



VocalEssence Asia Pacific Tour

August 19, 2014

Center Grand Theatre of Nanjing Culture & Art Center
Nanjing Culture Center
No.101 Chang Jiang Street, Nanjing

VocalEssence Ensemble Singers
Philip Brunelle, *conductor*
Sigrid Johnson, *associate conductor*

VocalEssence Sponsors



Bush Foundation



GENERAL MILLS

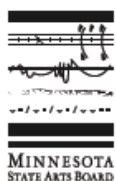
THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

 Sit Investment Associates

PiperJaffray

Minnesota
Monthly

classical
MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund and a grant from Wells Fargo Foundation Minnesota.

 DELTA



VocalEssence

1900 Nicollet Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612-547-1451

www.VocalEssence.org

VocalEssence is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Board of Directors

Paul Pribbenow, Ph.D., President
Kathryn Roberts, Vice President
Jacob Wolkowitz, Treasurer
Susan J. Crockett, Ph.D., Secretary
Kristine Aasheim
Mary Ann Aufderheide (Pulk)
Ann Barkelew
Warren Beck
Bruce W. Becker
Philip Brunelle
Deane E. Bruner
Roma Calatayud-Stocks
Karen Charles
Judy Drobeck
Debbie Estes
Kristen Hoeschler O'Brien
Art Kaemmer, M.D.
James M. Odland
Avital Rabinowitz
Cay Shea Hellervik
Don Shelby
Peter Spink
Jenny L. Wade

Honorary Directors

Dominick Argento
Dave Brubeck*
William Bolcom
Aaron Copland*
Håkan Hagegård
Louise Heffelfinger
Eskil Hemberg*
Betty Hulings*
James Earl Jones
Garrison Keillor
Donald Mitchell
Helmuth Rilling
John Rutter
Peter Schickele
André Thomas
Eric Whitacre

**In remembrance*

Artistic Staff

Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director and Founder
Sigrid Johnson, Associate Conductor
Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, Assistant Artistic Director
Charles Kemper, Accompanist

Administrative Staff

Mary Ann Aufderheide (Pulk), Executive Director
Robert Graham, Education Manager
Laura Holst, Development and Marketing Associate
Kimberly Meisten, Director of Community Engagement
Patricia Starks-Faggétt, Accounting Manager
Joel Swearingen, Executive Assistant and Operations Manager
Katrina Wallmeyer, Director of Development and Communications
Elissa Weller, Grants and Special Events Manager



Greetings!

The VocalEssence Ensemble Singers, associate conductor Sigrid Johnson and I are pleased to be in Nanjing to share choral music of the USA with you. From classics to folksongs to spirituals this music represents the heart and soul of our country. The music and their texts offer the dreams of community and hope, which we wish to share with choral friends from around the world.

As a choral ambassador from the United States we are pleased to share this music with you. We hope that through this program you will enjoy and be inspired by the music that we call “American.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Brunelle".

Philip Brunelle
Artistic Director and Founder

The Program

<i>In that Great Gittin' Up Morning</i>	Jester Hairston
<i>Deep River</i>	Harry Burleigh
<i>Zuni Sunrise Song</i>	Brent Michael Davids
<i>Camptown Races</i>	Stephen Foster/arr. Jack Halloran
<i>Dixie</i>	Stephen Foster/arr. Norman Luboff
"I Bought Me a Cat" from <i>Old American Songs</i>	Aaron Copland
"The Best of All Possible Worlds" from <i>Candide</i>	Leonard Bernstein
"Make Our Garden Grow" from <i>Candide</i>	Leonard Bernstein
<i>Witness</i>	Jack Halloran
—Intermission—	
<i>Down by the Riverside</i>	arr. John Rutter
<i>The Coolin'</i>	Samuel Barber
<i>And Now the Last Cloud Drains Away</i>	Stephen Paulus
<i>Swing Low, Sweet Chariot</i>	arr. Dale Adelman
<i>When Jesus Wept</i>	William Billings
"Credo" from <i>The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass</i>	Carol Barnett
<i>Sleep</i>	Eric Whitacre
<i>Shenandoah</i>	James Erb
<i>My Soul's Been Anchored</i>	Moses Hogan

Biographies

VocalEssence Ensemble Singers

Heralded by *The Times* (London) as “a superb American choir...an engaging group, polished, bright and brilliantly balanced,” the 32-voice professional VocalEssence Ensemble Singers, founded in 1991, are recognized internationally by their extensive European and Asian tours, broadcasts via the European Broadcasting Union, performances at national conferences of the American Choral Directors Association, and three invitation-only appearances at the World Symposium on Choral Music (1999, 2002 and 2014), the world’s most prestigious global gathering of choral music.



