





2013-2014 45th Anniversary Season

VocalEssence Heartland Tour

Friday, February 28, 2014 at 8 pm St. Peter in Chains Cathedral 325 W. 8th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 7:30 pm Edman Memorial Chapel at Wheaton College 418 N. Chase Street, Wheaton, Illinois

Sunday, March 2, 2014 at 3 pm Rockefeller Chapel at University of Chicago 5850 S. Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

VocalEssence Ensemble Singers Philip Brunelle, *conductor*

2013-2014 Season Sponsors















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The Program

Friday, February 28, 2014 at 8 pm St. Peter in Chains Cathedral 325 W. 8th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio

The Day Is Done Stephen Paulus (b. 1949)

Paulus Publications

Glorious Majesty Aaron Jay Kernis (b. 1950)

AJK Music/Associated Music, Inc.

Zuni Sunrise Song Brent Michael Davids (b. 1959)

earthsongs

"Sanctus" from *The Masque of Angels*Dominick Argento (b. 1927)

Boosey & Hawkes

Listen to the Apples - World Premiere Timothy Takach (b. 1978)

timothytakach.com

Pasar la Vida Jorge Cózatl (b. 1973)

VocalEssence Music Press

La Cucaracha arr. Robert Sund (1929-2001)

Gehrmans Musikförlag

- Intermission -

Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Walton Music

Fear Not, Dear Friend Jake Runestad (b. 1986)

JR Music, jakerunestad.com

"Credo" from *The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass*Carol Barnett (b. 1949)

Boosey & Hawkes

A Stephen Foster Tribute (150th anniversary of his death)

Dixie arr. Norman Luboff (1917-1987)

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Camptown Races arr. Jack Halloran (1916-1997)

Gentry Publications

Swanee River arr. Ray Liebau (b. 1937)

University Choral Services - The University of Mississippi

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Hal Leonard

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^{**} Sung by the Rockefeller Chapel Choir

Text and Translations

THE DAY IS DONE

Mus: Stephen Paulus Text: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Paulus Publications – 2006

The day is done, and the darkness
Falls from the wings of Night,
As a feather is wafted downward
From an eagle in his flight.

I see the lights of the village
Gleam through the rain and the mist,
And a feeling of sadness comes over me
That my soul cannot resist:

A feeling of sadness and longing,
That is not akin to pain,
And resembles sorrow only
As the mist resembles the rain.

Come, read to me some poem, Some simple and heartfelt lay, That shall soothe this restless feeling, And banish the thoughts of day.

Read from some humbler poet,
Whose songs gushed from his heart,
As showers from the clouds of summer,
Or tears from the eyelids start;

Then read from some treasured volume
The poem of the choice,
And lend to the rhyme of the poet
The beauty of thy voice.

And the night shall be filled with music
And the cares, that infest the day,
Shall be banished like restless feelings
That silently steal away.

GLORIOUS MAJESTY

Mus: Aaron Jay Kernis Text: Adapted from Psalm 104 - Coverdale Edition by William S. Peterson AJK Music/Associated Music, Inc. – 2013

Praise the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, thou art exceedingly glorious; thou art clothed with Majesty and honor.

Thou deckest thyself with light as with a garment, and spreadest out the heavens like a curtain who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters, and maketh the clouds his chariot, and walketh upon the wings of the wind.

He maketh his angels' spirits, and his ministers a flaming fire.

He laid the foundations of the earth that it never should move at any time.

He sendeth the springs into the rivers, which run among the hills. All beasts of the field drink, and beside them the fowls of the air have their habitation, and sing among the branches.

He watereth the hills from above; the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works.

He bringeth forth grass for the cattle, and green herb for the service of man, that he may bring food out of the earth,he bringeth wine that maketh glad the heart; and oil to make his face to shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the Lord are full of sap, even the cedars of Lebanon, where the birds make their nests.

He appointed the moon for certain seasons, and the sun knoweth his going down.

Thou makest darkness that it may be night, wherein all the beasts of the forest do move.

The sun ariseth -Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour, until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are thy works!

In wisdom thou hast made them all; the earth is full of thy riches. The glorious Majesty of the Lord shall endure forever; the Lord shall rejoice in his works.

