
THE ST. OLAF CHAMBER SINGERS

THEREES TKACH HIBBARD, *CONDUCTOR*
JAMES BOBB, *HARPSICHORD*

BELOVED

SING FOR JOY,
SING FOR PEACE,
SING FOR LOVE

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021 | 7:00 P.M.

BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Singing has been a courageous act throughout these pandemic times on our campus and beyond. This was singularly amplified for the Chamber Singers through their participation in an Art and Music collaboration with the Flaten Art Museum earlier this term – and it was their commitment to this project the first half of this term that prevented us from participating in the May Choral Showcase with our other choral colleagues.

This project was a unique collaboration of art and sound, that will be presented in the Flaten Museum in the Fall of 2021 as an exhibition of extremely rare and newly-conserved World War II propaganda posters and broadsides from its collection. Paris-based artist Benny Nemorofsky Ramsay will contribute a critical audio guide, *The Making Known*, recounting the history of the posters, posing questions raised by their production, circulation, preservation, and exhibition. In March 2021, Nemorofsky Ramsay remotely collaborated with and recorded the St. Olaf Chamber Singers as they co-created a supporting soundscape and vocalized the broadside's menacing messages in French, German, Dutch, and English.

The preparation and recording of these historic texts inciting hate and anger, desperation and death, exclusion and execution had a profound effect on how we performed them and perceived their intent, how frighteningly relevant they continue to be in our world; and how they led to many discussions of their emotional impact on all of us and each of us as we worked through this process with our guest artist, Benny.

To temper *THE MAKING KNOWN* project's dark and hurtful words of rejection and destruction of souls, we sought balance in rehearsing other texts in German, French and English songs that brought us, as my colleague Anton Armstrong would describe as “a healing balm”; - songs of light and love, of hope and joy – of peace and faith to counterbalance *THE MAKING KNOWN*'s painful and destructive messages.

The result is this small concert offering of these songs of joy and peace and love that helped sustain us through this most unusual collaborative project, as well as helping us to endure an unprecedented term of singing together masked and far distanced from one another – by turning our hearts and minds away from the shadows of past atrocities to the light of a better world to come. In choosing songs from both ancient and modern composers, such as Bach's tender chorale texts from his beautiful motet *JESU MEINE FREUDE* [Jesus my joy], and Philip Stopford's soothing *DO NOT BE AFRAID*, we found past and present words of strength and faith through the trials and joys of life's journey.

Elaine Hagenberg's *SONGS FROM SILENCE* speak words of encouragement to our choral community for the return of singing after its absence in present times; just as Handel's beautiful chorus of joy and love and majesty, *O LOVE DIVINE* encourages sustained messages of faith and hope. Songs of irrepressible joy and energy; Rosephanye Powell's *NON NOBIS DOMINE*, and the new arrangement of the Greek folksong *ERI* [Irene] lifts our hearts and sends our spirits dancing – We hope you enjoy these timeless words of joy, peace and love – and you hear our messages of FREUDE!, JOYEUX!, JOY!

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Songs From Silence

Elaine Hagenberg (b.1979)

Song of My Heart

If the song of my heart falls silent, sing to me, sing to me.

Stir the Embers

When our voices stir the embers, my heart remembers our song again.

—Brian Newhouse

Jesu Meine Freude – BWV 227

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Anna Seppa, *cello*

James Bobb, *harpsichord*

i. Chorale

Jesu, meine Freude,
Meines Herzens Weide,
Jesu, meine Zier!
Ach wie lang, ach lange,
Ist dem Herzen bange
Und verlangt nach dir!
Gottes Lamm, mein Bräutigam,
Außer dir soll mir auf Erden
Nichts sonst Liebers werden.
(“Jesu, meine Freude,” verse 1)

i. Chorale

*Jesus, my joy,
My heart's pasture,
Jesus, my treasure!
Ah, how long, ah long
Has my heart suffered
And longed for you!
God's lamb, my bridegroom,
Besides You on earth
Nothing shall be dearer to me.*

Non Nobis Domine

William Byrd (1543–1623)

Non Nobis, Domine

Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)

Non nobis Domine, non nobis,
Sed nomini tuo da gloriam

*Not to us, O Lord, not to us
But to your name be the glory.*

Do Not Be Afraid

Philip W. J. Stopford (b. 1977)

Shae Lime, *soloist*

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name; you are mine.
When you walk through the waters,
I'll be with you;
You will never sink beneath the waves.
When the fire is burning all around you,
You will never be consumed by the flames.

When the fear of loneliness is looming,
Then remember I am at your side.
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,
Remember you are precious in my eyes.
You are mine, O my child,
I am your Father,
And I love you with a perfect love.

