

UBCCHOIRS

Dr. Graeme Langager, *Director of Choral Activities*

Choose Something Like a Star

University Singers
Graeme Langager, *conductor*

UBC Choral Union
Hyejung Jun, *conductor*

Dr. Terence Dawson, *piano*

Includes Beethoven's "Hallelujah" from
Christ on the Mount of Olives

7:30PM **FRI, APR 5, 2024**
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

UBCCHOIRS

GRAEME LANGAGER, DIRECTOR OF CHORAL ACTIVITIES

CHOOSE SOMETHING LIKE A STAR

Friday April 5, 2024 7:30 pm
Chan Centre for the Performing Arts

PROGRAM

Hallelujah from *Christ on the Mount of Olives* Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Sing We and Chant it Bob Chilcott (b.1955)
Evan MacNamara, *drum* and Lida Magnus, *bass*

Evocation Hye-young Cho (b.1969)

Leron, Leron Sinta (Traditional Filipino Folk Song) arr. Saunder Choi (b.1988)

From a distance arr. Eudenice Palaruan (b.1968)
Naomi Barasch, *soprano*

Hlonolofatsa (Traditional South African Song) arr. Lhente-Mari Pitout (b.1977)
Matthew Lew, Caydence Matheson, *percussion*

Choral Union
Hyejung Jun, *conductor*
Jeon Mok, *collaborative pianist*

INTERMISSION

Õhtu Ilu Pärt Uusberg
Meruert Bestybay, Anja Kelly, Emily Malmgren, Holly Ten Haaf,
Kelk Jeffery, Carlo Santos, Thomas Dalton, Jamie Yoon, *semi-chorus*

University Singers
Graeme Langager, *conductor*
Eshantha Peiris, *collaborative pianist*

Choose Something Like a Star Randall Thompson
Dr. Terence Dawson, *piano*

University Singers & Choral Union
Graeme Langager, *conductor*

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm (Musqueam) People.

TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

Hallelujah from Christ on the Mount of Olives

Hallelujah
unto God's Almighty Son.
Praise the Lord,
ye bright angelic choirs,
In holy songs of Joy.

Man, proclaim his grace and glory,
Hallelujah
unto God's Almighty Son.
Praise the Lord
In holy songs of joy.

Franz Xaver Huber (1755-1814)

Sing We and Chant it

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

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

All things invite us
Now to delight us.
Fa la la la la la la

Hence, care, be packing!
No mirth be lacking!
Let spare no treasure
To live in pleasure.
Fa la la la la la la

Thomas Morley (1557-1602)

Evocation (Mon-Nee-Joh)

Unable to forget, you will miss them.
Let it be, that will be a life all its own.
There will come a day when you forget.

Unable to forget, you will miss them.
So be it, just let the years pass on by.
You will one day forget some, if not all.

Yet, for all that, is it not also true,
With blood and bones yearning alike,
How can the thought ever leave you.

Sowol Kim (1902-1934)

Leron, Leron, Sinta (Traditional Filipino Folk Song)

Leron, Leron, my dear,
blossoms of the papaya tree,
with a bamboo basket,
he'd gather some fruits.
But when he reached the top (of the tree),
the branch broke.
Oh, what a trick of fate,
he had to search for another.

Wake up, *neneng*
let's pick some tamarind fruits.
Take the bamboo baskets,
to put the ripe ones in.
Upon reaching the top (of the tree),
the branches swayed heavily.
Hold on tight, *neneng*,
As you might fall.

The one I will love is a fearless man.
He has seven guns and nine knives.
The journey he will take is the distance of
a table.
A plate of noodles is his foe!

Filipino folk song from the Tagalog region

From a distance

From a distance, the world looks blue and green
And the snow-capped mountains white.
From a distance, the ocean meets the stream
and the eagle takes to flight.

From a distance there is harmony
and it echoes through the land.
It's the voice of hope
It's the voice of peace
It's the voice of every man.

From a distance, we all have enough
And no one is in need.
And there are no guns, no bombs, and no disease
No hungry mouths to feed.

From a distance, we have instruments
Marching in a common band
Playing songs of hope
Playing songs of peace
They're the songs of every man.

God is watching us
God is watching us
God is watching us
From a distance.

From a distance, you look like my friend
Even though we are at war.
From a distance, I just cannot comprehend
What all this fighting is for.

From a distance, there is harmony
And it echoes through the land
It's the hope of hopes
It's the love of loves
It's the voice of every man.

