



Malmgren Concert Series

in collaboration with

The Society for Composers, Inc. Regional Conference

presents

New Choral Music

Syracuse University Singers

John Warren, director

Nilo Alcala, featured guest composer

Sunday, November 6, 2022

3 p.m. pre-concert talk

4 p.m. concert

Program

Welcome: Natalie Draper, Asst. Prof. of Theory and Composition, SCI Regional Conference Co-Chair

Pre-concert talk: Nilo Alcala, featured guest composer

(there will be a brief pause before the start of the concert)

Welcome: Brian Konkol, Dean of Hendricks Chapel

This is Nothing But Thy Love Patrick Vu

the in between spaces Megan DiGeorgio

Catullus V Carrie Magin

Oaks and Roses Anuj Bhutani

To a Friend Michael Rickelton

Remarks: John Warren, Director of Choral Activities

Papedsalámat from Mangá Pakalagián Nilo Alcala
I Am here with You Always
Suk Suk Fegesuk

University Singers
John Warren, director

All are invited to a reception in the entryway after the program.

We acknowledge with respect the Onondaga Nation,
Firekeepers of the Haudenosaunee,
the Indigenous people on whose ancestral lands
Syracuse University now stands.

This program is a special installment of “Music and Message,” a weekly series from Hendricks Chapel that features musical performances and spoken reflection from diverse religious and spiritual perspectives. These gatherings seek to nurture the soul and ignite the spirit.

Malmgren concerts are presented with support from the Malmgren Fund.

University Singers

JOHN WARREN - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

DAN SATO - PIANIST

SETH VELEZ - ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

MORGAN BEATON	CHORAL CONDUCTING	GRADUATE
CAROLINE BERGAN	MUSIC EDUCATION	SENIOR
NAJA BUTLER	MUSIC INDUSTRY	SENIOR
MADLINE CARUSO	MUSIC EDUCATION	SENIOR
KATHERINE CRAIG	VOCAL PERFORMANCE/INT' RELATIONS	JUNIOR
SARAH CUMMINGS	ACTING	SOPHOMORE
ENZO CUPANI	MUSIC INDUSTRY	SOPHOMORE
ASRIEL DAVIS	ORGAN PERFORMANCE	GRADUATE
PAUL DIEM	UNDECLARED	FRESHMAN
RONALD DITCHEK	MUSIC EDUCATION	SENIOR
SAMUEL EVANS	COMPOSITION	GRADUATE
MCKENNA FENIMORE	MUSIC INDUSTRY/VOCAL JAZZ CONCENTRATION	SOPHOMORE
BRANDON FERRANTE	SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY	SENIOR
REBECCA FRIEDMAN	MUSIC INDUSTRY	JUNIOR
BRIANA GILYARD	MUSIC INDUSTRY	SENIOR
ISABEL HAMPTON BROWNING	VOICE PEDAGOGY	GRADUATE
ANDREW HANRAHAN	SLCTD. ST. IN EDU., MUSIC INFO. MGMT., TECHNOLOGY	JUNIOR
ANIA KAPLLANI	MUSIC INDUSTRY	SOPHOMORE
DYLAN KIM	COMPOSITION	JUNIOR
VJ LASHOMB	SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY	JUNIOR
MICAYLA MACDOUGALL	MUSIC EDUCATION	GRADUATE
GIOVANNA MAROPO	VOCAL PERFORMANCE	GRADUATE
MADDIE McDERMOTT	MUSIC INDUSTRY	SENIOR
BRYCE MEUSCHKE	SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY	JUNIOR
JOHN MOSES	INT' RELATIONS/MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE	SENIOR
RYAN MYERS	PSYCHOLOGY/PUBLIC RELATIONS	SOPHOMORE
BEN O'CONNELL	MUSIC EDUCATION	SENIOR
KATE O'LEARY	MUSIC EDUCATION	FRESHMAN
GABRIELLE PINKNEY	MUSIC INDUSTRY	JUNIOR
EMMA PITTS	VOCAL PERFORMANCE	SENIOR
KAYCIE ROMANO	MUSIC EDUCATION/MUSIC HISTORY & CULTURES	JUNIOR
TARA SANDLIN	VOCAL PERFORMANCE	SENIOR
HANNAH SCARBOROUGH	COMPOSITION	GRADUATE
CHRISTIAN SCHMIDT	COMPOSITION	SENIOR
EMERY SCHRAMM	MUSIC EDUCATION	SENIOR
PATRICK SEWARD	SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY	JUNIOR
KATHERINE SMYTH	MUSIC EDUCATION	SOPHOMORE
SETH VELEZ	CHORAL CONDUCTING/VOICE PEDAGOGY	GRADUATE
OWEN WERNOW	SOUND RECORDING TECHNOLOGY	FRESHMAN
HENRI YOUMANS	MUSIC EDUCATION	SENIOR
TYLER YOUNGMAN	INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	GRADUATE
YIYI ZHANG	VOCAL PERFORMANCE	GRADUATE