Under the direction of artistic director and founder Philip Brunelle, associate conductor Sigrid Johnson, and assistant artistic director Tesfa Wondemagegnehu, their sound knows no limit 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 Stephen Paulus, 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 outreach programs 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

TENOR

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

ALTO

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

BASS

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

Philip Brunelle, *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 of 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 served as Executive Director for the 2014 World Symposium on Choral Music 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 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 Denmark, and in 2011 was featured in the Ninth World Symposium, held 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.

Special Thanks for Support of the VocalEssence Asia Pacific Tour

Mary Adair & Gerald Jorgenson
Jones Adkins & Julie Brown
William & Suzanne Ammerman
Katherine B. Andersen Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
Quentin & Mary Anderson
Woodbury & Cynthia Andrews
Nancy Azzam
Karen Baker
Ann Barkelew & Jim O'Hagan
Michael Barone
Mary K. Baumann & Will Hopkins
Carol & Jeff Belz
Beth Bird
Goeta Goetz Bird
John & Sheila Bjorklund
Carol Brandenburg Family Fund
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Lucile Adams Brink
Marilyn Bryant
Robert & Bridget Burke
Jerome & Linda Carlson
Norman R. & Janet Carpenter
Camille Carteng
Judith A. Christensen
Jack & Ann Cole
John & Joan Colwell
Tom & Phyllis Colwell
James & Tomie Conaway
Dr. Susan & Dick Crockett
Kent & Dee Ann Crossley
Kathy & Charles Cunningham
Judy Dayton
Cy & Paula DeCosse Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation
Charles M. Denny, Jr. & Carol E. Denny* Fund
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Len & Susan Druskin
Hope Esparolini
Caron & Floyd Farmer
Jerry & Cathie Fischer
Jack & Amy Fistler
Gloria Freeman
Susan & Barry Graceman
Delaine & Laurie Halberg
Jim & Elaine Halls
Charles & Margarette Hann
David & Mim Hanson
Ann & Nils Hasselmo
Louise Heffelfinger
John & Robin Helgen
Hellervik Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
Bill Hodder
Arthur & Donna Hogenson
The Hognander Foundation and Joe Hognander
Dr. Gordon & Nita Howell
Robert S. & Patricia A. Hoyt
Bill Hueg & Hella Mears
Karen A. & Charles W. Humphrey
Thomas Hunt & John Wheelihan
Thelma Hunter
Sally Hwang

Jerry Johnson & Larry Montan
Josie R. Johnson
Michael & Nancy Kaehr
Garrison Keillor & Jenny Lind Nilsson
Jan & Tom Kilton
Bill & Jan Kimes
N. Judge* & Reatha Clark King Family Fund
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Henry & Pat Langer
Mark & Susan Larson
Ken Latham
Jeffrey & Ingrid LeMunyon
Don & Joann Leavenworth
Charlie & Anne Leck
Elaine Leonard
Ronald & Nicolai Lewis
J. Thomas & Helen Lockhart
Judy Lund
Tom & Margie Lundberg
Charles & Hertha Lutz
The Mauriel Family Foundation
Joyce & Richard McFarland Fund
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Mary Bigelow McMillan
Alvin & Mary Agnes McQuinn
David & Linda Mona
Alfred P. & Ann M. Moore
Betty Myers
Deborah Nelson
Glen & Marilyn Carlson Nelson
Donald & Gerda Nightingale
Steve Odland
Robert & Dorothy Ollmann
Alan Onberg
Joseph & Clara Osowski
Joan B. Parsons
Jim & Donna Peter
Daniel & Nancy Peterson
Paul* & Virginia Pfeiffer
Jonathan Pinkerton & Julia Rice
Douglas & Mary Platt
Rich & Nancy Power
Paul & Abigail Pribbenow
Lois Quam
Curtis & Shirley Ramlet
Lois Rand
Laura & Mike Robinson
Keith Rodli & Katharine Grant
Brian D. & Barbara Ruhl
Coral Sampson
Earl S. & Barbara Flanagan Sanford Fund
of The Minneapolis Foundation
Stephen & Sharli Schaitberger
Ann Schrooten & Dawn Wiczorek
Gale Sharpe
Leon O. Shaw
Sue Shepard & Don Helgeson
David & Ann Smith
Carol Christine Southward
Charles Stanhope

Cherie Stofer
Bill & Sara Stout
John & Marcia Stout
Paul Rexford Thatcher Sr.
John H. Sandbo & D. Jean Thomson
Lynn & Carol Truesdell
Andy & Katrina Wallmeyer
Clifton & Bettye Ware
David & Ruth Waterbury
David Wendt
Dobson & Jane West
John Westrom
Gary & Karen Wilkerson
Angus & Margaret Wurtele
Wilson & Gayle Graham Yates
Zabin Charitable Fund at the Boston Foundation

** In remembrance*