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# ST. OLAF CHAPEL CHOIR

PAOLO DEBUQUE, *VISITING CONDUCTOR*

## **OF MOUNTAINS AND CHERRY BLOSSOMS**

MUSIC BY ASIAN AND ASIAN AMERICAN COMPOSERS

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SUNDAY, APRIL 13 | 3:30 P.M.

*BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL*

# OF MOUNTAINS AND CHERRY BLOSSOMS

MUSIC BY ASIAN AND ASIAN AMERICAN COMPOSERS

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**Lingua Tonga**

Shruthi Rajasekar (b. 1996)

**Ave Maria**

Francisco Santiago (1889–1947)  
arr. Paolo Debuque

Catherine Rodland '87, *piano*; Joshua Villanoy '27, *violin*

**Sakura**

Traditional Japanese  
arr. Ko Matsushita (b. 1962)

**Arirang**

Traditional Korean  
arr. Hyo-Won Woo (b. 1974)

Catherine Rodland '87, *piano*

**Coming of Spring**

Gao Hong (b. 1964)

Gao Hong, *pipa*

**Leron, Leron Sinta**

Traditional Filipino  
arr. Saunder Choi (b. 1998)

**Mahalo Piha**

Queen Lili'uokalani (1838–1917)  
arr. Justin Ka'upu (b. 1983)

Catherine Rodland '87, *piano*

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# CHORAL TEXTS

## Ave Maria

Francisco Santiago (1889–1947)  
arr. Paolo Debuque

Catherine Rodland '87, *piano*; Joshua Villanoy '27, *violin*

Ave Maria, gratia plena  
Dominus tecum;  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.  
Amen.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with thee;  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for us sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.*

— Luke 1:28, 42

## Sakura

Traditional Japanese  
arr. Ko Matsushita (b. 1962)

さくら さくら  
やよいの空は  
見わたす限り  
かすみか雲か  
匂いぞ出ずる  
いざやいざや  
見にゆかん

sakura sakura  
yayoi no sora wa  
miwatasu kagiri  
kasumi ka kumo ka  
nioi zo izuru  
izaya izaya  
mi ni yukan

*Sakura Sakura  
As far as the eye can see  
in the yayoi sky (third month)  
Is it mist or cloud?  
A scent emerges  
Come on, come on,  
let's go see*

さくら さくら  
野山も里も  
見わたす限り  
かすみか雲か  
朝日ににおう  
さくら さくら  
花ざかり

sakura sakura  
noyama mo sato mo  
miwatasu kagiri  
kasumi ka kumo ka  
asahi ni niou  
sakura sakura  
hanazakari

*Sakura Sakura  
Mountain wilds and sato (living in the  
nature where mura/village and  
mountain meet - brings a feeling of  
nostalgia)  
as far as the eye can see  
Is it mist or cloud?  
A scent in the morning sun  
Sakura, Sakura,  
in full bloom*

— Japanese translation by St. Olaf College Japanese 320 class

Listening to this song makes me remember that in elementary school, I learned this song during piano lessons and tried to sing along. It reminds me of going to Japan in the spring and going to view the cherry blossoms with my family.

— Reflection by Mina Shionoya '26, St. Olaf Asian American Student Union

## Arirang

Traditional Korean  
arr. Hyo-Won Woo (b. 1974)

Catherine Rodland '87, *piano*

아리랑, 아리랑, 아라리오...  
아리랑 고개로 넘어간다.

Arirang, arirang, arariyo. . .  
Arirang gogaero neomuhganda.

*Arirang, arirang, arariyo. . .  
You are going over Arirang hill.*

나를 버리고 가시는 님은  
십리도 못가서 발병난다.

Nareul beorigo gasineun nimeun  
Simridoh motgaseo  
balbbyongnanda.

*My love, if you abandon me  
your feet will be sore before you  
go ten ri.*

— Unknown

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As an adoptee who recently visited my birth country for the first time in 20 years, the mood set in the first half of the song captures the feeling of disconnect from my ethnic identity growing up in a different culture. In this culture, I was presented with more negative than positive portrayals of my birth country and its people, which weakened my desire to connect. The second half of the song captures how I felt after visiting my birth country and observing the everyday lives of its people. Although I was not raised in that culture, I felt more comfortable and in harmony with my ethnic identity there, which remains upon returning home.

— Reflection by Elizabeth Landherr '25, St. Olaf Asian American Student Union

## Coming of Spring

Gao Hong (b. 1964)

Gao Hong, *pipa*

Note from the composer:

This is my first choir piece. I wrote both the music and the text, and have the choir sing in Chinese. In this work, I used a lot of Chinese elements based on the Miao music scale that I learned from my fieldwork in China. Using onomatopoeic Chinese words to imitate the sounds of nature in transition, “Coming of Spring” celebrates the joy and excitement of spring’s welcome arrival. The music opens with ‘Ding Dong Ding Dong’ (叮咚叮咚) depicting the dripping of melting ice in the early spring. Each section ends with these imitation sounds. ‘Xiao ha ha’ (笑哈哈) represents the people’s laughter; ‘hua la la’ (哗啦啦) represents the flowing of water. In the end, ‘ya hu hai’ (呀呼嗨) and ‘xi luo sai’ (嘻罗嗦) express the happiness and excitement of the people in same way shouting “yahoo” would in English.