Program notes, Texts and Translations

This Is Nothing But Thy Love (Gitanjali 59), text by Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), translated by the author

Rabindranath Tagore was a Bengali polymath, but he is most known for his poetry. *This Is Nothing But Thy Love* comes from his collection of Bengali devotional poems entitled *Gitanjali*, which means “Song Offerings.” The collection was published in 1910 and translated to English by Tagore himself in 1912. *This Is Nothing But Thy Love* uses Tagore’s “*Gitanjali 59*” and paints the image of God’s love in the form of nature which surrounds us. The choral piece is rhapsodic in nature to reflect the various images described in Tagore’s text. From dancing leaves to idle clouds, rhythms and textures quickly change to reflect these aspects of nature. The opening line of the text is repeated in the beginning and the end of the piece to express gratitude and excitement before the work ends with a buildup leading to a huge outburst of confident joy.

Yes, I know, this is nothing but thy love,
O beloved of my heart-
This golden light that dances upon the leaves,
These idle clouds sail across the sky,
This passing breeze leaves its coolness upon my forehead.

The morning light has flooded my eyes-
This is thy message to my heart
Thy face is bent from above,
Thy eyes look down on my eyes,
And my heart has touched thy feet

— Rabindranath Tagore

the in between spaces

“the in between spaces” is the musical setting of a text by living poet Maria Beben, composed in 2019. Through this poem, the speaker expresses the feeling of existing in the cracks, the uncertainty, the in-between. The music, by extension, expresses this sentiment as well; there is often a seeming lack of grounded-ness or direction, and a fluctuation in musical energy, but the piece also features moments of clarity and release. *the in between spaces* was premiered in March 2020 by *Artifice*, a contemporary music choir based in Washington, DC.

I dwell in the greyness of the landscape,
Those spaces the careless child neglected to color in,
The in-between
Neither up, neither down
I thrive off indecision
I seek out the cracks, the noncommittal promises
That don’t destroy when they’re broken,
My mind is an empty canvas that I forgot to sign,
I claim no ownership to it,
The mindless conformity leaves me numb,
I welcome it like an old friend,
I send up this song to you, my undeserving muse,
A tangled mess of lyrics that forgot how to listen
I fight the wind, and then immediately yield
I yield to its superior power, dissolved.

— Maria Beben

Catullus V

“CATULLUS V” is based on a text by the Latin poet Gaius Valerius Catullus (ca. 84-54 BC). The standard organization and labeling of his 116 works is by poem number. This piece makes use of his fifth poem (*Carmen 5*).

