

PRINCE ALBERT



CONCERT CHOIR

presents

VOICES FOR

PEACE

29
NOVEMBER,
2024

FRIDAY, 7:00PM

Calvary United Church
114 25th Street East

Perry Acorn, Director
Robert Casgrain, Accompanist

Prince Albert Concert Choir

VOICES FOR PEACE

O Canada

 Calixa Lavallee (1842-1891)

Ambe

 Andrew Balfour (b. 1967)

Cantique de Jean Racine

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)
arr. J. Rutter

Find the Cost of Freedom

Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young
arr. B. Riha

The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace

Karl Jenkins (b. 1944)

i) *Sanctus*

Anna Bekolay, *violin*

Dale Ginter, *shekere*

Arlene Shiplett, *horn*

ii) *Agnus Dei*

Twyla Gange, *flute*

Pete LaFlamme, *bass*

Don Tatchell, *percussion*

iii) *Benedictus*

Corinne Ginter, *shekere*

Scott Roos, *trumpet*

Margaret Zulkoskey, *organ*

INTERMISSION

The Storm is Passing Over

Pete LaFlamme, *bass*
Don Tatchell, *percussion*

Charles A. Tindley (1851-1933)

arr. Adam & Matt Podd

O Salutaris Hostia

Tori Glynn, *soprano*
Natalie Theissen, *soprano*

Ēriks Ešvalds (b. 1977)

Dirait-on

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

Caritas

Anna Bekolay, *violin*

Elaine Hagenberg (1979)

Freedom Trilogy

Anna Bekolay, *shekere*
Pete LaFlamme, *bass*
Deanna Roos, *soprano*

Arlene Shiplett, *congas*
Don Tatchell, *percussion*

 Paul Halley (b. 1952)

 denotes Canadian Composer

The Prince Albert Concert Choir was established in 2012 by Robert and Lorna Gibson to give singers an opportunity to sing the finest choral music from a variety of genres, cultures, and languages, and to share joy with all.

The Prince Albert Concert Choir

SOPRANO

Kathy Derksen
Faye Desjardins
Kelly Ewson-Lefevre
Kayla Ginter
Tori Glynn
Mary Lou Hoskin
Carolyn Jabusch
Janelle Matice
Belinda Mulligan
Meghan O'Leary
Deanna Roos
Natalie Theissen
Munja van Heerden

ALTO

Shelly Acorn
Colleen Bowen
Frieda Brown
Tracy Feher
Blaire Henry
Arlene Just
Brenda Kernaleguen
Christina Prasse-Krysa
Kayleigh Skomorowski
Margaret Zulkoskey

TENOR

Alex Crawley
Clark Rensberry
Scott Roos
David Zulkoskey

BASS

Rene Blom
David Ginter
Murray Hannigan
Matt Ireland
Al Loustel
Brock Skomorowski
Will Stafford
Norm Vetter

DIRECTOR, Perry Acorn

ACCOMPANIST, Robert Casgrain

We gather on Treaty 6 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route of the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene, Nakota Sioux, and Homeland to the Métis. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

May our voices resonate in harmony with the spirit of this land and its diverse cultures.

Please join us in the hall immediately following the concert for refreshments and fellowship.

PROGRAMME NOTES

AMBE

ANDREW BALFOUR

The Ojibway text means “Come in, two-legged beings. Come in all people. There is good life here.” This piece is based on an original song in Ojibway that was gifted by traditional drummer and singer Cory Campbell to Andrew Balfour and the University of Manitoba Concert Choir. Cory describes the song as “a call to the people to the ceremonial way of life or to the red road or, quite frankly, to whatever we have going on, because everything happens with spirit and in spirit.” For Andrew, the steady beat throughout represents the heartbeat of Mother Earth and the lyrical first soprano melody that emerges from this rhythmic texture conveys the powerful totem of the eagle which represents the teaching of love, wisdom, and strength.