I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live;I will praise my God while I have my being.

And so shall my words please him; my joy shall be in the Lord. Praise ye the Lord, thou art exceedingly glorious. Praise the Lord, Praise ye the Lord, O my soul!

SANCTUS

Mus: Dominick Argento Boosey & Hawkes – 1978

Sanctus, Domine Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra Gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.

LISTEN TO THE APPLES

Mus: Timothy C. Takach Text: Louise Erdrich timothyctakach.com – 2013

Life will break you. Nobody can protect you from that, and living alone won't either, for solitude will also break you with its yearning. You have to love. You have to feel. It is the reason you are here on earth. You are here to risk your heart. You are here to be swallowed up. And when it happens that you are broken, or betrayed, or left, or hurt, or death brushes near, let yourself sit by an apple tree and listen to the apples falling all around you in heaps, wasting their sweetness. Tell yourself you tasted as many as you could.

PASAR LA VIDA (TO SPEND THE LIFE)

Mus: Jorge Cózatl

Text: Jorge Mansilla Torees Coco Manto

Translation: Jorge Cózatl

VocalEssence Music Press - 2010

I am a crowd and I am one When I walk forward Or behind in search of the smoke Of the ambulant utopia.

Sealed destination I have: Nomad shepherd.

The range of the world
Fragrant tempter opens
To the sedentary fertile
And to the gleaming nomad
Consecrated pilgrim:
Walker.

Resounding sky and sea
Offer themselves to the one who is a lover
Of what is found thru the course
Of the wandering adventure:
Who takes away the travel from him:
Navigator.

And the one who walks without course
And lives always that moment
Because it is all and none
By a defamatory law...
He is illegal noticed:
Immigrant.

Walker nomad shepherd That he does not forget Immigrant navigator Old wound Militant inhabitant Of the life.

LA CUCARACHA (THE COCKROACH)

Arr. Robert Lund Gehrmans Musikförlag – 2008

Refrain:

The cockroach, the cockroach no longer wants to walk because it has, because it lacks money to spend.

A cockroach told a blushing girl let's go to my land to spend the season: Refrain: All the girls have stars in their eyes, but the Mexicans are certainly more beautiful. Refrain:

LEONARDO DREAMS OF HIS FLYING MACHINE

Mus: Eric Whitacre Text: Charles Anthony Silvestri (Italian fragments taken from the notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci) Walton Music – 2002

Tormented by visions of flight and falling, More wondrous and terrible each than the last, Master Leonardo imagines an engine To carry a man up into the sun...

And he's dreaming the heavens call him, Softly whispering their siren-song: "Leonardo, Leonardo, vieni à volare." ("Leonardo, Leonardo, come fly.")

L'uomo colle sua congiegniate e grandi ale,

(A man with wings large enough and duly connected Facciendo forza contro alla resistente aria.

might learn to overcome the resistance of the air.)

As the candles burn low he paces and writes, Releasing purchased pigeons one by one Into the golden Tuscan sunrise...

And as he dreams, again the calling, The very air itself gives voice: "Leonardo, Leonardo, vieni à volare." ("Leonardo, Leonardo, come fly.")

Vicina all' elemento del fuoco...
(Close to the sphere of elemental fire...)
Scratching quill on crumpled paper
(Rete, canna, filo, carta.)
(Net, cane, thread, paper.)
Images of wing and frame and fabric fastened tightly.
...sulla suprema sottile aria.
(...in the highest and rarest atmosphere.)

As the midnight watchtower tolls, Over rooftop, street and dome, The triumph of a human being ascending In the dreaming of a mortal man.

Leonardo steels himself,
Takes one last breath, and leaps...
"Leonardo vieni à volare! Leonardo, sognare!"
("Leonardo, come fly! Leonardo, dream!")

