



EMERGE

A SEASON OF PREMIERES 2021-2022

Welcome to the
final concert of our
2021-22 Season

PHOENIX

CHAMBER CHOIR

We acknowledge that we live, work, and make music on on the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territories of the Coast Salish People. Specifically, the music for this concert was recorded on the land of the selilwitulh (Tsleil-waututh), S'ólh Téméxw (Stó:lō), Stz'uminus, x^wməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), and **Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group** Nations.

We ask you to acknowledge the land that you are on, and to recognize that acknowledgement is merely the beginning; we must all commit to active efforts towards reconciliation.



evolve

EVOLVE

MAY 2022

PHOENIX
CHAMBER CHOIR

Voyage Prayer by Kira Zeeman Rugan (living)

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus [Christ].
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

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

Movement 1

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 as he's dreaming the heavens call him

"Leonardo. Leonardo, vieni á volare". (*"Leonardo. Leonardo, come fly".*)

L'uomo colle sua congiegniate e grandi ale

Facciendo forza contro alla resistente aria

(A man with wings large enough and duly connected

Might learn to overcome the resistance of the air.)

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

Movement II

Leonardo Dreams of his Flying Machine...

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 á 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

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

Movement III

Master Leonardo Da Vinci Dreams of his Flying Machine...

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...

Voyager by Eric William Barnum (b. 1979)

The stars are with the voyager
Wherever he may sail;
The moon is constant to her time;
The sun will never fail;
But follow, follow round the world,
The green earth and the sea,
So love is with the lover's heart,
Wherever he may be.
Wherever he may be, the stars
Must daily lose their light;
The moon will veil her in the shade;
The sun will set at night.
The sun may sad, but constant love
Will shine when he's away;
So that dull night is never night,
And day is brighter day.

Thomas Hood (1799 to 1845)

The Blue Bird by Charles V. Stanford (1852-1924)

The lake lay blue below the hill,
O'er it, as I looked, there flew
Across the waters, cold and still,
A bird whose wings were palest blue.

The sky above was blue at last,
The sky beneath me blue in blue,
A moment, ere the bird had passed,
It caught his image as he flew.

Mary E. Coleridge (1861-1907)

Silence & Music by R. Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)

Silence, come first, silence.

I see a sleeping Swan,

Wings closed and drifting where the water leads,

A winter moon,

A grove where shadows dream,

A hand outstretched to gather hollow reads.

The four winds weep and cry,

The sea names all the treasures of her tides

The birds rejoice between the earth and the sky.

Voices of grief and from the heart of joy;

So near to comprehension do we stand

That wind and see it and all of winged delight

Lie in the octaves of man's voice and hand

And music weaves from silence, where it's slept.

Ursula Wood (1911-2007)

Summer is Gone by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1874-1912)

Summer is gone with all its roses,
Its sun and perfumes and sweet flowers,
Its warm air and refreshing showers:
And even Autumn closes.

Yea, Autumn's chilly self is going,
And winter comes which is yet colder;
Each day the hoar-frost waxes bolder
And the last buds cease blowing.
Christina Rossetti (1830-1984)

To Tsampasin by Timothy Cunningham (b. 2000) *World Premiere

The text for “To Tsampasin” is taken from a Pontic Greek folk song detailing a fire that took place in 1913 destroying a village, Tsampasin. It is said that nothing was left, only ashes. At this point in history, Tsampasin was mostly full of summer cottages for people from the nearby town Ordu, which became unbearable during the summer months. In this way, we can think of Tsampasin as a refuge for these people.

A little over a hundred years later, not much has changed. Fires rage across the world, burning millions of acres of land in Australia and the Amazon Rain Forest. Millions of people have been displaced from their homes because of the climate crisis. This is where the importance of “To Tsampasin” arises. We cannot forget the damage that has been done, the damage that is being done, and the damage that will be done if we do not take action.