春天来了  
哎—,叮咚,叮咚,叮咚,哎—  
花儿甜,花儿香,  
我爱我的好故乡。  
炊烟,人家,笑哈哈,  
小桥,流水,哗啦啦。  
雁儿来,雁儿叫,  
春姑娘来了把舞跳。  
蓝天,白云,呀呼嗨,  
春风,沁心,嘻罗嗦。

春姑娘来了来了,  
春姑娘来了来了,  
春姑娘来了来了欢喜笑。

哎—,叮咚,叮咚,叮咚,哎—  
嘻罗嗦!

English synopsis of the Chinese text:

*Winter's ice and snow have melted.  
Nature serenades joyful families with  
the sounds of dripping water and  
singing geese. The sweet smelling  
flowers are bright and colorful as they  
boldly begin to bloom. Chimney  
smoke and laughter fill the air, as  
water flows playfully beneath the  
footbridge. The sky is clear and blue  
with puffy white clouds. The moon  
and stars shine brightly at night. The  
spring maiden is here — singing,  
dancing, and laughing. Spring has  
arrived, and happiness prevails.*

— Gao Hong

**Gao Hong** graduated from Beijing's elite Central Conservatory of Music. Since coming to the United States, she has performed at the Lincoln Center Festival, Carnegie Hall, the San Francisco Jazz Festival, the Smithsonian, and at festivals in Paris, Milan, and Perth. She has presented concertos with the Minnesota Orchestra, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Heidelberg Philharmonic, Buenos Aires Philharmonic, China National Traditional Orchestra, among others. In 2017, she became the first Chinese musician to play the National Anthem at an NBA basketball game for the Minnesota Timberwolves. Gao has received numerous top awards and honors in China and the U.S. In 2005, Gao Hong became the first traditional musician to be awarded the prestigious Bush Artist Fellowship, and in 2019, she became the only musician in any genre to win five McKnight Artist Fellowships for Performing Musicians. As a 2018 Sally Award winner, Gao Hong was honored at the Ordway Center for her commitment to the arts. In 2022, Mayor Melvin Carter of St. Paul proclaimed April 3, 2022 to be "Gao Hong Day" in the City of St. Paul. She teaches at Carleton College as the Director of the Chinese Music Ensemble and is a Guest Professor at multiple conservatories in China, including the Central Conservatory of Music and China Conservatory.



Gao Hong is an FY 2025 Cultural Expression grantee.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



## Leron, Leron Sinta

Traditional Filipino  
arr. Saunder Choi (b. 1998)

Leron, Leron sinta, buko ng papaya  
Dala-dala'y buslo, sisidlan ng bunga.  
Pagdating sa dulo'y, nabali ang sanga.  
Kapos kapalaran, humanap ng iba.

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

Gumising ka, neneng; tayo'y manampalok.  
Dalhin mo ang buslong, sisidlan ng hinog.  
Pagdating sa dulo'y, lalamba-lambayog.  
Kumapit ka, neneng, baka ka mahulog.

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

Ang iibigin ko'y lalaking matapang.  
Baril niya ay pito; sundang niya ay siyam.  
Ang lalakaran niya'y parte ng dinulang.  
Isang pinggang pansit ang kanyang kalaban.

*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!*

*\*a colloquial term referring to a girl*

— Traditional Filipino

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## Mahalo Piha

Queen Lili'uokalani (1838–1917)  
arr. Justin Ka'upu (b. 1983)

Catherine Rodland '87, *piano*

Mahalo piha, Mō'ī'ō 'Enelani  
Ku'i kou kaulana nā'āina pau  
Na kai ākau nā one hema  
'Ikea kou 'ihi mana nui  
Eia mākou i kou kapa kai  
I kou lā nui Iubili  
I hi'i mai i kou mākou aloha  
Maluna ou ka malu o ka Lani

*All hail to you, Great Queen of England  
Fair Queen who rules over land and sea  
From northern seas to southern shores  
Your way is known both far and near  
We come to your shores, gracious lady  
On this great day of your Jubilee  
To bring kind greetings from afar  
May heaven bless you, long may you reign*

Aloha 'oe, aloha 'oe  
E ke onaona noho i ka lipo  
One fond embrace,  
A ho'i a'e au  
Until we meet again

*Farewell to you, farewell to you  
The charming one who dwells in the shaded bowers  
One fond embrace  
'Ere I depart  
Until we meet again*

— Queen Lili'uokalani

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Please join us today from 4:30-6pm for the St. Olaf Chapel Choir 100 Years Cultural Festival!  
Celebrate a century of song with refreshments, performances, and community featuring student cultural groups  
and co-hosted by the Taylor Center for Equity and Inclusion on Boe Plaza. Performances begin at 5 p.m.