FEAR NOT, DEAR FRIEND

Mus: Jake Runestad Text: Robert Louis Stevenson JR Music, jakerunestad.com - 2013

Fear not, dear friend, but freely live your days
Though lesser lives should suffer. Such am I,
A lesser life, that what is mine of sky
Gladly would give for you, and what of praise.
Step, without trouble, down the sunlit ways.
We that have touched your raiment, are made whole
From all the selfish cankers of our souls,
And we would see you happy, dear, or die.
Therefore be brave, and therefore, dear, be free;
Try all things resolutely, till the best,
Out of all lesser betters, you shall find;
And we, who have learned greatness from you, we,
Your lovers, with a still, contented mind,
See you well anchored in some port of rest.

CREDO

from: The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass *Mus: Carol Barnett*

Text: Marisha Chamberlain Boosey & Hawkes - 2006

Oh, I do believe a place awaits us far across the Jordan And when we reach those mossy banks, we'll cast aside our oars. Row on, row on, we're crossing River Jordan, Row on, row on, and no one goes alone.

Oh, I do believe a place awaits us high above the mountains And when we reach that highest peak, we'll spread our wings and soar.

Climb on, climb on, we're climbing Jacob's Ladder, Climb on, climb on, and no one goes alone.

Oh, I do believe a resting place awaits us, 'cross the Jordan. We'll toss our coats, throw off our hats and take the seat of ease. And it's not the seat of riches and it's not the seat of power. Row on, row on, and no one goes alone.

DIXIE

Arr. Norman Luboff Walton Music - 1960

Oh, I wish I was in the land of cotton, Old times there are not forgotten, Look away, Dixie land.

In Dixie land where I was born in Early on one frosty mornin' Look away, Dixie land.

Then I wish I was in Dixie, In Dixie land I'll take my stand To live and die in Dixie.

CAMPTOWN RACES

Arr. Jack Halloran Gentry Publications - 1988

Camptown ladies sing this song, Camptown race track five miles long, I come down there with my hat caved in, I go back home with a pocket full of tin.

Refrain: Go'n to run all night, Go'n to run all day, I'll bet my money on the bobtail nag, Somebody bet on the bay.

The long-tall filly and the big black horse, Fly the track and they both cut a course. The blind horse sticks in a big mud hole, I can't touch bottom with a ten-foot pole. *Refrain:*

Old muley cow come on to the track, The bobtail fling her over his back. Then fly along like a railroad car, Runnin' a race with a shootin' star. *Refrain*:

See them flyin' in a ten mile heat, 'Round the race track then repeat, I win my money on the bobtail nag, Keep my money in an old tow bag. *Refrain:*

SWANEE RIVER

Arr. Ray Liebau University Choral Services - 1993 The University of Mississippi

Way down upon the Swanee River, far, far away, There's where my heart is turning ever, There's where the old folks stay.
All the world is sad and dreary Ev'rywhere I roam,
Oh! How my heart grows ever weary,
Far from the old folks at home.

MY SOUL'S BEEN ANCHORED IN THE LORD

Arr. Moses Hogan Traditional Spiritual Hal Leonard - 1999

Before I'd stay in hell one day, I'd sing an' pray my self away. My soul's been anchored in the Lord.

Goin' shout an' pray an' never stop, Until I reach the mountain top. My soul's been anchored in the Lord.

TE DEUM in C

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

We praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting. To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens, and all the powers therein. To thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory. The glorious company of the apostles praise thee. The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee. The noble army of martyrs praise thee. The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee; the Father of an infinite majesty; Thine honourable, true and only Son; also the Holy Ghost, the comforter. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father. When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst not abhor the virgin's womb. When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge. We therefore pray thee, help thy servants

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee; and we worship thy name ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood. Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

Jubilate Deo

William Walton (1902-1983)

O be joyful in the LORD, all ye lands:

serve the LORD with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the LORD he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name

For the LORD is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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.

-Psalm 100

Antiphon

Benjamin Britten

Chor. Praised be the God of love,

Men. Here below,

Angels. And here above:

Cho. Who hath dealt his mercies so,

Ang. To his friend,

Men. And to his foe;

Cho. That both grace and glorie tend Ang. Us of old, Men. And us in th'end.
Cho. The great shepherd of the fold Ang. Us did make, Men. For us was sold.

Cho. He our foes in pieces brake;

Ang. Him we touch;

Men. And him we take.