Overall, there is a strong preference for aleatory, which makes the piece more personal for both the performer and the audience. There are two overarching parts to this piece: the first being the fire itself and the second being the ramifications of the fire. The fire section begins slowly, as if a single flame is starting to ignite. Whispered interjections disrupt the foreboding melodic line. Eerie, dissonant harmonies foreshadow the impending destruction as the tempo accelerates to a light and disoriented tarantella. The fire climaxes with explosive chords.

A gentle wash of sound marks the aftermath of the fire. Each section describes a crying entity; birds, water, mountains, trees all mourn the village. Suddenly, the choir joins together in homophony to sing of the pain they feel. The dense harmonies, moving lines, and surprising progression all point to a sense of apprehension among the ensemble. When no words are left to be said, their grief is expressed through neutral syllables. The piece is then stripped down back to a melody accompanied by drone, similar to the beginning. And nothing is left, only ashes.

To Tsampasin con't...

Tsampasin was burned down too

God's birds are crying

The community wells are crying

Tsiempluk and Karakiol are crying

The beautiful spruces are crying

Oh what woe

Tsampasin was burned down to and nothing remains, only ashes

Through the Storm by Katerina Gimon (b. 1993) *World Premiere

Through the Storm is a song about resilience and a reminder of how in times of change or difficulty we will always find strength in our roots, our communities. This work was inspired by an interesting piece of information that I came across about trees and how the stress of storms causes their roots to grow stronger in response. I thought this was a beautiful metaphor for the inevitable obstacles and challenges we all face in life – weathering the storm and coming out stronger as a result.

Musically, *Through the Storm* is mysterious, striking, and energetic, taking listeners on a journey through a raging storm itself. You will hear the turbulent character of the work come across in rhythmic interjections woven throughout — in its melodies, body percussion, shouts, and layered rhythmic speech. Alongside this, fragments of folk-inspired melodic material repeat, morph, and intertwine, depicting the strength and constancy of a forest. Together, these musical ideas build up to a rousing groove and ever-changing patchwork of colours and sounds.

Through the Storm con't...

With a cry, of the sky it roars
Echo on into endless night
Still our roots they hold
Let the storm scatter on and away!

My roots run deep the storm draws near
With restless air but I don't fear.

My roots are deep
My roots are strong,
Let the storm scatter on.
My roots run deep in the soil beneath.

Oh through the storm
Carry on through the storm grow.
The storm is here
A raging sky but I don't fear
My roots are deep

My roots are strong
My roots hold on
And with each passing storm
My roots grown deeper

Let the storm pass on

With a Cry! Echo on
With a shout! Scatter on

With a cry, with a shout, oh the sky it roars
Echo on into endless night
Still our roots they hold.

Let the storm scatter on and away!

Katerina Gimon (b. 1993)

Nou La by Sydney Guillaume (b. 1982) *World Premiere

Before I began working on “Nou La”, Nicholle Andrews, Frédéricka Petit-Homme and I met over video conference to have an honest conversation about marginalized communities and how the Phoenix Chamber Choir could use their platform to make a difference and stand with those whose voices have yet to be heard. We specifically spoke at length about Haiti and Haitian immigrants abroad.

"Haiti - first black-led republic.

Haiti - economically punished for overthrowing their oppressors.

Haiti - survivor of dictatorships and natural disasters.

Nou la. We really are 'here'. We are here and will continue to stand, to sing, and to praise." - *Frédéricka Petit-Homme*

Written in 3 languages, the text of “Nou La” was a collaborative effort with Frédéricka, myself and Lloyd Reshard Jr. After many meaningful conversations, the heart of the text was realized. Lloyd expressed his sentiments, stating:

“The English portion of “Nou La” stems from the social, cultural, racial and political unrest that has been stirred during the global Covid-19 pandemic. It was important for me to capture the questioning, the frustration, and the desire welling inside myself and others who feel marginalized.”

Our hope is that “Nou La” compels the listener to confront and wrestle with their own political, cultural, historical, and social stances; particularly when we do not agree or understand one another. We also hope that this work encourages listeners to passionately confront inhumanity as they cultivate empathy and compassion.

