

Love, More Love!

Fall Preview Concert

Lawrence University Choirs

Phillip A. Swan and Stephen M. Sieck, conductors

Saturday, October 8, 2016

8:00 p.m.

Lawrence Memorial Chapel

Viking Chorale

Don't Let Go Ysaye M. Barnwell
(b. 1946)

Georgia Greenberg, Jena Bliss, Christina Hanson,
Yidi Zhang, and Haley Stevens, soloists
Irene Durbak, Irja Maki, percussion

Memorial Jane Ramseyer Miller
(b. 1962)

From Company Stephen Sondheim
Being Alive (b. 1930)
arr. Robert Page
(1927-2016)

Rachel Geiger, Tommy Dubnicka, Fox Segal,
Victor Montanez Cruz, Maren Dahl, Jasper Farin,
Logan Willis, and Jorgan Jammal, soloists

Concert Choir

Lark Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Matt Kierzek, soloist

Io v'amo vita mia Vittoria Aleotti
(c. 1575-1620)

Let Him Kiss Me Sven-David Sandström
(b. 1942)

Unleash the Beauty Alexander Campkin
(b. 1984)

Keira Jett, Deme Hellwig, Elisabeth Burmeister, soloists

Cantata

The Seeds of Love

Paul Halley
(b. 1952)

Love Is a Rain of Diamonds

Gwyneth Walker
(b. 1947)

Clio Briggs, Charlotte Noble, soloists

Set Me as a Seal

Richard Nance
(b. 1955)

James DeCorsey, French horn

I Just Found Out About Love

Jimmy McHugh
(1894-1969)
arr. Jeremy Fox

Sarah Servais, soloist

Director's Note:

We live in a dynamic and turbulent period in our nation's history. On June 27, 2015, the Supreme Court granted marriage equality rights to all citizens, prohibiting discrimination based on sexual identity. On June 12, 2016, the Orlando nightclub Pulse was the site of the deadliest single-gunman attack in U.S. history. These two events, within a year's time, give witness to civil rights and terror, to progress and to violence.

Lawrence takes its motto from Goethe: "Light, more light!" Tonight we call for "love, more love!" Our music this evening celebrates love, and acknowledges that the American choral tradition, while priding itself on being a safe space for LGBTQ+ singers, has too often left silent the voices of poets and composers who did not fit into the male heteronormative category. On the day after the attack at Pulse, when Lin-Manuel Miranda could have been celebrating the many Tonys received for his magnum opus, *Hamilton*, he called America to remember that "love is love is love cannot be killed or swept aside." So, we sing. We sing for love, more love!

SMS

Notes and Translations

Don't Let Go (2009)

Words and Music by Ysaye M. Barnwell

Commissioned by The King's Singers

Verse 1:

We know - no river's been rejected by an ocean.
That is why I can't get over wanting you
but once a river flows down into the ocean
By that ocean, it finds itself consumed.

Chorus:

so let's hold on, all we have is one another
let's hold tight. Hold on and don't let go of
the air, the earth, the midnight stars, the river.
Let's hold on to each other. Don't let go.

Verse 2:

The midnight sky embraces every shining star
that is why I can't get over loving you
though each star sends forth its radiant beams of night light
by a cloud, brilliant star light can be doomed.

Verse 3:

The earth supplies us with our every need
that is why I can't get over losing you
we think the earth is boundless in its giving
but it's shrinking now, depleted from our use.

Chorus

Verse 4:

The air we breathe is here for every one of us
that is why I can't get over missing you
each breath we take is searching for the air we need
sometimes too thick, too thin, too heavy, too perfumed.

Chorus

Memorial

Words by Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)

Music by Jane Ramseyer Miller (b. 1962)

And when the earth shall claim thy limbs, then shall you truly dance.

Composer's Notes:

I discovered the words for this piece several years ago when the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt was displayed at the Minneapolis Metrodome. It was the first time I had ever seen the Quilt and I was astonished and moved by the number of artists, dancers and musicians remembered through Quilt panels.

The words "And when the earth shall claim thy limbs, then shall you truly dance" were included on a panel for a man named Richard Thomas. It wasn't until several years after I had set these amazing words to music that I discovered they were written by poet, Kahlil Gibran. The music for AIDS Quilt Memorial was created intentionally as a round - symbolic of the cyclical nature of life and earth, sadness and celebration.

Lark

Poem by Genevieve Taggard (1894-1948)

Music by Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

O, Lark, from great dark, arise!

O, lark of light,

O, lightness like a spark,

Shock ears and stun our eyes

Singing the day-rise, the day-rise, the great day-rise.

O Believer, Rejoicer, say

Before Evidence of Day

The Sun is Risen_.

Where

No sun is, come loudly in the air;

Let ear and eye prepare

To see and hear, truly to see and hear;

To hear thy three-fold welcome in the air,

To see all dazzle after long despair,

To see what none may see no, singer, singer fair, so fair.

O, lark alert, O, lark alive,

O lovely, lovely chanting arrow-lark,

Sprung like an arrow from the bow of dark,
O, lark arise
Sing the day-rise,
The great day-rise.

