
THE ST. OLAF CHAMBER SINGERS

Therees Tkach Hibbard, *conductor*

joined by

James Bobb, *harpsichord*

Thea Groth, *bassoon*

A CRY FOR HOPE A CALL FOR PEACE

Sunday, November 13, 2022 | 7:30 P.M.

BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Welcome to our Autumn concer. We have gathered a collection of ancient and modern songs reflecting on our common human struggle with feelings of despair and isolation that cause us to seek help and support from others. Bach's cantata "From the depths I cry to thee" and Garrett's arrangement of the African American spiritual "Soon I Will Be Done With The Troubles of the World" remind us that this inner turmoil and cry for help is a universal search for hope and redemption that can be found in a divine spirit, a friend or loved one, and in each other as a community. The texts and music of the modern songs placed among the cantata movements are a response to these themes, but also provide words of solace, of love, and the possibility of finding pathways to peace. Perhaps we have only to see the light of hope and the promise of peace in each other to find it once again in ourselves.

A CRY FOR HOPE

A CALL FOR PEACE

Dios itlaçonantzine

Hernando don Franco (1532–1585)
edited by Ahmed Anzaldúa

Beloved Mother of God, forever Virgin
We implore you greatly that you intercede for us
In Heaven before your beloved Son Jesus Christ.
There you are together with your beloved Son Jesus Christ.
Beloved Mother...

Out from the Deep

Thomas Tallis (1505–1585)

Out from the deep I call to thee, O Lord hear my invocation.
Thine ears bow down; incline to me and hear my lamentation.
For if thou wilt our sins behold, that we have done from time to tide,
O Lord, who then dare be so bold as in thy sight for to abide.

Bottom of the River

Alexys Sayegh, *soloist*

Eric Holljes and Ian Holljes

Hold my hand
Ooh, baby, it's a long way down to the bottom of the river
Hold my hand
Ooh, baby, it's a long way down, a long way down

If you get sleep or if you get none
(The cock's gonna call in the morning, baby)
Check the cupboard for your daddy's gun
(Red sun rises like an early warning)
The Lord's gonna come for your first born son
(His hair's on fire and his heart is burning)
So go to the river where the water runs
Wash him deep where the tides are turning
And if you fall
And if you fall

Hold my hand
Ooh, baby, it's a long way down to the bottom of the river
Hold my hand
Ooh, baby, it's a long way down, a long way down

The wolves will chase you by the pale moonlight
(Drunk and driven by a devil's hunger)
Drive your son like a railroad spike
(Into the water, let it pull him under)
Don't you lift him, let him drown alive
(The good Lord speaks like a rolling thunder)
Let that fever make the water rise
(And let the river run dry)
And I said: [chorus]

Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir, BWV 131

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

I. Sinfonia and Chorus

Out of the depths I cry, Lord, to you.
Lord, hear my voice,
Let your ears notice
The voice of my pleading.

II. Arioso and Chorale

Roan Findley and Sean Griswold, *basses*
Christine Albrecht, Emma Auby, Ruth Hailey, *sopranos*

Bass:

If you want to count up sin, Lord, who will withstand you?
For with you is forgiveness, so that we may fear you.

Sopranos:

Have mercy on me with such a burden,
Take it away from my heart,
Since you have paid the price for it
On the wood of the cross with the pains of death
So that I may not with great sorrow
Drown in my sins nor despair forever.

Seven Last Words of the Unarmed

Joel Thompson (b.1988)

3. Amadou Diallo

This piece is the third movement of *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*, an elegiac choral setting of the last words of the unarmed black men unjustly killed by authority figures. Of the last sayings in the piece, Amadou's words are the only ones uttered away from the point of death: "Mom, I'm going to college" were the last words he shared with his mother over the phone. He had saved enough money to finally fulfill his dream of pursuing a degree in computer science. Despite Amadou's tragic death after being shot at 41 times, his last words should be sung with hope. It is my dream that, in doing so, we can transform Amadou's hope into our commitment to find every opportunity we can to actively create a more just and equitable world."

— *With love, Joel Thompson*

Amo

Nico Gutierrez (b.1993)

Everything, everyone, has left
I am accompanied only by my memories
With which sometimes I cry
And on occasion I manage to smile
I love them

Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir, BWV 131

III. Chorus

I wait upon the Lord,
My soul waits,
And I hope in his word.