Nou La by Sydney Guillaume (b. 1982) *World Premiere

Soloist Frédérica Petit-Homme

Koute nou! Tande, tande! (*Listen up! Hear our voices!*)

Nou la! Wi, nou la! (*We're here! Yes, we are here!*)

N'ap chante! (*We are singing!*)

Nou tout kanpe! (*We are taking a stand!*)

Nou kanpe avèk yo! (*We stand with them!*)

Di mwen, kisa'm ye pou ou? Tell me, what am I to you?

If I cross your borders, am I a thief or a profit?

If I do your labor, am I skilled or a nuisance?

If I assimilate your ways, am I an imposter or a brother?

If I serve my time, am I redeemed or rebuked?

Nou La cont'd...

Nou témoignons du fantôme de l'esclavage dans sa forme contemporaine.
We witness the ghost of slavery in its contemporary form.

Di mwen poukisa! Tell me why!

Why is it only culture if you observe it?

Why is it only history if you write it?

Why is it only important if you say it?

Why is it only relevant if you are interested?

Why is it only inclusive if you make a profit?

It has to stop! Enough! Enough!

Hear the frustration in our voices.

Feel the heart in our words.

How can you be complacent at the sound of our plight?

Nou La cont'd...

March and let the weight of our heels crush inhumanity.

Stomp and let the sound ignite our souls to make a difference.

Let us sing and let our voices bring compassion to the oppressed.

Listen. Understand. Have compassion. Koute, Tande. Tran konsyans.

How can you be complacent at the sound of our plight?

Lloyd Reshard Jr., Frédéricka Petit-Homme and Sydney Guillaume

Morir non Puo by Maddalena Casulana (c.1544-c.1590)

My heart cannot die: I would like to kill it,
since that would please you,
but it cannot be pulled out of your breast,
where it has been dwelling for a long time;
and if I killed it, as I wish,
I know that you would die, and I would die too

Nixe Binsefuss by Pauline Viardot (1821-1910)

Soloist: Heather Horwood

Piano: Dave Rosborough

The water spirit's little daughter
Dances on the ice in the full moon,
Singing and laughing without fear
Past the fisherman's house.

'I am the maiden Reedfoot,
And I must look after my fish;
My fish are in this casket,
Having a cold Lent;
My casket's made of Bohemian glass,
And I count them whenever I can.

Not so, Matt? Not so, foolish old fisherman,
You cannot understand it's winter?
If you come near me with your nets,

I'll tear them all to shreds!
But your little girl is good and devout,
And her sweetheart's an honest huntsman.

That's why I'll hang a wedding bouquet,
A wreath of rushes outside her house,
And a pike of solid silver,
From King Arthur's time,
The masterwork of a dwarf goldsmith,
Which brings its owner the best of luck:
Each year it sheds its scales,
Worth five hundred groschen in cash.

Farewell, child! Farewell for today!
The cock in the villages cries morning.'

To Sit and Dream by Rosephanye Powell (b.1962)

To sit and dream.

To sit and read,

To sit and learn about the world.

Outside our world of here and now.

Outside our world, our problem world.

To sit and dream of vast horizons of the soul,

Of dreams made whole

Unfettered, free.

Help me. All of you who are dreamers too.

Help me make our world anew.

I reach out my hand to you.

To sit and dream.

To sit and read,

To sit and learn about the world.

Words from "To You" by Langston Hughes (1901-1967)

Music by Rosephanye Powell

Words Copyright © 1994 by THE ESTATE OF LANGSTON HUGHES

Music Copyright © 2010 by HAL LEONARD CORPORATION

International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved

Turlette Acadienne by Marie-Claire Saindon (b. 1984)

"This is a piece based on a French-Canadian reel á bouche or mouth reel where the singers imitate the sound of instrument with nonsensical text."



Our Artistic Team

Nicholle Andrews
Artistic Director



Dave Rosborough
Assistant Conductor



Our Audio Production Team

Brad Andrews
Sound Engineer



Nicholle Andrews
Producer



Our Video Production Team

Vaughn Chauvin



Carolyn Shiau



Our Administrative Staff

Ashley Bontje
Administrator



Sena Hughes Lauer
Communications



Frank Zieginson
Production Manager





Phoenix Singers!