Cho. Wherefore since that he is such,

Ang. We adore,

Men. And we do crouch.

Cho. Lord, thy praises should be more.

Men. We have none,

Ang. And we no store.

Cho. Praised be the God alone,

Who hath made of two folds one.

Words by George Herbert, The Temple, 1633

VocalEssence Ensemble Singers

The VocalEssence Ensemble Singers represent the bridge between choral music's past and its future. As the heir of a longstanding choral tradition in Minnesota, this 32-voice professional chorus was founded in 1991 to be a choral music ambassador advancing the art through a touring group composed of the finest singers. With its director and founder Philip Brunelle, assistant artistic director Tesfa Wondemagegnehu and associate conductor Sigrid Johnson leading this tight and talented group of singers, the sound of the Ensemble Singers resonates around the world.

Praise for the Ensemble Singers comes effortlessly from the press. They have a "superbly blended sound" (*Birmingham Post, UK*), an "exemplary technique" (Minneapolis *Star Tribune*) and are "polished, bright and brilliantly balanced" (*Times* of London). Or as the Oxford *Times* (UK) simply put it: the Ensemble Singers "have a blend that could — and should — be the envy of every choir in the business."

Their sound knows no limits in style or genre. Always striving to create perfection in their choral sound, the Ensemble Singers perform works dating from the Baroque era to the modern day, approaching each musical endeavor with originality, freshness and a highly sought after sound. From Dominick Argento to Alvin Singleton, and every composer name in between, the Ensemble Singers have premiered a multitude of pieces written expressly for their voices.

As ambassadors of choral music, the Ensemble Singers travel the world, but also work in their communities in Minnesota and throughout the nation. They can be seen working in outreach programs, which include collaborations with schools and the amateur choral community, as well as established and emerging composers, singers and conductors.

SOPRANO

Jennifer Bevington Angela Grundstad Amanda Inhofer Margaret Sabin Ann L. Schrooten Mari M. Scott Carolyn M. Steele JoAnna Swantek

ALTO

Robin J. Helgen Marita Link Judith McClain Melander Anna Meek Clara Osowski Krista J. Palmquist Sandra Schoenecker Karen Wilkerson

TENOR

Kevin L. Bailey Chase Daniel Burkhart Anders Eckman Michael Fairbairn Robert J. Graham Curtis Kettler David Kozisek William Pederson

BASS

Eric Bartlett
Steve Burger
Deric W. Craig
Joseph Ellickson
Ryan French
Seth Keeton
Robert C. Smith
Trent Stenoien
Josiah Telschow





VocalEssence Artistic Staff Biographies



Philip Brunelle - VocalEssence Artistic Director and Founder

Philip Brunelle, artistic director and founder of VocalEssence, is an internationally renowned conductor, choral scholar and performer. Believing that listeners and musicians alike must experience music of

many genres and styles, he has worked enthusiastically—and tirelessly—to expand audiences for rarely heard works of the past and worthwhile new music. In addition, to date VocalEssence has commissioned more than 150 works. Philip has conducted symphonies (New York Philharmonic, Seattle Symphony, and Minnesota Orchestra among others) as well as choral festivals and operas on six continents.

Over the past decade Philip has been deeply involved with the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM). He served as president of the Sixth World Symposium on Choral Music held in Minneapolis (2002), was on the Artistic Committee for the Eighth Symposium, held in Denmark (2008), and the Ninth Symposium, held in Argentina (2011). He is a Vice President of the IFCM Board and is now serving as Executive Director for the 2014 World Symposiumon Choral Music to be held in Seoul, South Korea.

Philip holds five honorary doctorates, was invested as an Honorary Member of the Order from the British Empire (MBE) in 2005 for his services to music, and was awarded Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit in 2007. He has also been honored by the governments of Sweden, Hungary, and Mexico.



Sigrid Johnson - Associate Conductor

As the associate conductor of VocalEssence, **Sigrid Johnson** is affectionately known as "Ears" — for her unique skill in helping develop the choral blend and balance that give the VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers their signature sound. She provides

expert input in the selection of repertoire and assists throughout the audition process. Her ability to achieve excellence in choral blend and intonation is a priceless asset to VocalEssence.