Io v'amo vita mia

Poem by Annibale Pocaterra (fl. 16th cent.)
Music by Vittoria Aleotti (c.1575-1620)

“I love you, my life”,
Often I wanted to say, and I burn, alas.
Love, shame, and shyness shut my voice within my lips,
And have changed me from a living man to mute stone.
Love, if you but wish that I not speak of my sufferings and that I sigh,
Tell them to her who consumes and destroys me,
And warm her breast with your torch.

“**Let Him Kiss Me**”, from Four Songs of Love
Text from Song of Songs 1:2, 15
Music by Sven-David Sandström (b. 1942)

Let him kiss me with kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine.
Behold, thou art fair my love.

Unleash the Beauty

Poem by Sappho (c.620-c.570 b.c.e.)
Translation and music by Alexander Campkin (b. 1984)

I stand before you, face to face,
Captivated by your sight,
Your soft laughter,
And your voice most gentle.

When I see you
A dead trembling overwhelms me,
And everything else is darkness.
I am silenced.

Then my heart flutters wildly.

I hear my pulse thundering
With the sweat of emotion.
Fire tingles through my flesh.

Composer's Note:

The text by Sappho contains so much energy, drive and emotion, which made it an excellent choice to set to music. Whilst we have no record of how Sappho set her texts to music on the Greek island of Lesbos in 600BC, I feel fortunate that we at least have record of these inspiring words. I have reinterpreted this text in a contemporary choral idiom which I feel has the power to move listeners today. This piece explores a range of vocal and colouristic effects to reflect the energy, beauty and passion within this text. I contrast fast lines with lyrical duets in the upper voices, as I create expansive soundworlds by combining singing alongside effects such as whistling and chord clusters.

The Seeds of Love (circa 1689)

Text by Mrs. Fleetwood Habbergham (d. 1703)

I sowed the seeds of love, and it was all in the spring,
In April, May, and June, likewise, when small birds they do sing;
My garden is well planted with flowers everywhere,
Yet for myself I could not choose the flower that I loved so dear.
My gardener he stood by, I asked him to choose for me,
He chose me the violet, the lily and pink, but those I refused all three;
The violet I forsook, because it fades so soon,
The lily and pink I did o'erlook, and I vowed I'd stay till June.
In June there's a red rosebud, and that's the flower for me!
But oft have I plucked at the red rosebud till I gained the willow tree;
The willow tree will twist, and the willow tree will twine,
Oh! I wish I was in the dear youth's arms that once had the heart of mine.
My gardener he stood by, he told me to take great care,
For in the middle of a red rosebud there grows a sharp thorn there;
I told him I'd take no care till I did feel the smart,
And often I plucked at the red rosebud till I pierced it to the heart.
I'll make a posy of hyssop, for no other I can touch,
That all the world may plainly see I love one flower too much;
My garden is run wild! Where shall I plant anew ~
For my bed, that once was covered with thyme, is all overrun with rue?

Love Is a Rain of Diamonds

Text by May Swenson (1913-1989)

Love is a rain of diamonds in the mind
the fruit of the soul sliced in two
a dark spring loosed at the lips of light
under-earth waters unlocked from their lurking
to sparkle in a crevice parted by the sun
a temple not of stone but cloud
beyond the roar of the heart and all violence
blue permanence

Set Me As A Seal

Text from Song of Solomon 8:6a & 7a

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
for love is as strong as death.
Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.

I Just Found Out About Love

Text by Harold Adamson (1906-1980)

I just found out about love and I like it, I like it
I like what love has been doing to me
I hold you close in my arms and I like it, I like it
Oh, what a wonderful future I see.
It's a one time only,
It's a lifetime deal
And I know it's real,
I can tell by the way that I feel.
Right now I'm livin' it up and I like it, I like it
Hey you give me a clue
What's love doing to you
Looks like you could be liking it too.

Viking Chorale

Stephen Sieck, director

Zoey Lin, accompanist

Soprano I

Emeline Brady
Maren Dahl
Willia Dworschack
Rachel Geiger
Cecilia Kakehashi
Pari Singh
Isabel Vazquez-Thorpe
Yidi Zhang

Soprano II

Jena Bliss
Dana Cordry
Scotia Dettweiler
Lily Greenfield
Mara Kissinger
Elizabeth Lynch
Maralee Mindock
Rebecca Minkus
Asuka Miyoshi
Katie Mueller
Gianna Santino
Maria Santos
Shelby Siebers
Abby Simmons
Haley Stevens
Rebecca Tibbetts
Jessie Zelaya

Alto I

Winnie Agnew
Tali Berkowitz
Taylor Blackson
LuTia Colbert
Megan Davidson
Denise De Lange
Aboris De Jesus
Kellyn Gagner

Alto I (cont'd)

Georgia Greenberg
Tashi Haig Sara Larsen
Callie Ochs
Kendra Pankow
Molly Reese
Emily Stanislawski
Samantha Torres
Tien Tran
Yilin Zhu