Barbra Allen Bradshaw, Brad Bonnell, Catherine Campolin, Vaughn Chauvin, Marc Cheneval, Leanne Dalton, Oliver Dalton, Danielle Hamilton, Heather Horwood, Melissa Howell, Jen Knight, Andrea Krotz, Cara Lau, Brandon Lim, Alexis Lytle, Bea Miller, Zulfikar Nathoo, Erica Northcott, Richard Paragas, Ben Scoten, Carolyn Shiau, Taka Shimojima, Shannon Thue, Clinton Tsang, Justin Yap, Emily Zuidema

Vox Panacea

Pippa Andrew
Vox Panacea Director



In the summer of 2020, Phoenix started a new outreach project: an online choir for treble-voiced physicians! Over 50 doctors have been meeting weekly on Zoom with director Pippa Andrew to work on a variety of music and musicianship exercises.

The program is now in its tenth session, and has become a permanent part of the Phoenix outreach and community engagement programming! For more information about this choir, please email [**drchoir@phoenixchoir.com**](mailto:drchoir@phoenixchoir.com)

Special Thanks:

- ❖ Our Board of Directors: Vaughn Chauvin, David Cousins, Brian Day, Heather Horwood, Neil Ma, Tom Metzger, Rod Pearce, Carolyn Shiau
- ❖ Composers Timothy Cunningham, Katerina Gimon, and Sydney Guillaume
- ❖ David Cousins & Rod Pearce for sponsoring artist travel and accommodations
- ❖ Kari Turunen, guest clinician
- ❖ Our incredible Donors!
- ❖ University of Redlands, California
- ❖ The Canada Council for the Arts
- ❖ The Government of British Columbia
- ❖ SPARC BC
- ❖ The McGrane - Pearson Endowment Fund, held at Vancouver Foundation
- ❖ Larry Nickel, Cypress Publishing
- ❖ Pacific Spirit United Church

Donor List:

Thank you to our generous friends who donated to our online auction:

- ❖ Dr. Nicholle Andrews
- ❖ Arts Club Theatre Company
- ❖ BeeSpoke Textiles
- ❖ Barb Bradshaw
- ❖ Catherine Campolin
- ❖ Vaughn Chauvin
- ❖ Joanne Chong
- ❖ Elektra Women's Choir
- ❖ Foreman Automotive Services Ltd.
- ❖ Heritage Bricks
- ❖ Kidsbooks
- ❖ Kroma Artists Acrylics
- ❖ Cara Lau
- ❖ Museum of Anthropology
- ❖ Mustang Survival
- ❖ Zulfikar Nathoo
- ❖ Erica Northcott
- ❖ Ruby Gomez Peabody
- ❖ Pigott Properties Group
- ❖ Ben Scoten
- ❖ Sleeping Bee Quilts
- ❖ Vancouver Chamber Choir
- ❖ Dr. Jennifer Vassel
- ❖ Victor Steakhouse (PARQ Vancouver)
- ❖ Virtuous Pie
- ❖ West 4th Massage Therapy

Give the Gift of Music

Phoenix has been able to give the gift of music to the Metro Vancouver community for nearly 40 years now, because of the generosity of everyday individuals like you. Each dollar given will allow us to continue to share with you for decades more.

[Phoenixchoir.com/donate](https://phoenixchoir.com/donate)

Become a Phoenix Founder

We want to invite you to continue to make experiences like these possible again in years to come, by partnering with Phoenix in giving, specifically, as a ***Phoenix Founder.***

Phoenix Founders are everyday folks who believe in the joy of music so strongly that they choose to give to Phoenix each month. A gift of \$10 per month or \$100 per month: the impact of a consistent gift is immeasurable. Plus, there are perks (think: new recordings, concert tickets!) in it for you.

[Phoenixchoir.com/donate](https://phoenixchoir.com/donate)

Sing with Phoenix!