God is watching us
God is watching us
God is watching us
From a distance.

Hlonolofatsa (Traditional South African song)

Bless. Bless in the name of the Father.

South African Greeting Song

Julie Gold (b.1956)

Õhtu ilu (Beauty of the evening)

Õhtu ilu by Pärt Uusberg is a collection of Estonian folklore stories—both sacred and secular—loosely set to depict an evening narrative conveying a “dark night of the soul.”

Uusberg wrote to UBC University Singers to describe his work: “In Estonia we have two very interesting and at least for me very inspiring traditions – one is our *regilaul*, which is secular tradition (one of the most famous composers dealing with it has been Veljo Tormis, but actually in Estonia almost every composer in the past have dealt with it in some way – so in a way *regilaul* is the most important and unique musical tradition, that we have and it’s already thousands of years old). The other tradition is sacred folksong tradition, which is not so old, but it also shows the way to our roots so to say.”

He continues: “it’s a bit like a journey of a soul. It reaches to the gate of death so to say and from there to “after death world”... and there is even a moment, where the soul is already in “after death area”, but hears his/her mother singing him/her a lullaby... anyway, the piece ends with morning prayer, which tells about thanks, that the night is over and that the God have protected me in this night.”

SCENE I - Teeme õhtulla iluda, päivä mennessa menuda

(Let’s make the evening beautiful, the day nice)

The character gives thanks for the day:

*The spruces of Hiiumaa are humming,
The alders of Laiuse are echoing,
the aspens of Harju are greening.
From our maids’ beauty, from new voices’ chiming.*

And recognizes the day is coming to an end:

*The night is imminent and chasing away the light,
Oh Jesus, bring clearness on our soul!
Now this day has ended and the night has arrived,
all is asleep that is tired,
and the hard work has ended.*

SCENE II - Juba tuleb onnis ohtukane

(Evening is coming in the hut already)

Nighttime falls upon them:

*Evening is coming in the hut already,
nightfall is rolling
I’m going weeping towards the corner,
miserably towards my bed.*

*The old woman is going to bed with the
old man,
the sister is going with her man,
the brother is going with the young wife.
I’m going weeping towards the corner.
Who dares to live today,
tomorrow may be unwell
and fall into death.
If flowers vanish,
so people die.*

*If I die, build me a stone coffin,
cut me a cross from money,
take me to the Viru church,
bear me to the Harju chamber,
where the cantors preach
and the old men sing often.*

SCENE III – Päev lõpeb nüüd, jää armas Jeesus

(The day will end now, stay dear Jesus)

Sleep descends; a lullaby is sung:

*Step inside, Sleep, through the door,
step inside through the window,
old and tired, poor thing,
fall onto our baby's brow,
descend onto our baby's eyelids.*

*Lullaby and hush-a-by,
lullaby little baby goat,
Lullaby lovely baby sheep*

SCENE IV – Viere, viere päeväkene

(Roll, roll, my day)

The character wrestles in sleep:

*See, Jesus, I'm coming,
so the day could end
and the night could come*

*I am coming to You now
my soulmate, turning to you:
enlighten me from your blessing*

SCENE V – Juba päeva peidetanne

(Already hiding the day, stealing the moonlight)

A prayer for the day to come:

*Let the blissful morning come,
let the day rise on the forest.
I am singing, the blank is bowing,
behind the room the oak is bowing.
Near the well the birch is bowing,
across the yard the roost is bowing.
Beauty belongs to Hiiumaa,
glow belongs to Kuramaa.
Joy belongs to our land.
Let the blissful morning come,
let the day rise on the forest.*

SCENE VI – Ma tänan Sind

(I thank You)

A prayer of gratitude, that the dark night of the soul has passed, and the day has arrived:

I thank You.

*When the darkness and anguish covered
my soul at night,
when I was worried by fault of sin, You sent
me help.*

I thank You.

*I ask You, from my heart, to forgive me
my great faults which I do and have done
to You.*

I thank You.