IV. Aria and Chorale

Blake Wieseler, *tenor*
Emmy Erickson, Zellie Owen, Sophia Sawoski, *altos*

Tenor:
My soul waits for the Lord
From one morning watch until the next

Altos:
Especially since I in my mind,
As I have for a long time lamented,
Am also a troubled sinner,
Who is gnawed by his conscience,
And would willingly in your blood
Be washed clean from my sins
Like David and Manasseh.

When the Earth Stands Still

Don Macdonald (b.1966)

Come listen
In the silence of the moment before rain comes down
There's a deep sigh
In the quiet of the forest and the tall tree's crown
Now hold me
Will you take the time to hold me and embrace the chill?
Or miss me
Will you take the time to miss me when the Earth stands still?

'Cause there's no use running
'Cause the storm's still coming
And you've been running for so many years
For so many years

Come listen
In the silence of the moment before shadows fall
Feel the tremor
Of your heartbeat matching heartbeat as we both dissolve

Now hold me
Will you take the time to hold me and embrace the chill?
Or miss me
Will you take the time to miss me when the Earth stands still?

'Cause there's no use running
'Cause the storm's still coming
And you've been running for so many years

So stay with me
Held in my arms, like branches of a tree
They'll shelter you for many years
So many years

For so many years (stay with me)
Stay with me

Aus der Tiefen rufe ich, Herr, zu dir, BWV 131

V. Chorus

Israel, hope in the Lord
for with the Lord is grace
and much redemption with him
and he shall redeem Israel from all his sins.

Soon I Will Be Done

Negro Spiritual
arranged by Marques L. A. Garrett

Soon I will be done-a with the troubles of the world,
Going home to live with God.
No more weeping and a-wailing,
I'm going to live with God.

I want to meet my mother,
I want to meet my father,
I want to meet my Jesus,
I'm going to live with God.

Where the Light Begins

Susan LaBarr (b.1981)

Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.

Perhaps it takes a lifetime
To open our eyes,
To learn to see what has forever
Shimmered in front of us

The luminous line of the map in the dark
The vigil flame in the house of the heart,
The love so searing we cannot keep
From singing, from crying out in testimony and praise.

Perhaps this day will be the mountain
Over which the dawn breaks.

Perhaps we will turn our face toward it,
Toward what has been always.

Perhaps our eyes will finally open in ancient recognition,
Willingly dazzled, illuminated at last.

Perhaps this day the light begins in us.
– Jan Richardson, from *Circle of Grace*

PERSONNEL

Bach String Players

James Bobb, *harpsichord*

Thea Groth, *bassoon*

Carter Kuehn, *oboe*

Grace Alexander, *violin*

Owen Cromwell, *violin*

Eli Schrubbe, *violin*

Akseli Mende, *viola I*

Ian Snider, *viola I*

Tristan Hall, *viola II*

Josefina Scozzari, *viola II*

Alice Ryan, *cello*

Henry Specker, *bass*

ST. OLAF CHAMBER SINGERS

Therees Tkach Hibbard, *conductor*

Blake Wieseler '23, *collaborative pianist and student manager*

Jayden Browne '23, *student assistant*

Sopranos

Christine Albrecht

Emma Auby

Taylor Dirks

Rachel Dumont

Ruth Hailey

Blake Ormond

Carys Rees-Baker

Altos

Emmy Erickson

Laila Franklin

Josie Lynn

Zellie Owen

Alexys Sayegh

Emma Silvestri

Sophia Sawoski

Rachel Whittington

Tenors

Will Fecko

Nathaniel Johnson

Aidan Kocur

Zane Ross

Noah Smith

Henry Vermeer

Blake Wieseler

Basses

Jayden Browne

Roan Findley

Sean Griswold

Peter Hoffman

Aiden Kocian

Christopher Kopits

Seaver Kremer

Will McIntyre

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Kathryn Ananda-Owens, *department chair*

David Carter, *department vice-chair*

Barbara Barth, *academic administrative assistant – music*

Lisa McDermott, *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, *assistant director of music organizations for project management*

Jonathan D. Kopplin, *associate librarian for ensembles and performing rights*

Emma Jenks '23, *coordinator, music organizations*

Gabbie Holtzman '23, *ticketing coordinator, music organizations*