

2023-24 Concert Season

Singers Companye

Samuel Gordon, Artistic Director

The Sun Never Says "You Owe Me"

Jesse Lange, Assistant Conductor

Amy Sauriol, Collaborative Keyboard

Julie Lehman, Organist

VoxMix Chamber Ensemble



Saturday, November 18 7:15 PM
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Massillon

The Gift to Sing

Reginal Wright

James Weldon Johnson, poet (1871-1938)

*Sometimes the mist over hangs my path, and blackening clouds about me cling.
But, Oh, I have a magic way, to turn the gloom to cheerful day, I softly sing. And if
the way grows darker still, shadowed by sorrow's somber wing, with glad defiance
in my throat, to pierce the darkness with a note, I sing! I brood not over the broken
past nor dread whater' time may bring; No nights are dark, no days are long, while
in my heart there swells a song, and I sing!*

Flight Song

Kim André Arnesen, composer Euan Tate, poet

A tribute to choral conductors

*All we are, we have found in song: you have drawn this song from us. Songs of lives
unfolding fly overhead, cry overhead: longing, rising from the song within. Moving
like the rise and fall of wings, hands that shape our calling voice on the edge of
answers you've heard our cry, you've known our cry: music's fierce compassion
flows from you. The night is restless with the sounds we hear, is broken, shaken by
the cries of pain: for this is music's inner voice, saying, yes, we hear you, all you who
cry aloud, we will fly, answering you, so our lives sing, wild we will fly, wild in spirit.
Like a feather falling from the wing, fragile as a human voice, afraid, uncertain, alive
to love, we sing as love, afraid, uncertain, yet our flight begins as song.*

Sweet Rivers

Shawn Kirchner

*Sweet rivers of redeeming love lie just before mine eyes: had I the pinions of a dove,
I'd to those rivers fly. I'd rise superior to my pain, with joy outstrip the wind: I'd
cross o'er Jordan's stormy waves and leave the world behind. A few more days, or
year at most, my troubles will be o'er: I hope to join the heav'nly host on Canaan's
happy shore. My rapt'rous soul shall drink and feast in love's unbounded sea, the
glorious hope of endless rest is ravishing to me.*

Even When He Is Silent

Kim André Arnesen Text from the wall of a concentration camp.

*I believe in the sun even when it's not shining. I believe in love even when I feel it
not. I believe in God even when He is silent.*

Still, Still With Thee

Fred Gramann

Harriet Beecher Stowe (1812-1896)

Still, with thee, when purple morning breaketh, when the bird waketh and the shadows flee; Fairer than morning, lovelier than daylight, dawns the sweet consciousness, I am with thee. Alone with thee, amid the mystic shadow. The solemn hush of nature newly born; alone with thee in breathless adoration, in the calm dew and freshness of the morn. Still with thee, as to each newborn morning a fresh and solemn splendor still is given, this blessed consciousness awaking. Breathe each day nearness unto thee and heaven. So shall it be at last in that bright morning. When the soul waketh and life's shadows flee; O in that hour, fairer than daylight dawning, shall rise the glorious thought. I am with thee.

Solitude for Horn

Jackson Berkey

Lux: The Dawn From On High

Dan Forrest

Timothy Eck, tenor Jenna Stolark, soprano

Illuminare

*By the mercy of our God the dawn from on high will break upon us,
To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the
shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace,
Light from on high, come illumine us. Luke 1:78-79
You appeared as Light from light, O Christ, to whom the Magi offered gifts, Alleluia.
Antiphon for Epiphany, 14th c.*

Lux in Tenebris

*A light will shine on us today, for the Lord is born unto us. 10th c.
The light shines in darkness; and the darkness has not overcome it.*

The Sun Never Says

Even after all this time, the sun never says to the earth, "You owe me." Look what happens with a love like that. It lights the whole sky.

Gloria in excelsis

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace. Luke 2:14

Creator of the Stars of Night

*Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting Light,
O Christ, Thou Savior of us all, now hear Thy servants when they call.
O Blest Creator of the light, who made the day with radiance bright, and o'er the
newborn world did call the light from darkness first of all.
To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One, laud, honor,
might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.*

Collaborative Artists

Ian Wenz, flute Alexandra Piepenbrink, oboe Daniel Fackler, horn
Maude Cloutier, violin Brendon Phelps, cello Jeff Sonoda, keyboard

Soprano

Merissa Coleman
Ashley Hafler
Olivia Beal Newcomb
Mikhaila Noble-Pace
Kathryn Sees
Brittany Smith
Valerie Niese Stewart
Laura Williams

Alto

Rebecca Brown
Jennifer Calhoun
Amanda Rose Fargo
Sarah Hutchins
Michelle Kroupa
Marissa Leonino Lange
Patricia Moyer
Kellie Ramirez
Jenna Stolarik

Tenor

Jason Borden
Jon Bozeka
Timothy Eck
Brian Klinect
Jesse Lange
Stephen Lord
Brian Medellin
Daniel Schneck

Bass

David Aberth
Ronnie Boscarello
Matthew Britton
Witt Cooper
Patrick Fields
Lennie Green
Spencer Kieft
Zack Richards

Singers Companye and VocMix Ensembler are member ensembles of Crooked River Musical Arts. Singers Companye is supported by Akron Community Foundation. Please visit our website at singerscompanye.org.