a butterfly to a Filipina dressed in her glamorous formal dress with tall butterfly sleeves, swaying her hips as everyone looks on.

#### Hela Rotan

Hela Rotan is a game of tug-of-war. The rope is traditionally made out of "rotan" (ROW-tahn), the vining palm from which woven furniture and other goods are made. In many Asian cultures, this game would draw two communities together for a celebration centered on a peaceable but rowdy contest. The athletes of a team were synchronized by their drummer, in whose hands rested the strategy of unifying the team's traction and power. Because it takes two teams to have a contest, the tug-of-war celebrations symbolized that competition is also cooperation.

#### Le Temps de Vivre

*We will not rush our life,  
our freedom away, my love.  
Without plans nor habits  
we can dream our life.  
Come, I'm here, you're the one I'm waiting for.  
Everything is possible, everything goes.  
Come, listen to these words as they  
vibrate on the walls of May.  
They tell us that for sure  
anything could change someday.  
Come, I'm here, you're the one I'm waiting for.*

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## MUSICIANS

*Rachel Rensink-Hoff, Conductor*

*Erika Reiman, Pianist*

*Ameera Razek, Percussion*

### **SOPRANOS**

Kaitlyn Chambers  
Joslyn Dunlop  
Jenna Morwood  
Haley Padbury  
Chloe Racho  
Nicolette Salire  
Cassandra Sullivan  
Kendall Simon  
Faith Vanderveen  
Jessica von Bersy

### **ALTOS**

Natalie Bennett  
Grace Graham  
Emily Lloyd  
Morgan Luis  
Ameera Razek  
Abigail Shatford  
Caitlyn Vergara  
Bailey Williams  
Caroline Young  
Emily Zapke

### **TENORS**

Logan Ardizzone  
Zack Guo  
Andrew Hayes  
Liam Koiter  
Adrian Papez  
Marcus Tranquili

### **BASSES**

Blessing Ariskola-Ojo  
Lee Bakker  
Patrick Boulton  
Joshua Brown  
Isaiah Burry  
Rohan Ford  
Robert Ho  
Ethan Johnston  
Carlo Panetta

**Dr. Erika Reiman** currently teaches at Brock University, and has previously taught at Wilfrid Laurier University, the University of Guelph, and the University of Toronto; she is also active as a freelance pianist and chamber musician. She is the author of Schumann's Piano Cycles and the Novels of Jean Paul, published in 2004 by the University of Rochester Press. At present she is the pianist for Chorus Hamilton and both the University Chorus and Sora Singers at Brock University. For five seasons, she served as head coach and administrator for BrottOpera in Hamilton. She also maintains a home studio for pianists of all ages and vocal accompanying and coaching and is the music director at St. Paul's United Church, in Paris, Ontario.

**Dr. Rachel Rensink-Hoff** is Associate Professor of Music at the Brock University Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine & Performing Arts, Conductor of the Brock University Choir and Sora Singers, and Artistic Director of the Avanti Chamber Singers. She is also founder of the Niagara Choral Workshop summer program for choral teachers and conductors. Prior to her appointment at Brock University, she served eight years on faculty at McMaster University. Rachel is the 2014 laureate of the Leslie Bell Prize for Choral Conducting from the Ontario Arts Council. In 2015, her university women's choir was awarded first prize in their category of the National Choral Competition for Amateur Choirs and in 2019 the Avanti Chamber Singers was named "Most Promising New Adult Ensemble." Recipient of the Choral Canada Award for Outstanding Dissertation in 2010, Rachel has since published numerous articles on choral pedagogy and repertoire and presents regularly at national and international conferences. Her ongoing work focuses on conductor training and mentorship, singing and wellbeing, and the conductor's creative processes in rehearsal and programming. She is past Vice-President of Programs & Services for Choral Canada and Past-President of Choirs Ontario and enjoys an active career as conductor, adjudicator, juror and workshop clinician across Canada. She served as guest conductor of the Nova Scotia Youth Choir in 2017 and is honoured to be leading the Alberta Youth Choir in 2022.

*Special thanks to the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre*

*The Department of Music  
Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts  
[www.brocku.ca/music](http://www.brocku.ca/music)*

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