Alto II

Gabrielle Claus
Irene Durbak
Michele Haeberlin
Claire Halverson
Christina Hanson
Eleanor Jersild
Vicky Liang
Irja Maki
Kate Martenis
Jocelyn Scherbel
Fox Segal
Mio Shibagaki
Daphne Thomas
Lisa Tran
Maxine Voss
Nina Wilson
Bethany Wolkoff
Rebecca Yeazel

Tenor I

Jasper Farin
Jorgan Jammal
Adam Korber
Victor Montanez-Cruz
Logan Willis

Tenor II

Joseph Dennis
Jeremiah Jensen
Ethan Mellema
Aaron Pelavin
Jack Plasterer
Carl Richardson
Joseph Wetzel

Bass I

Theo Arden
Jung Hoon Choi
Tommy Dubnicka
Nick Fahrenkrug
Jamil Fuller
Sam Genualdi
Thomas Goldberg
Alexander Hadlich
Ben Klein
Kiet Nguyen
Erik Nordstrom
Daniel Quiroga
Caleb Rosenthal
Caleb Smith
Jack Walstrom
Cameron Wilkins
Nathan Williams

Bass II

Julian Cohen
Stephen Deeter
Ben Johnson
Peter Lagershausen
Maxim Muter
Cameron Nasatir
Henry Sillman
Cole Stofflet
Maximillian Wolnak
Liam Wood

Viking Chorale Board

President: Jamil Fuller

EOC: Julian Cohen and Bethany Wolkoff

Publicity: Georgia Greenberg

Attendance Chair: Tommy Dubnicka

Social: Alex Hadlich

Concert Choir

Stephen Sieck and Phillip A. Swan, collaborative conductors
Nicholas Suminski, accompanist

Soprano I

Elisabeth Burmeister
Martha Hellermann
Annie Mercado
Annie Penner

Alto II

Keira Jett
Shaye Swanson
Kara Taft
Rachel Weiss

Baritone

Yonah Barany
David Fisher
Nathan Gornick
Ben Hanson
Alex Quackenbush

Soprano II

Anne-Marie Carden
Mady Luna
Froya Olson
Nicolette Puskar

Tenor I

Luke Honeck
Matt Kierzek
Nolan Ramirez
Jackson Rosenberry

Bass II

Nathan Brase
Kip Hathaway
John Perkins
PJ Uhazie

Alto I

Deme Hellwig
Kin Le
Rosa Lemos
Madeleine Moran
Lauren Vanderlinden

Tenor II

Andrew Green
Alex Iglinski
Christian Messier
Kyle Schleife

Concert Choir Board

President: PJ Uhazie
Social Chairs: Kyle Schleife and Kara Taft
Publicity Chair: Mady Luna
EOC: Rachel Weiss

Cantala

Stephen Sieck and Phillip A. Swan, co-directors

Gabi Makuc, accompanist

Soprano I

Emily Austin

Clio Briggs

Meghan Burroughs

Arielle Kaye

Amanda Karnatz

Anna Mosoriak

Bianca Pratte

Sarah Servais

Alto I

Samantha Gibson

Claire LaLiberté

Bea McManus

Michaela Rabideau

Emily Richter

Maggie Smith

Lauren Smrz

Sam Stone

Soprano II

Sally Alvarado

Evelyn Barash

Laura Christenson

Grace Drummond

Mary Fried

Gabi Makuc

Charlotte Noble

Jean Shoaf

Emma Webster

Alto II

Clover Austin-Muehleck

Annie Dillon

Susie Francy

Caroline Granner

Allie Horton

Erin McCammond-Watts

Aria Minasian

Kelci Page

Cantala Board

President: Charlotte Noble

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EOC: Allie Horton

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Media Specialist: Claire LaLiberté

Freshmen Representatives:

Caroline Granner and Grace Drummond

Riser Set-Up Crew

Aria Minasian

David Fisher

Cam Wilkins

Choral Librarian

Lauren Vanderlinden

We gratefully acknowledge the important role all of the Lawrence faculty play in preparing our students academically and musically, from our colleagues in music history and theory, to our colleagues in sight-singing, aural skills and keyboard skills and to our colleagues in the liberal arts. We give special thanks to the studio voice and piano artist faculty:

Voice Faculty

Christian Bester, baritone
Kenneth Bozeman, chair
Joanne Bozeman, soprano
Dale Duesing, artist-in-residence
John T. Gates, bass
Bonnie Koestner, vocal coach and musical director of opera
Karen Leigh-Post, mezzo-soprano
Steven Paul Spears, tenor
Copeland Woodruff, director of opera studies

Keyboard Faculty

Kathrine Handford organ
Catherine Kautsky, piano
Michael Mizrahi, piano
Anthony Padilla, piano

As a courtesy to the artist and to those in attendance, please be aware that sounds such as whispering and the rustling of programs and cellophane wrappers are magnified in the hall. Please turn off all watch alarms, pagers, and cellular telephones. And please, no flash photography.