# ST. OLAF CHAPEL CHOIR

## PAOLO DEBUQUE, VISITING CONDUCTOR

### SOPRANO I

Ryan Brentner, *Iowa City, Iowa*  
Emily Breuch, *Arden Hills, Minn.*  
Salem Kassner, *Verona, Wis.*  
Charlotte Murphy, *Downers Grove, Ill.*

- \* Evgenia Roth, *Hudson, Wis.*
- \*^ Sofie Urberg-Carlson, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- \* Jenna York, *Brookings, S.D.*

### SOPRANO II

Faith Barrett, *Maple Plain, Minn.*  
Maddy Bergey, *Harmony, Minn.*  
Lucy Bock, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*  
Elizabeth Glenn, *Omaha, Neb.*  
Sarah Hansen, *Glendale, Calif.*  
Zoë Larson-Harris, *Roanoke, Va.*  
Cece Huttemier, *Waseca, Minn.*  
Klara Istre, *Sørkjosen, Norway*  
Stella Jaeckle, *Madison, Wis.*  
Salisha Knox, *Fullerton, Calif.*  
Laine Lammers, *Waverly, Minn.*  
Sila Liljedahl, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Riley Peterson, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
Amalia Ranstrom, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
Ana Remolina, *St. Charles, Mo.*  
Lydia Urice, *Webster Groves, Mo.*  
\* Ada Vanderbilt, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Megan Wainwright, *Windsor Heights, Iowa*  
Ting Yang, *Beijing, China*

### ALTO I

Tasahra Brown, *Mendocino, Calif.*  
Petra Causton, *Chaska, Minn.*  
- Lizzie Gray, *Spearfish, S.D.*  
Julia Grayson, *Rosemount, Minn.*  
Megan Haas, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Grace Jasinski, *Forest Lake, Minn.*  
Mary Kreklow, *Tigerton, Wis.*  
Elise Marlett, *West Bend, Wis.*  
Mar McGrath, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
Saige Pierson, *Denver, Colo.*  
Kayla Schultz, *Faribault, Minn.*  
Romina Soto-Solari, *Lima, Peru*  
Sophia Stender, *Ashton, Ill.*  
Mazie Thingelstad, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
Christine Whear, *Burnsville, Minn.*  
Emma Wieseler, *Waseca, Minn.*  
Zoe Zaruba, *Colorado Spring, Colo.*

### ALTO II

Keely Anderson, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
• Mars Dall, *Edina, Minn.*  
Sarah Degand, *Chicago, Ill.*  
Hannah Gaff, *Normal, Ill.*  
Arelly Garcia, *Rogers, Ark.*  
Elizabeth Hallanger, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Jane Irish, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Emma Jansen, *Askov, Minn.*  
Anna Lunstad, *Erie, Colo.*  
Cecilia Percy, *Minneapolis, Minn.*

### TENOR I

Kaspar Czuk, *Newberg, Ore.*  
Drew Erickson, *Esko, Minn.*  
Elias Hanson, *Chaska, Minn.*  
Sam Mattson, *Baxter, Minn.*  
~ David Reed, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*

### TENOR II

Alex Boulton, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
• Moises Duarte, *Siguatopeque, Honduras*  
Alex Kelly, *Lakeville, Minn.*  
• Aurora Kiser, *Ely, Iowa*  
William Kroner, *Oro Valley, Ariz.*  
Braeden McCollow, *Minneapolis, Minn.*  
• Will New, *Eagan, Minn.*  
Alexander Perez, *Houston, Texas*  
Logan Rasmussen, *Apple Valley, Minn.*  
Aidan Warrington, *Rochester, Minn.*

### BASS I

\* Dalton Ballinger, *Peculiar, Mo.*  
\* Ian Carter, *Liberty, Mo.*  
Gabriel Chapital de Renty, *San Francisco, Calif.*  
Jack Fuerstenberg, *Stillwater, Minn.*  
Gabriel Simon, *St. Paul, Minn.*  
Julian Simpson, *St. Paul, Minn.*

### BASS II

Parker Chelikowsky, *Hopkins, Minn.*  
Vincent Cianchetti, *Houston, Texas*  
Noah Halldorson, *Plymouth, Minn.*  
~ Ryan Hemingway, *Maple Grove, Minn.*  
Praise Olaomosu, *Durham, N.C.*

- Officer
- \* Section leader
- ^ Manager
- ~ Assistant conductor
- Librarian



### MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Michael Kyle '85, *vice president for external relations and strategic partnerships*  
Jean Parish '88, *director of 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 Kopplin, *associate librarian for ensembles and performing rights*  
Veronica White '24, *coordinator of music organizations*  
Amelia McNeil-Maddox, *ticketing coordinator*

### FINE ARTS ADMISSIONS

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

### DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Louis Epstein, *department chair*  
Tracey Engleman, *department vice-chair*  
Barb Barth, *academic administrative assistant*  
Lisa McDermott, *academic administrative assistant*  
Faith Kimbrell, *instrument coordinator*

### BROADCAST/MEDIA SERVICES

Jeffrey O'Donnell '02, *director of broadcast/media services*  
Sean Tonko, *associate director of event operations*  
Grant Furguiele, *associate director of broadcast engineering*  
Mia Pardo, *assistant director of production*