

Exultate
CHAMBER SINGERS

MARK RAMSAY | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

HEART & SOUL

Friday, October 28, 2022 | 8:00 P.M.

Calvin Presbyterian Church
26 Delisle Avenue, Toronto

Special Guests:

Dan Bevan-Baker, music therapist

Manishya Jayasundera, apprentice conductor

Brendan Rogers, cello



Exultate Chamber Singers

WWW.EXULTATE.NET

*Music
Heals*

CHOIR

Mark Ramsay, Artistic Director
Mira Jung, piano

Sami Anguaya, tenor
Susan Bennett, alto
Dan Bevan-Baker, bass**
Rachel Bagues, soprano
Matthew Boutda, tenor
Julia Brotto, soprano*
Scott Brubacher, bass
Elaine Choi, alto
Susanne Coultes, soprano
Andrew Foster, tenor
Julia Frodyma, soprano
Mary Gillmeister, alto
Nathan Gritter, tenor

June Higgins, soprano
Elliot Hume, bass*
Jessalyn Hynds, alto
Lynn Janes, soprano
Bina John, alto
Mira Jung, alto
Jim King, bass
Kelly Lin, alto
Rachel MacEwan, soprano
Hannah Martin, alto
Lachlan Mason, bass
Sadie Menicanin, soprano

Anna-Maria Mersov, alto
Vivian Moens, soprano
Lindsay Naft, alto
Sean Nix, bass**
Josh Patlik, bass*
Katharine Petkovski, alto
Brian Prinzen, bass*
Jeff Reynolds, bass
Michael Rowland, tenor
Duncan Stuart, tenor
Mishaal Surti, tenor
Eric Yang, bass

- * On leave
- ** Substitute

Scan here
to read our
chorister bios



Founded in 1981, Exultate Chamber Singers is an adult mixed-voice chamber choir located in the heart of downtown Toronto. The ensemble is enriched not only by the strong musicianship of its members but also by their varied ages, cultural backgrounds, and academic and professional credentials. Together they form a passionate, committed ensemble with a wide-ranging repertoire.

The choir is a three-time winner of the Healey Willan Grand Prize in the CBC National Radio Competition and was most recently awarded first place in the chamber choir category of Choral Canada's 2019 National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs.

In addition to presenting its annual concert series, Exultate has made regular appearances around Ontario, toured in Canada, collaborated with dozens of artists, released five albums, and enjoyed airplay on CBC Radio. Exultate is currently producing its sixth album, showcasing new Canadian choral music commissioned by the choir in recent years.

PROGRAMME

“In times of quietness”

Silence

Music: Nancy Telfer 

Text: Toyoiko Kagawa

So Still

Music: Brian Tate 

Text: Emily Carr 

“For then, your soul is song”

Sing We and Chant It

Music: Thomas Morley

Your Soul is Song

Music: Jake Runestad

Text: Germán Aguilar

“Let light perpetual shine upon them”

Requiem

Music: Herbert Howells

I Salvator mundi

II Psalm 23

Soloists: Lynn Janes, Mira Jung, Andrew Foster

III Requiem aeternam (1)

IV Psalm 121

Soloists: Scott Brubacher, Nathan Gritter

V Requiem aeternam (2)

VI I heard a voice from heaven

Soloists: Matthew Boutda, Dan Bevan-Baker, June Higgins

“I was born to be a great friend”

For Loveliness

Music: Christopher Harris

Text: Sara Teasdale


I Was Born

Music: Dale Trumbore

Text: Genie Hossain

“Since I left you, mine eye is in my mind”

Sonnet 113: Since I Left You

Music: Laura Hawley 

Text: William Shakespeare

Love Partakes of the Soul Itself

Music: Shane Raman 

Text: Victor Hugo (from Les Misérables)

“Goodnight noises everywhere”

Goodnight Moon

Music: Eric Whitacre

Soloist: Julia Frodyma

Text: Margaret Wise Brown

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Greetings and a giant welcome to the kick-off of our 2022-2023 Concert Season! It has been so rewarding for the choir to be able to meet regularly in person this fall, and we are thrilled to share what we've been working on with you this evening.

Tonight, we present an entire program of music that explores the healing and comforting power of music—especially live choral music! We begin with two simple and stunning pieces by Canadians Nancy Telfer and Brian Tate that showcase the healing strength of our natural world. The following sets of music explore the personal fulfillment we receive from music and also our relationships with friends, family, and loved ones.

The cornerstone of tonight's program is Herbert Howells' moving Requiem. It's recognized as a standout in the traditional chamber choir canon and allows us to highlight several of our singers as soloists. Most importantly, the moving work reminds us of the healing power of music in times of grief and sorrow.

Twice on tonight's program you will have the opportunity to watch our second Apprentice Conductor, Manishya Jayasundera, in action. It's been a real pleasure for us to learn alongside her and we can confirm she has a very bright future ahead of her as a leader in our choral community. Congratulations, Manishya!