CANTIQUE DE JEAN RACINE

GABRIEL FAURÉ

arr. J. Rutter

The Cantique is a setting of words by the 17th century dramatist and poet Jean Racine. It was Fauré’s first significant composition, written in 1865 while he was in his final year at the École Niedermeyer, the ‘École de musique religieuse et classique’. He submitted the piece for the composition prize, and won, though it was only published eleven years later, with a full orchestral version following in 1906.

Word equal to the Most High, our only hope, Eternal day of earth and heaven, From the peaceful night we break the silence: Divine Savior, look upon us.	Pour out upon us the fire of Your powerful grace; Let all hell flee at the sound of Your voice; Dispel the sleep of a languishing soul Who leads her to forget Your laws!	O Christ! be favorable to this faithful people, To bless you now gathered; Receive the songs he offers to Your immortal glory, and May he return filled with Your gifts.
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FIND THE COST OF FREEDOM

CROSBY, STILLS, NASH, YOUNG

In May 1970, National Guardsmen opened fire on a group of students protesting against the American incursion into Cambodia at Kent State University in Ohio. The National Guard fired 67 rounds in 13 seconds. The shootings killed four, paralysed another and left eight more seriously injured. Neil Young and Stephen Stills wrote this in response. Categorized as an anti-Korean War song, the lyrics and message ought to be considered once more, for conflict is commonplace, and War rages in Ukraine, and between Israel and Hamas.

THE ARMED MAN: A MASS FOR PEACE

KARL JENKINS

The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace was commissioned by the Royal Armouries to mark the transition from one millennium to another. It reflects on the passing of 'the most war-torn and destructive century in human history' and looks forward in hope to a more peaceful future. We revisit this work with the hope that we, and our leaders, find a path to Peace.

SANCTUS

A sense of foreboding emerges in this typically joyful section of the Latin Mass. Percussion and brass combine to give a sense of military build-up, against the choir's hopeful chanting of the traditional text.

AGNUS DEI

After the traumas of war, this movement brings the hope of peace. Jenkins has created a beautiful setting of the Latin Mass: "Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world...."

BENEDICTUS

The horn introduces this serene movement with a beautiful solo. The choir takes the tune from the horn and adds the Latin text: "Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord." Peace leads to rejoicing, and to an explosive Hosanna. The movement ends with the audience in contemplative serenity.

THE STORM IS PASSING OVER

CHARLES A. TINDLEY

arr(s). Adam & Matt Podd

In 2014, the United Nations General Assembly declared January 2015 to December 2024 as the "International Decade for People of African Descent." Gospel music emerged from African-American musical traditions. Feel the rhythm, embrace the joy, and let your spirits soar with this vibrant Gospel-funk rendition of a gospel standard. From its punchy rhythms to its soul-stirring harmonies, every note resonates with a message of hope and resilience. Prior to being published, Matt Podd gave the rhythm section parts to the Prince Albert Concert Choir in support of this concert.

O SALUTARIS HOSTIA

ĒRIKS EŠENVALDS

The original text to O Salutaris Hostia is a section of one of the Eucharistic hymns written by Thomas Aquinas (c. 1225-1274).

O saving Victim, opening wide
The gate of Heaven to man below;
Our foes press hard on every side;
Thine aid supply; thy strength bestow.

To thy great name be endless praise,
Immortal Godhead, One in Three.
Oh, grant us endless length of days,
In our true native land with thee.

Amen.

O Salutaris Hostia has quickly become one of Ešenvalds' most popular pieces. Originally written for female voices, this version for full choir was first heard in 2009. It is a gentle meditation, completely diatonic, its dynamic level only once rising to mezzo forte. Over a hushed chorale for full choir, rich in added notes, curlicues of melody from two solo sopranos drift across the soundscape, alternately echoing and imitating each other or carolling together in thirds. The effect is quietly ecstatic, a brief moment of adoration and wonderment.

