



University of North Texas  
College of Music

Ensemble Concert | Friday, April 4, 2025 | 8:00 p.m. | Paul Voertman Concert Hall

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**Baroque Orchestra and Vox Aquilae**

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**Vox Aquilae**  
**Allen Hightower, director**

Ave Maria (n.d.) ..... Robert Parsons  
(c. 1535–1572)

Weib, was weinest du, SWV 443 (c. 1625) ..... Heinrich Schütz  
(1585–1672)

Claire Cabral, cello  
Younggi Hong, organ

**Baroque Orchestra**  
**Malcom Matthews, director**

Sonata for Flute, Violin, and Continuo,  
BWV 1038 (1860) ..... Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685–1750)

Mary Chamoun, flute  
Karim Ayala Pool, violin  
Malcolm Matthews, harpsichord

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*Program five hundred seventy-nine of the 2024–2025 season*  
*Photography and videography are prohibited*

Concerto for Two Violins and Viola in G minor (n.d.) ..... Francesco Durante

1. Affettuoso (1684–1755)

2. Presto

3. Largo affettuoso

4. Allegro

Emma Millian, violin solo  
Ming-Wei Hsieh, violin solo  
R. J. McDowell, viola solo

Concerto for Cello in D minor, RV 407 (n.d.) ..... Antonio Vivaldi

1. Allegro (1678–1741)

2. Largo e sempre piano

3. Allegro

Madeline Dykhouse, cello solo

**Baroque Orchestra and Vox Aquilae**  
**Robby Napoli, conductor**

Magnificat in B-flat Major (c. 1740) ..... Francesco Durante

1. Coro: Magnificat (1684–1755)

2. Aria e Coro: Et misericordia

Victoria Cerda, soprano solo | Ris Kemp, alto solo

3. Coro: Deposuit potentes

4. Duetto: Suscepit Israel

James Dickens III, tenor solo | Matt Carlson, bass solo

5. Coro: Sicut locutus est

6. Coro: Gloria Patri

## Texts and Translations

### **Ave Maria (n.d.) | Robert Parsons (c. 1535–1572)**

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.	Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.
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### **Weib, was weinest du, SWV 443 (c. 1625) | Heinrich Schütz (1585–1672)**

Weib, was weinest du? Wen suchest du?	Woman, why are you crying? Whom do you seek?
Sie haben mein Herren weggenommen, Und ich weiß nicht, wo sie ihn hingeleget haben.	They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.
María! Rabboni!	Mary! Rabbi!
Rühre mich nicht an; Denn ich bin noch nicht aufgefahren Zu meinem Vater.	Do not touch me; For I have not yet journeyed to my Father.
Ich fahre auf zu meinem Vater und zu eurem Vater, Zu meinem Gott und zu eurem Gott.	I am going to my Father and to your Father, To my God and to your God.

### **Magnificat in B-flat Major (c. 1740) | Francesco Durante (1684–1755)**

#### **1. Coro**

Magnificat ánima mea Dóminum.  
Et exultávit spíritus meus:  
in Deo salutári meo.  
Quia respéxit humilitátem  
ancillae suae:  
Ecce enim ex hoc beátam  
me dicent omnes generatiónes.  
Quia fécit mihi mágna qui pótens est:  
et sánctum nómen eius.

#### **2. Aria e Coro**

*Aria:*  
Et misericórdia eius in progénies et  
progénies tíméntibus eum.

*Coro:*  
Fecit poténtiam in bráchio suo:  
dispérsit supérbos mente cordis sui.

#### **1. Chorus**

My soul doth magnify the Lord.  
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my  
Savior.  
Because He hath regarded the humility of  
His servant:

For behold from henceforth all  
generations shall call me blessed.  
Because He that is mighty hath done  
great things to me: and holy is His name.

#### **2. Aria and Chorus**

*Aria:*  
And his mercy is from generation unto  
generations, to them that fear Him.

*Chorus:*  
He hath shown strength with his arm: He  
hath scattered the proud in the conceit of  
their heart.

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### 3. Coro

Deposuit potentes de sede:  
et exaltatis humiles.

Esurientes implevit bonis:  
et divites dimisit inanes.

### 4. Duetto

Suscipit israel puerum suum:  
recordatus misericordiae suae.

### 5. Coro

Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros:  
Abraham, et semini eius in saecula.

### 6. Coro

Gloria Patri, et Filio,  
et Spiritui Sancto,

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et  
semper, et in saecula saeculorum.  
Amen.

### 3. Chorus

He hath put down the mighty from their  
seat, and hath exalted the humble.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich He hath sent empty away.

### 4. Duet

He hath received Israel His servant,  
remembering His mercy.

### 5. Chorus

As He spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his seed for ever.

### 6. Chorus

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and  
ever shall be, forever and ever.  
Amen.

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## Biographies

**Malcolm Matthews**, who earned a doctoral degree in organ performance from the Eastman School of Music, is one of only four organists to have been awarded the prestigious Artist's Certificate in Eastman's century-long history. In addition to his organ studies with David Higgs, he earned a master's degree in harpsichord performance under William Porter and pursued a minor in collaborative piano with Jean Barr.

Dr. Matthews comes to UNT most recently from the faculty of the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee where he served as Adjunct Artist Teacher of Organ and Harpsichord. He also served as associate organist and choirmaster at Christ Church Cathedral in Nashville. Matthews enjoys collaborative work and often accompanies ensembles and soloists across a broad repertoire. He has performed as a soloist with the Oak Ridge Symphony Orchestra, Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, and Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. A featured artist at national conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society, his accolades include first place at the 2013 Westfield International Organ Competition, second place at the 2012 National Young Artist's Competition in Organ Performance, semi-finalist at the 2016 International Bach Competition, second place at the 2016 OSM Manulife Competition, first place at the 2005 Southeastern Region IV Young Organists Competition and semi-finalist at the 2009 Concours international d'orgue de Lyon.

