



University of North Texas College of Music

Ensemble Concert | Saturday, November 16, 2024 | 7:30 p.m.
Margot and Bill Winspear Performance Hall - Murchison Performing Arts Center

A Cappella Choir

Allen Hightower, conductor
Matt Carlson, associate conductor
Daeun Kim, piano and organ

Transcendence

Selig sind die Toten Heinrich Schütz
(1648) (1585–1672)

Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf, BWV 226..... Johann Sebastian Bach
(1729) (1685–1750)

Daeun Kim, portative organ
Maddy Dykhouse, cello

Christ the Appletree Stanford Scriven
(2009) (b. 1988)

I sat down under His shadow..... Edward Bairstow
(1925) (1874–1946)

Os justi Anton Bruckner
(1879) (1824–1896)

Way Over in Beulah Lan'Traditional
(2007) arr. Stacey V. Gibbs
(b. 1962)

-INTERMISSION-

Program one hundred and eighty-two of the 2024–2025 season
Photography and videography are prohibited

Magnificat William Walton
(1976) (1902–1983)

Victoria Cerda, soprano
Noah Wyckoff, bass

The New Moon Ēriks Ešenvalds
(2012) (b. 1977)

Noah Carrillo, crotales

Water-tuned glasses played by:

Eli Barreto	Trinity Houser	Will Parris
Abigail Garner	Collin Huffman	Jack Rich
Ty Holcomb	Nick Navarro	Teagan Serink

O Magnum Mysterium Morten Lauridsen
(1995) (b. 1943)

Come to the Woods Jake Runestad
(2015) (b. 1986)

I'll Be On My Way Shawn Kirchner
(2011) (b. 1970)

Piero Centurion, tenor

Program Note

Our program explores the concept of transcendence; moments in the spiritual and natural world that extend beyond the limits of ordinary experience. The spirit speaks fervently and urgently in the works of Schütz and Bach, strengthening us as we struggle through our labors and leading us toward rest. In our next two pieces, our souls are nourished by the fruit of "Christ the Appletree" and shielded under His loving banner in "I sat down under His shadow." Wisdom and justice guide our hearts in Bruckner's "Os justi," and we yearn for the same wisdom and justice to prevail as we profess the hope that one day we may reach our "Beulah Lan'."

Our relationship with the natural world is transcendent throughout the second half of the program. After an exuberant outcry of faith through Walton's "Magnificat", one's faith is challenged in "The New Moon." We are beaten down by the harsh and unforgiving day, but left transformed by the celestial awe of the moon emerging through a cloudy sea. This sense of wonder culminates in the great mystery of the nativity, captured in Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium." A meditation on the beauty of the natural world causes our spirits to be moved beyond their initial limits. In "Come to the Woods," the day that once bruised is now proclaimed as glorious. The sea of clouds that accompanied the moon is displaced by a wild sea of pines that fills us with exuberant light and serene tranquility. It is in the woods that we find rest, in the same manner in which the spirit moved us into rest from our labors in the Schütz. Kirchner's "I'll Be On My Way" brings our journey to its ultimate destination. As our souls transcend the physical world, we find comfort and glory in our final resting place.

A Cappella Choir Personnel

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Lauren Abell	Julia Amundson	Piero Centurion	Ben Bassett
Sarah Barrow	Abi Bahng	Mason Clarkson	Michael Binkley
Julianna Carden	Nadia Cloud	James Dickens II	Colin Busch-
Victoria Cerda	Kathryn	Gavin Godbey	Kennedy
Rachel	Davidson	Marquis Xavier	Isaac Carlin
Cunningham	Delia Esparza	McBride	Matt Carlson
Kayla Flores	Pebbles Guest	Robby Napoli	Ely Eckles
Sara Foshée-	Isa Jovanovic	Rudy Polk	Christopher Gray
Knoy	Talitha Murphy	Tyler Warwas	Jaden Jackson-
Emma Garcia	Ris Kemp	Moisés Ybaben-	Cooper
Sorrel McCarthy	Diane Tiscareño	Burciaga	Joshua LaPrade
Katie Grace	Jade Wesley		Eric Martinez
Stephenson	Eleanor Williams		Demetrius
Maryn West	Kristina Wueger		Robinson Jr.
			Noah Wyckoff

Text and Translations

Selig sind die Toten

Text from Revelation 14:13

Blessed are the dead,
that die in the Lord
from now on.
Yea, the Spirit speaks:
they rest from their labors
and their works follow them.

Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf

Text from Romans 8:26-27 & Martin Luther (1524)

The spirit comes to help our weakness,
For we do not know what we should pray, as we ought to pray;
But the spirit itself pleads for us in the best way with inexpressible groans.
But he who searches our hearts knows what the Spirit means
since he pleads for the saints
In the way that pleases God.

You sacred warmth, sweet consolation,
now help us joyful and comforted
in your service, always to remain
do not let sorrow drive us away!
O Lord, through your power make us ready
and strengthen the feebleness of our flesh
so that we may bravely struggle
through life and death to reach you!
Alleluia, alleluia.

Translation by Francis Browne (2008)

Christ the Appletree

Text compiled by Joshua Smith, New Hampshire, 1784

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compar'd with Christ the appletree.

This beauty doth all things excel,
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see,
In Jesus Christ the appletree.

For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought;
I miss'd of all, but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the appletree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the appletree.

I'm weary'd with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest a while;
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the appletree.

I sat down under His shadow

Text from Song of Solomon ii. 3, 4

I sat down under His shadow with great delight,
And His fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
And His banner over me was love.

Os justi

Text from Psalm 37

The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks what is just.
The law of his God is in his heart: and his feet do not falter. Alleluia.

Way Over in Beulah Lan'

Text from the traditional spiritual

Oh when we get way over in Beulah Lan',
We gonna have a good time,
Way over in Beulah Lan'.

Oh, we gonna walk them golden streets.
Way over in Beulah Lan'.

Oh, we gonna drink of the Holy wine.
Way over in Beulah Lan'.

Magnificat

Text from Luke 1:46-55

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm;
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

The New Moon

Text by Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

Day, you have bruised and beaten me down,
As rain beats down the bright, proud sea,
Beaten my body and bruised my soul,
Left me nothing lovely, nothing lovely or whole.
Yet I have wrested a gift from you,
The day that dies in dusky blue:

For suddenly over the factories
I saw a moon in the cloudy seas.
A wisp of beauty all alone
In a world as hard and gray as stone,
Oh who could be bitter and want to die
When a maiden moon wakes up in the sky?

O Magnum Mysterium

Text from the Matins of Christmas

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord, lying in a manger!
O blessed virgin, whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Come to the Woods

Text from the writings John Muir (1838-1914), adapted by the composer

Another glorious day, the air as delicious
to the lungs as nectar to the tongue.

The day was full of sparkling sunshine,
and at the same time enlivened with one of
the most bracing wind storms.

The mountain winds bless the forests with love.
They touch every tree, not one is forgotten.

When the storm began to sound,
I pushed out into the woods to enjoy it.
I should climb one of the trees for a wider look.

The sounds of the storm were glorious with
wild exuberance of light and motion.
Bending and swirling backward and forward, round and round,
in this wild sea of pines.

The storm-tones died away, and turning toward the east,
I beheld the trees, hushed and tranquil.
The setting sun filled them with amber light, and seemed to say,
"Come to the woods, for here is rest."

I'll Be On My Way

Text by Shawn Kirchner

When I am gone, don't you cry for me,
Don't you pity my sorry soul.
What pain there might have been will now be past
And my spirit will be whole.

I'll be on my way, I'll be on my way,
I'll have left my feet of clay upon the ground,
I will be glory bound, I'll be on my way.

When I am gone, please forgive the wrongs
That I might have done to you;
There'll be no room for regrets up there,
High above, way beyond the blue.

I'll be on my way, I'll be on my way,
I'll have laid my frown and all my burdens down,
I'll be puttin' on my crown, I'll be on my way.

When I am gone, don't you look for me
In the places I have been;
I'll be alive, but somewhere else,
I'll be on my way again!

I'll be on my way, I'll be on my way,
I will lift my wings, and soar into the air,
There'll be glory ev'rywhere, I'll be on my way.