DIRAIT-ON

MORTEN LAURIDSEN

Dirait-On is a delicate piece of music that starts with simple melodies in the piano, followed by a simple melody in the sopranos and altos. The simple melody is then repeated by the tenors and baritones. The tempo is meant to fluctuate throughout. Lauridsen adds more voice parts to each repetition of 'Dirait-On' [so they say] so that the simple melody naturally evolves into closely voiced harmonies. At the climax of the piece, the sopranos and baritones sing in canon while the altos and tenors have long sustained melodies. The illusion of more than one person talking about something which is appropriate to the text of 'so they say' as well.

Dirait-On references Narcissus who wasted away and died when he realized his love was not returned. The slow demise of Narcissus is an allegory to the decline of global peace.

CARITAS

ELAINE HAGENBERG

Caritas, the second movement from Illuminare, portrays a tender season of beauty as the elegant words of Hildegard von Bingen hearken back to the goodness and purity of Eden. The opening measures feature the treble voices weaving "from the depths most excellent to beyond the stars." As tenors and basses join, all voices ascend together to highlight "pacis" (peace). The piece concludes with serene sustained tones.

Illuminare is Hagenberg's first extended work, consisting of five movements for SATB chorus and chamber orchestra. Using lesser-known sacred Latin, Greek, and English texts, the piece takes us through a season of beauty and goodness that has been disrupted by darkness and confusion. But as Light gradually returns, hope is restored, illuminating our future and guiding us in peace.

Caritas abundat in omnia
de imis excellentissima
super sidera,
atque amantissima in omnia,
Quia summo regi
osculum pacis dedit.

Love abounds in all,
from the depths most excellent
to beyond the stars,
and loving toward all, she has given
the highest king
the kiss of peace.

FREEDOM TRILOGY

PAUL HALLEY

The winner of multiple Grammy Awards for his contributions to The Paul Winter Consort in the 1990's, Paul Halley is best known in his more fundamental role as a classical composer and choral conductor. Halley currently directs an acclaimed group of Choral Scholars and Lay Clerks at the University of King's College, Halifax. In 2015, Halley became Director of Music at The Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax. Halley creates three to four new, commissioned works per year, and performs frequently as a guest artist throughout North America.

FREEDOM TRILOGY

TEXTS

KYRIE

from *Missa de Angelis* – 16th cent.

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy

HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA

South African, collected by Anders Nyberg

Halleluya! Pelo tsa rona, di thabile kaofela.
Ke Morena Jeso, ya re dumeletseng,
ya re dumeletseng ho tsamaisa evangedi.

Halleluya! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.

SIYAHAMBA

South African, collected by Anders Nyberg

Siya hamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkos.
Siya hamba, hamba, siya hamba, hamba,
Siya hamb' ekukhanyen'kwenkos

We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching; we are marching, marching.
We are marching in the light of God.

AMAZING GRACE

Words by John Newton

Amazing grace!
How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost
But now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

The members of the Prince Albert Concert Choir thank everyone for supporting the choir and this concert!

With sincere appreciation and thanks...

- Meghan O’Leary, PACC President
- Tori Glynn, PACC Vice-President and MC
- Kelly Ewson-Lefevre, PACC Treasurer
- Al Loustel, PACC Member-at-Large
- Dr. Jennifer Lang
- Calvary United Church
- Corinne Ginter, *shekere*
- Dale Ginter, *shekere*
- Anna Bekolay, *violin*
- Twyla Gange, *flute*
- Pete LaFlamme, *bass*
- Scott Roos, *trumpet*
- Arlene Shiplett, *horn*
- Don Tatchell, *percussion*
- Margaret Zulkoskey, *organ*

Our fall workshop with Dr. Jennifer Lang from the University of Saskatchewan would not have been possible without Special Project funding from the Saskatchewan Choral Federation. The Saskatchewan Choral Federation, with funding from Sask Lotteries, has provided some of the music performed at this concert.



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Prince Albert Concert Choir

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