**Allen Hightower** is a seventh generation Texan, and resides in McKinney, Texas with his wife, Dr. Kristin Hightower and their two daughters Caroline and Julianne. As the director of Choral Studies at the University of North Texas, Allen leads the master's and doctoral programs in choral conducting, and oversees a comprehensive choral program of eight ensembles. Allen serves as the conductor of the UNT A Cappella Choir, and the UNT Grand Chorus which collaborates annually with the UNT Symphony Orchestra in performances of major choral-orchestral works. As a member of UNT's Early Music faculty, he leads the vocal ensemble Vox Aquilae, an artistic partner of the UNT Baroque Orchestra.

Since arriving at UNT in 2016, the A Cappella Choir has received invitations to perform for the Texas Music Educators Association in 2020, the National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association in 2021, and the Southwestern Division of ACDA in 2022. Vox Aquilae and the UNT Baroque Orchestra were featured at the January 2022 virtual conference of the National Collegiate Choral Organization.

As a teacher and conductor, Dr. Hightower has visited 30 states, Asia, and Europe. His students hold positions of leadership as choral conductors in public schools, colleges and universities, and churches and community choirs throughout the United States. Prior to his appointment at UNT, he held the Weston Noble Endowed Chair in Music at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he served as conductor of the renowned Nordic Choir and artistic director of Christmas at Luther. As Luther's Director of Choral Activities, he gave leadership to a choral program that included four conductors, six choirs, and over 530 singers. Under Hightower's direction, the Nordic Choir performed at the 2014 North Central Division of ACDA, recorded six compact discs, made annual concert tours throughout the United States, and toured Europe on two occasions.

From 2000-2010, Hightower served as Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Sam Houston State University. During his tenure, the SHSU Chorale toured Europe, performed for the 2007 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association, 2010 Southwestern Division of ACDA, and 2003, 2006, and 2010 conventions of the Texas Music Educators Association. His high school teaching career included tenures at Klein High School in Spring, Texas and at Odessa Permian High School in Odessa, where he led the PHS Kantorei and Satin Strings in performance at the 1996 TMEA convention.

**Robby Napoli** is a conductor/educator, tenor, and composer/arranger currently pursuing a M.M. in Choral Conducting at the University of North Texas. A Maryland native, he co-founded a professional chamber choir (Lux) at the age of 17 and served as the Choral Director at Chesapeake High School in Pasadena, MD from 2019-2025. Napoli holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the Sunderman Conservatory of Music at Gettysburg College, with concentrations in voice and composition.

Alongside Lux as their founding Artistic Director, Robby has recorded five full-length albums and collaborated with the likes of Paul Mealor and Michael Barrett. Lux's accolades include numerous regional and international awards, including a performance at the 2024 American Choral Directors' Association (ACDA) Eastern Region Conference.

Under his direction, singers from Chesapeake's award-winning choral program were named to various honor choirs, receiving state-high selections to Maryland's All State Chorus in 2022 (11 singers), and 2024 (13). Napoli also led their contemporary a cappella group, Evolve, who placed as high as 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Mid-Atlantic at the International Competition for High School A Cappella (ICHSA). Pentatonix's Matt Sallee also selected the group for a workshop at the 2024 Maryland Music Educators' Association Conference.

Napoli has appeared as an adjudicator, clinician, and presenter at conferences and festivals across Maryland and Texas. An avid performer, Napoli maintains an active career as a professional choral singer in the Washington, D.C. and DFW metro areas. Robby especially enjoys contemporary choral music, and has premiered over thirty works with choirs since 2019. He is particularly passionate about creating opportunity for and inspiring upcoming generations of choral musicians.

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## **Ensemble Personnel**

### **Baroque Orchestra**

Malcolm Matthews, conductor  
Madeline Dykhouse and Karim Ayala Pool, assistants

#### **Violin**

Karim Ayala Pool  
Braeden Boyles  
Olivia Rose Corporon  
Ethan Dunn  
Ming-Wei Hsieh  
Hyun Jung Kim  
Emma Millian  
Hongrui Wang

#### **Viola**

Margot Lynette Elder  
RJ McDowell  
Cameron Halsell

#### **Cello**

Tyler Aguilard  
Claire Cabral  
Madeline Dykhouse  
Esther Kang

#### **Double Bass**

Ruben Borges  
Zoe Czarnecki  
Wyatt Gaugler

#### **Flute**

Mary Lucile Chamoun

#### **Organ**

Younggi Hong

### **Vox Aquilae**

Allen Hightower, conductor  
Robby Napoli, associate conductor

#### **Soprano**

Julia Amundsen  
Victoria Cerda  
Rachel Cunningham  
Emma Garcia  
Christina Lopez  
Sorrel McCarthy

#### **Tenor**

James Dickens II  
Gavin Godbey  
Marquis Xavier McBride  
Robby Napoli  
Moisés Ybabén-Burciaga

#### **Alto**

Kathryn Davidson  
Pebbles Guest  
Ris Kemp  
Christine Le  
Talitha Murphy

#### **Bass**

Michael Binkley  
Matt Carlson  
Jaden Jackson-Cooper  
Arthur Keast  
Noah C. M. Wyckoff