Our Apprentice Conductor Program is one of our many initiatives that benefit directly from your support and contributions to our annual Gift of Music Campaign. I always think it's exciting when you can see your donations making a real impact on our music-making and our community.

Thank you for all your continued support and we are very excited to see what we can all accomplish together in the coming years.

Now sit back and soak in this beautiful music!



Mark Ramsay, Artistic Director



mark@exultate.net

Mark Ramsay is Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Choral Activities at the Don Wright Faculty of Music at Western University. In addition to his teaching duties at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, he is the conductor of Western University Singers. He frequently appears as a guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician. Prior to his appointment at Western University, Dr. Ramsay was Adjunct Professor and conductor of the Tenor/Bass Choir at University of Toronto, Faculty of Music.



He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting from U of T where he was a student of Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt. His doctoral thesis focused on Canadian choral repertoire written specifically for tenor/bass voices. In addition, he holds a Master of Music from U of T and a Bachelor of Music Education from University of Prince Edward Island.

BIOS

*Dan
Bevan-Baker*

www.danbevan-baker.com



Dan Bevan-Baker was raised by the ocean in the beautiful Epekwitk (Prince Edward Island) and currently lives in Tkaronto (Toronto). He finds deep fulfillment working as a music therapist, psychotherapist, and professional vocalist. He currently sings as bass section lead with Timothy Eaton Memorial Church and Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, and Artemis Musicians' Society, a collective of musicians united by their experiences of sexual violence.

In his work as a therapist, Dan embraces an anti-oppressive, collaborative, and creative approach to care with the intention of clients nurturing more meaningful connections with self, others, and their surrounding world. He recently launched his psychotherapy and music therapy private practice, specializing in working with queer folks, anxiety, and trauma.

Manishya Jayasundera

Manishya Jayasundera is a fourth-year Classical Voice Music Education student at the University of Toronto. Her first experiences learning music at a young age, were through piano lessons. She completed her ARCT diploma from the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM).

Manishya fell in love with singing and choral music when she joined the Mississauga Children's Choir at age 12. She continued her studies in vocal music during high school through RCM and the Regional Arts Program at St. Roch C.S.S.

Since the start of her time at UofT, she has become very passionate about choral conducting. In her first year she was the recipient of the Lobodowsky Choral Scholarship. Now in her fourth-year, she is enjoying her experiences in conducting courses under the instruction of Kathleen Allan and Uri Mayer.



She is excited and grateful for this opportunity to work with the Exultate Chamber Singers!



Brendan Rogers

brendanrogers16@gmail.com

Not just bound to the realm of classical music—the ever eclectic cellist Brendan Rogers is an innovative performer and recording artist. A two time recipient of the Felix Galimir chamber award and beneficiary of the Laura Kinton Muir prize he is always eager to be on stage in any form.

Brendan also works as a session musician for touring artists at great venues including the Mod Club. In a similar vein, he regularly records for performing artists (such as 'Russ', and 'Eli Rose') and was recently featured on Rêve's latest Single 'Whitney'.

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

Silence

Music by Nancy Tellfer

Text by Toyohiko Kagawa

In times of quietness
Our hearts should like trees
Lifting their branches to the sky

The stars are silent
Flowers do not sing;
But stars fill all the night
With light more beautiful than sound.

God's blessings
Fall upon us wordlessly,
Eternal as the quiet passing of the sun

In times of quietness
Our hearts should like trees
Lifting their branches to the sky

So Still

Music by Brian Tate

Text by Emily Carr

So still were the big woods where I sat,
sound might not yet have been born.

Feel their protecting spread,
their uplifting rise,
their solid imovable strength.

See God in it all,
enter into the life of the the trees,
the silence full of sound.

Ev'ry thing is green
Ev'ry thing is waiting and still
Ev'ry thing is alive.

So still were the big woods where I sat,
sound might not yet have been born.

Sing we and chant it

Music by Thomas Morley

Sing we and chant it
While love doth grant it
Fa la la

Not long youth lasteth
And old age hasteth
Now is best leisure
To take our pleasure
Fa la la

All things invite us
Now to delight us
Fa la la
Hence, care, be packing!
No mirth be lacking!
Let spare no treasure
To live in pleasure
Fa la la

Your Soul is Song

Music by Jake Runestad

Text by Germán Aguilar

Sing!
When the seams burst,
and the traps ensnare,
and your body breaks,
and the light flees—
Sing then!
For then, your soul is song.

Requiem

Music by Herbert Howells

I. Salvator mundi

O Saviour of the world,
who by thy Cross and thy precious Blood hast redeemed us,
Save us, and help us,
we humbly beseech thee,
O Lord.

II. Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd : therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture : and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall covert my soul : and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil : thy rod and thy staff
comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me : thou hast anointed my head with oil,
and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of
the Lord for ever.

III. Requiem aeternam (1)

Requiem aeternam dona eis, domine
Et lux perpetua luceat eis

Grant them eternal rest, oh Lord
And may light perpetual shine upon them.

IV Psalm 121

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills : from whence cometh my help.
My help cometh even from the Lord : who hath made heav'n and earth.
He will not suffer thy foot to be moved : and he that keepeth thee will not sleep.
Behold, he that keepeth Israel : shall neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord himself is thy keeper : he is thy defence upon thy right hand;
So that the sun shall not burn thee by day : neither the moon by night.
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil : yea, it is even he that shall keep thy soul.
The Lord shall preserve thy going out, and thy coming in : from this time forth for evermore.

V. Requiem aeternam (2)

Requiem aeternam dona eis, domine
Et lux perpetua luceat eis

Grant them eternal rest, oh Lord
And may light perpetual shine upon them.

VI. I heard a voice from heaven

I heard a voice from heav'n, saying unto me,
Write, From hence-forth blessed are the dead which die in the Lord,
Even so saith the Spirit; For they rest from their labours.

For Loveliness

Music by Christopher H. Harris

Text by Sara Teasdale

Life has loveliness to sell,
All beautiful and splendid things,
Blue waves whitened on a cliff,
Soaring fire that sways and sings,
And children's faces looking up
Holding wonder in a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell,
Music like a curve of gold,
Scent of pine trees in the rain,
Eyes that love you, arms that hold,
And for your spirit's still delight,
Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness,
Buy it and never count the cost;
For one white singing hour of peace
Count many a year of strife well lost,
And for a breath of ecstasy
Give all you have been, or could be.

I Was Born

Music by Dale Trumbore

Text by Genie Hossain, from a Twitter prompt to start typing "I was born," and then use predictive text to write the rest.

I was born to be a great friend
And I love it
And I loved you so much
I love you so much
I hope you feel like all of my life
And you will

Sonnet 113: Since I left you

Music by Laura Hawley

Text by William Shakespeare

Since I left you, mine eye is in my mind;
And that which governs me to go about
Doth part his function and is partly blind,
Seems seeing, but effectually is out;

For it no form delivers to the heart
Of bird, of flower, or shape which it doth latch:
Of his quick objects hath the mind no part,
Nor his own vision holds what it doth catch;

For if it see the rud'st or gentlest sight,
The most sweet favour or deformed'st creature,
The mountain or the sea, the day or night,
The crow, or dove, it shapes them to your feature.

Incapable of more, replete with you
My most true mind thus maketh mine eye untrue.

Love Partakes of the Soul Itself

Music by Shane Raman

Text by Victor Hugo (from *Les Misérables*)

Love partakes of the soul itself. It is of the same nature.
Like it, it is a divine spark, like it, it is incorruptible, indivisible, imperishable, it is the point of fire which is within us, which is immortal and infinite, which nothing can limit and nothing can extinguish.

Goodnight Moon

Music by Eric Whitacre

Text by Margaret Wise Brown

In the great green room
There was a telephone
And a red balloon
And a picture of
The cow jumping over the moon
And there were three little bears sitting on chairs
And two little kittens
And a pair of mittens
And a little toy house
And a young mouse
And a comb and a brush and a bowl full of mush
And a quiet old lady who was whispering "hush"

Goodnight room
Goodnight moon
Goodnight cow jumping over the moon
Goodnight light

And the red balloon
Goodnight bears
Goodnight chairs
Goodnight kittens
And goodnight mittens
Goodnight clocks
And goodnight socks
Goodnight little house
And goodnight mouse
Goodnight comb
And goodnight brush
Goodnight nobody
Goodnight mush
And goodnight to the old lady whispering "hush"
Goodnight stars
Goodnight air
Good night noises everywhere.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the land we perform on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples, and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13, signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties, signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.

Exultate Chamber Singers is committed to deepening our understanding of Indigenous ways of knowing and being and the role we can play in our collective call for reconciliation. We invite you to pause to reflect on your relationship with these lands and your path towards reconciliation.

At First Light

Last spring we were in the Glenn Gould Studio recording works by Canadian composers, all commissioned by Exultate in recent years. Now we've moved into post-production.

Join our e-newsletter list for more information on the album, to be launched in March 2023!



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**The campaign is short, it's sweet, and
it makes everything possible!**

**This year, we want to share our music and vision outside of Toronto: touring is in the works,
and you can help make it happen!**

Your contributions will also support our important and ongoing work of:

- commissioning new choral works by Canadian Composers,
- giving unique opportunities to aspiring conductors with our Apprentice Conductor Program,
- collaborating with young artists and organizations,
- making our performances accessible in every way.

Your donations and encouragement are deeply appreciated.

*Please
give!*

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