Sigrid is a member of the voice and choral faculty of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, and the conductor of the Manitou Singers, St. Olaf's 100-voice first-year women's chorus. She maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician at choral festivals, workshops and all-state music festivals across the country. She is known internationally for her work with musicians at all levels, having conducted workshops in Australia, the Netherlands, Sweden and Finland. In August 2008, Sigrid was one of the featured lecturers for the Eighth World Symposium on Choral Music in Copenhagen; in 2011, she was featured in the Ninth World Symposium in Argentina.

Sigrid is active in the American Choral Director's Association, the Music Educator's National Conference, the International Federation for Choral Music, and Chorus America.



Tesfa Wondemagneghu

- Assistant Artistic Director

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, Assistant Artistic Director of VocalEssence, previously served as Director of Choral Activities at Freedom High School in Orlando, Florida. During his tenure at FHS, Tesfa was named Orange

County Public School Teacher of the Year (2013) and received the Macy's National Gift of Teaching Award (2013). He led his choirs in performances at state conventions of the American Choral Directors Association (2010 & 2012) and the Florida Music Educators' Association (2011). Tesfa has presented workshops and conducted honor choirs in Florida, Tennessee, Ohio, and Costa Rica. As a tenor soloist, he has performed both in the United States and internationally in Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Costa Rica under the batons of such conducting luminaries as André Thomas, Anton Armstrong, Krzysztof Penderecki, and Rodney Eichenberger. Tesfa is active in the American Choral Directors Association, the Music Educator's National Conference, and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Tesfa holds a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting and Vocal Performance from the Florida State University and a Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Memphis.





Collaborators

Soli Deo Gloria, Inc. (SDG)

Since its founding in 1993, **Soli Deo Gloria, Inc.** (SDG) has sought to enhance, promote and preserve classical sacred music in the biblical tradition, at the highest level. At the heart of its mission is the commissioning of new sacred music from the world's leading composers. In addition, the organization sponsors sacred music concerts and recordings around the world. In each of these areas SDG has gained recognition as a distinctive advocate for classical sacred music.

The organization has collaborated with such ensembles as the New York Philharmonic, Westminster Choir College Symphonic Choir, National Symphony Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Netherlands Radio Chamber Philharmonic, Orchestre de chambre de Paris (formerly, L'Ensemble Orchestral de Paris), the Saarbrucken Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Indianapolis Children's Choir, the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, The American Boychoir, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, the San Diego Symphony and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. Sacred music recordings sponsored by Soli Deo Gloria include Henryk Górecki Miserere (CD), Hector Berlioz Te Deum (CD), Bach Mass in B Minor (DVD), Beethoven Missa Solemnis (DVD), Haydn The Creation (DVD), and the newly released Bach St. Matthew Passion (DVD and Blu-ray).

Rockefeller Chapel Choir

Artists in residence

Matthew Dean, Lon Ellenberger, Kaitlin Foley, Andrew Schultze

Charles Montgomery Gray Memorial Choral Scholarships

Woo Chan "Chaz" Lee, Daniel Muratore

Bernard O. and Carol Jean Brown Choral Scholarships

Hannah Landes, Mitchell Lewis

Elsbeth Thilenius Choral Scholarship Lizzy Lewis

Thomas Weisflog, university organist James Kallembach, director of music

Rockefeller Chapel Choir

Soprano:

Antonia Bernhardt Chloe Blackshear Corinna Christman Kaitlin Foley Hannah Landes Elizabeth Lewis Hannah McGinty Amelia Snoblin Liesje Spaepen Deborah Sutton Katharine Turner

Alto:

Louesa Akin Kate Carter Alexandra Deis-Lauby Lon Ellenberger Moira Harden Ji Su Kang Monika Kauer Sarah Prescott Mari Jo Velasco

Tenor:

Matthew Dean
Samuel Dooley
William Hohnke
Andrew Kunze
Mitchell Lewis
Keith Murphy
Patrick Daniel O'Connor

Bass:

Woo Chan Lee Joseph Mocharnuk Daniel Muratore Andrew Schultze Peter Severson