Jesu Meine Freude – BWV 227

Johann Sebastian Bach

Anna Seppa, *cello*
James Bobb, *harpsichord*

3. Choral

Unter deinen Schirmen
Bin ich für den Stürmen
Aller Feinde frei.
Laß den Satan wittern,
Laß den Feind erbittern,
Mir steht Jesus bei.
Ob es itzt gleich kracht und blitzt,
Ob gleich Sünd und Hölle schrecken,
Jesus will mich decken.
("Jesu, meine Freude," verse 2)

3. Chorale

*Under your protection
I am safe from the storms
of all enemies.
Let Satan rage,
let the enemy fume,
Jesus stands with me.
Whether now it thunders and flashes,
whether sin and Hell terrify,
Jesus will protect me.*

O Love Divine
from *Theodora*

George Frederic Handel (1685–1759)

Jessica Folson, *violin*
Clare Brown, *violin*

Tristan Hall, *viola*
Zellie Owen, *cello*

James Bobb, *harpsichord*

O love divine, thou source of fame,
Of glory, and all joy!
Let equal fire our souls inflame,
And equal zeal employ,
That we the glorious spring may know,
Whose streams appear'd so bright below.

Mille Regretz

Josquin Des Prez (1440–1521)

Mille regretz de vous abandonner
Et d'eslonger vostre fache amoureuse,
Jay si grand dueil et paine douloureuse,
Quon me verra brief mes jours definer.

*A thousand regrets at deserting you
And leaving behind your loving face,
I feel so much sadness and such painful distress,
That it seems to me my days will soon dwindle away*

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

Hermione Yim, *piano*

O love, O love, O love that will not let me go;
O love, I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give Thee back the life I owe, That in
Thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.
O joy that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain...
That morn shall tearless be.
That morn shall tearless be.
O love, O love, O love that will not let me go;
O love, I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give Thee back the life I owe;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
And in Thy ocean depths its flow shall richer, fuller be.
That morn shall tearless be.
O love, O love, O love that will not let me go;
O love that will not let me go.

Eri (Irene)

Greek Folk Song

arranged by Yiannis Konstantinidis

transliteration and translation by Nikolaos Myrogiannis-Koukos

Irene! Where did you go this morning?
Where did you go at noon?
Where did you go during sunset, "orange-kissed".
Become a lemon tree in the plain,
And I will become snow in the mountains,
So that your elegant clones will be watered when I melt.

Jesu Meine Freude – BWV 227

Johann Sebastian Bach

Anna Seppa, *cello*
James Bobb, *harpsichord*

II. Chorale

Weicht, ihr Trauergeister,
Denn mein Freudenmeister,
Jesus, tritt herein.
Denen, die Gott lieben,
Muß auch ihr Betrübten
Lauter Zucker sein.
Duld' ich schon hier Spott und Hohn,
Dennoch bleibst du auch im Leide,
Jesu, meine Freude.
(“Jesu, meine Freude,” verse 7)

II. Chorale

*Hence, you spirits of sadness,
For my Master of joy,
Jesus, comes here.
For those who love God,
Even their troubles
Must be pure sugar.
Though I endure mockery and shame here already,
Nevertheless you stay with me even in sorrow,
Jesus, my joy.*

ST. OLAF CHAMBER SINGERS

Therees Tkach Hibbard, *director*
Hermione Yim, *collaborative pianist*
Jayden Brown, *student assistant*
Austin Meyer, *student manager*

SOPRANO

Marisabel Cordova
Caroline Flaten
Maren Hrivnak
Shae Lime
Annika Seager
Madeline Smoot
Lacy Williams

TENOR

Michael Caraher
Logan Combs
Alexander Famous
Noah Han
Cullen Hauck
Aidan Kocur
Richard Spahn

ALTO

Ruby Erickson
Daniel Haakenson
Sara Jensen
Anna Seppa
Sarah Shapiro
Julia Walter
Hermione Yim

BASS/BARITONE

Jayden Browne
Roan Findley
Sean Griswold
Nicholas Hinson
Christopher Kopits
Austin Meyer
William McIntyre

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Kathryn Ananda-Owens, *department chair*
David Carter, *department vice-chair*
Barbara Barth, *academic administrative assistant – music*
Cheryl Bristol, *academic administrative assistant – music*

FINE ARTS ADMISSIONS

Molly Boes Ganza '08, *associate dean of fine arts recruitment*

MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLEGE RELATIONS

Michael Kyle '85, *vice president for enrollment and college relations*
Jean Parish '88, *director of college relations for music organizations*
Terra Widdifield '95, *associate director of music organizations*
Connor Smith, *assistant director of music organizations for audience development*
Sarah Gingerich '11, *coordinator of music organizations*
Courtney Kleftis, *associate librarian for ensembles and performing rights*
Greta Ramsey '19, *arts management intern for production and concert management*