Pärt Uusberg

Choose Something Like a Star

O Star (the fairest one in sight),
We grant your loftiness the right
To some obscurity of cloud—
It will not do to say of night,
Since dark is what brings out your light.
Some mystery becomes the proud.
But to the wholly taciturn
In your reserve is not allowed.
Say something to us we can learn
By heart and when alone repeat.
Say something! And it says, 'I burn.'
But say with what degree of heat.
Talk Fahrenheit, talk Centigrade.
Use language we can comprehend.
Tell us what elements you blend.
It gives us strangely little aid,
But does tell something in the end.
And steadfast as Keats' Eremite,
Not even stooping from its sphere,
It asks a little of us here.
It asks of us a certain height,
So when at times the mob is swayed
To carry praise or blame too far,
We may choose something like a star
To stay our minds on and be staid.

Robert Frost (1874-1963)

CHORAL UNION

Dr. Hyejung Jun, conductor

Jeon Mok, collaborative pianist

SOPRANO

Naomi Barasch
Virginia Briggs
Emily Brinco
Joy Cai
Lauren Coulson
Isabella Cui
Isabelle Denton
Julia Dion
Anais Dunbar
Erin Geerloff
Indira Graham
Emily Ho
Aster Huang
Ella Jeon
Victoria Kazantseva
Wellesley Kerr
Maryam Khamis
Zoe Lainchbury
Vanesse Li
Nastya Lutsenko
Lida Magnus
Elena Massing
Kathleen O'Connor
Keira Papageorge
Talia Papageorge
Arina Rahimi
Natalie Roche
Meera Thomas
Dawn Tomashewski
Kaitlyn Tse
Emma Verret

Caroline Voltchok
Jane Wan
Ashley Wang
Nina Wang
Sarah Wong
Jean Zhang
Julie Zhu

ALTO

Ryleigh Barrow
Isabella Byrne
Megan Chan
Hazel Chen
Linda Dao
Anna Davidson
Lauren de Vries
Chutong Dou
Zoe Espanol
Fiona Fang
Kayla Foudy
Emily Fung
Kira Hu
Chloe Huang
Moe Kisaka
Melanie Ko
Essence Lee
Samantha Lee
Abby Leung
Ivy Lin
Emily Liu
Yuhan Liu
Azeen Maleki

Caydence Matheson
Mina Mckenzie
Molly Morrison
Paniz Moslehi
Krtvi Nambiar
Margaret Peters
Crystal Qiao
Jacqueline So
Myra Sobelman
Sophia Shi
Saba Taghiakbari
Karissa Tang
Grace Wang
Jessica Wang
Joanna Wang
Olivia Wankling
Shelly Xie
Zoe Zhang
Jessie Zhao

TENOR

Matthew Boubille
Benny Byers
Myles Hemy-Bain
Jai Kumar
Noel Lee
Antheia Leong
Matthew Lew
Jason Li
Evan MacNamara
Francis Reyes
Millen Sandhu

Eamon Sawada-Tse
Joel Schelp
Philip Shen
Matthew Wong
Serena Wu
Zeyu Xie

BASS

Kevin Calindas
Michael Chen
Logan Choi
Charlie Dutton
Gabriel Henderson
Cameron Holland
Jian Horrian
Hanwen Huang
Jerry Jin
Donny Lee
Harry Li
Sasha Luchkov
Robert McDonald
Thomas McIlwraith
Michael Robert
Dayton Se
James Sun
Christian Sutton
Tyronn Uy
Naveen Yang
Shengyu Yu

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Dr. Graeme Langager, conductor

Eshantha Peiris, collaborative pianist

*Denotes Graduate Teaching Assistants

SOPRANO

*Joanne Acasio
Meruert Bestybay
Denise Chung
Olivia Howe
Anja Kelly
Emily Malmgren
Skylar Sabasch
Julia Yoo

ALTO

*Sharon Chu
Sofia Culjak-Wade
Baiya Griffiths
Cooper Hatch
Sarah Stephenson
Holly Ten Haaf
Kaylee Thereau

TENOR

Brian Archdekin
Kelk Jeffery
Joseph Jeon
Carlo Santos
*Man Li
Aaron Yurkowski

BASS

Thomas Dalton
*Will de Sousa
Thomas Farrell
Hans Grunwald
Neil Hong
Noah James
*Hanwen Liang
Ezekiel Wang
Jamie Yoon

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN 1

Yuika Ravindran
Nadya Nuyen
Oliver Hedzelek
Kaylee Yoong

VIOLIN 2

Vickie Wang
Samuel Herzog
Christie Watts

VIOLA

Jayden Rodgers

CELLO

Carl Lemer
Bella Chan

Bradley Mah-Young
Dylan Feng

BASS

Elias Veloso

SOUND DESIGN

Will Howie

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