Auditions for Phoenix Chamber Choir open May 15

For more information, please visit phoenixchoir.com or email admin@phoenixchoir.com

Information about auditions

will be posted to our website and facebook page on May 15.

Phoenix Goes to School

We are thrilled to announce our new educational outreach program, “Phoenix Goes To School,” which will provide a class-length digital Phoenix concert program FREE to schools in Canada. This concert includes choral performances from our 2021-2022 season and interviews with singers, directors and composers.

Thank you to GROSSMAN & STANLEY Business Lawyers for sponsoring the creation and distribution of this program.



Want to watch this performance again?

Tickets are available for our online concert, streaming May 14 - 21, 2022.

phoenixchoir.com/concerts



PHOENIX
CHAMBER CHOIR

FORTY

years of

PHOENIX CHAMBER CHOIR

2022—2023
RUBY ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Join us for our 2022-2023 40th Anniversary Season!



Christmas Concerts: December 10 & 11, 2022

Family Christmas Concert: December 10, 2022

Valentine's Benefit Event: February 11, 2023

40th Anniversary Concert: May 6, 2023

Visit **phoenixchoir.com** this summer
for more information

♪ We get by with a
little help from our
friends...

Check out this
upcoming
concert by our
amazing
friends at
Elektra
Women's
Choir!

A promotional poster for the 'Lake of Stars' concert. The background is a night sky with a starry galaxy over a calm lake reflecting the lights. The title 'Lake of Stars' is written in large, white, serif font at the top. Below it is the Elektra Women's Choir logo, a circular emblem with a sunburst pattern, and the text 'ELEKTRA WOMEN'S CHOIR' in a bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the logo is the tagline 'creating • exploring • celebrating'. To the right of the logo, the featured artists are listed: 'featuring the Sitka String Quartet with Candice Halls-Howcroft' and 'Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director'. The concert dates and times are '7:30 pm Saturday, May 14, 2022' and '3:00 pm Sunday, May 15, 2022'. The venue is 'Pacific Spirit United Church, 2205 W. 45th Ave., Vancouver, BC'. At the bottom, the text 'For more info & to purchase tickets: elektra.ca/concerts-events' is displayed in white.


Lake of Stars



ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR
creating • exploring • celebrating

featuring the **Sitka String Quartet**
with **Candice Halls-Howcroft**
Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director
7:30 pm Saturday, May 14, 2022
3:00 pm Sunday, May 15, 2022
Pacific Spirit United Church,
2205 W. 45th Ave., Vancouver, BC

For more info & to purchase tickets: elektra.ca/concerts-events

 We get by with a little help from
our friends...

Check out this upcoming
concert by our amazing
friends at
Laudate Singers,
Paragon Singers, &
Vancouver Philharmonic
Orchestra!

LAUDATE SINGERS, PARAGON SINGERS &
VANCOUVER PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
WITH LARS KAARIO, DIRECTOR



Two thrilling classics

ORFF'S CARMINA BURANA & MOZART'S REQUIEM

Friday, May 13 & Saturday, May 14 - 8 pm
BlueShore Theatre, Capilano University
2055 PURCELL WAY, NORTH VANCOUVER

Mozart soloists

VERONICA ROENITZ, JANET ZATHURECZKY, JESSICA DE GAUST,
SERGIO AUGUSTO, BARRY HONDA, ANDREW WILSON

Carmina Burana soloists

RACHEL BUTTRESS, KILIAN BENSON, CAMERON KILLICK

IN-PERSON: ADULT \$35, SENIOR \$30, UNDER 35 \$10 • LIVESTREAM: \$20
LAUDATESINGERS.COM • INFO@LAUDATESINGERS.COM • 604-729-6814

All programming and COVID-19 protocols subject to change.



Let's keep in touch!

Visit our website and follow us on social media to keep up to date with information about our upcoming events and concerts!

www.phoenixchoir.com



/PhoenixChamberChoir



@PhoenixChamberChoir



@PhoenixChoir



/PhoenixChamberChoir