

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.*

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
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www.brocku.ca/music*