<i>Vivamus, mea Lesbia, atque amemus,</i>	<i>Let us live, my Lesbia, and Love.</i>
<i>rumoresque senum severiorum</i>	<i>As for all the rumors of those stern old men,</i>
<i>omnes unius aestimemus assis!</i>	<i>Let us value them at a mere penny.</i>
<i>soles occidere et redire possunt;</i>	<i>Suns may set and yet rise again, but</i>
<i>nobis, cum selem occidit brevis lux,</i>	<i>Us, with our brief light, can set but once.</i>
<i>Nox est perpetua una dormienda.</i>	<i>One never-ending night must be slept.</i>
<i>da mi basia mille, deinde centum,</i>	<i>Give me a thousand kisses, then a hundred.</i>
<i>dein mille altera, dein secunda centum,</i>	<i>Then, another thousand, and a second hundred.</i>
<i>deinde usque altera mille, deinde centum;</i>	<i>Then, yet another thousand, and a hundred.</i>
<i>dein, cum milia multa fecerimus,</i>	<i>Then, when we have counted up many thousands,</i>

*conturbabimus illa, ne sciamus, Let us shake the abacus, so that no one may know the number,
Aut ne quis malus invidere possit, An become jealous when they see
Cum tantum sciat esse basiorum. How many kisses we have shared*

— Catullus

Oaks and Roses

For everyone who knows the pain of having lost a loved one

*when life is quite through with
and leaves say alas,
much is to do
for the swallow, that closes
a flight in the blue;*

*when love's had his tears out,
perhaps shall pass
a million years
(while a bee dozes
on the poppies, the dears;*

*when all's done and said, and
under the grass
lies her head
by oaks and roses
deliberated.)*

— e.e. cummings

To a Friend

My setting of Pulitzer Prize winning poet Amy Lowell's "To A Friend" was written for Ellen Clayton and premiered by Baltimore Choral Arts Society in 2019. Ellen, the long-time choral manager of Baltimore Choral Arts represents all the characteristics that Lowell hopes remain true in her friend. Her compassion, commitment, integrity, empathy, grace, and work ethic are traits that (as Lowell suggests) often vanish, or exist only as an idealized image of the person. It is the rare, true friend that embodies the dream of the person Lowell imagines. Ellen Clayton is one of these rare individuals, and for that, "To a Friend" is fondly dedicated to her by me and Baltimore Choral Arts. "To a Friend" may be performed independently or together with Fare Thee Well, my setting of George Moses Horton's "Farewell to Frances". Together, they form the combined work To A Friend, Fare Thee Well.

*I ask but one thing of you, only one,
That always you will be my dream of you;
That never shall I wake to find untrue
All this I have believed and rested on,
Forever vanished, like a vision gone
Out into the night. Alas, how few
There are who strike in us a chord we knew
Existed, but so seldom heard its tone
We tremble at the half-forgotten sound.
The world is full of rude awakenings
And heaven-born castles shattered to the ground,
Yet still our human longing vainly clings
To a belief in beauty through all wrongs.
O stay your hand, and leave my heart its songs!*

— Amy Lowell

Papedsalamat

Papedsalamat is the second movement of a multi movement work entitled *Mangá Pakalagián* (Ceremonies) for choir and kulintang - a traditional percussion ensemble from Maguindanao in Southern Philippines. *Mangá Pakalagián* underscores the use of *kulintang* music by the Maguindanaons and how it elevates everyday community 'rituals' into 'ceremonial status'. *Papedsalamat* means Thanksgiving and it highlights celebrations in praise of Kadnan (The Creator) during harvest season.

Su gay nu kapagagani a nawma den! The set day of harvest is now at hand!

Mangeni tano sa Kadnan na nangaden Let us give thanks to the Creator

*Kano niyaba inibubol tano of the seeds we sow
taman kano languno nakadtabang salkitanao and all of nature that takes care of us so*

*Na Siya kano ka itendeg tano Come, celebrate this bountiful blessing!
su pingaden nu Kadnan!*

— Nilo Alcala

I Am Here with You Always

The composer writes, “In January of 2021, I lost my dear mother to pancreatic cancer. A few days before she breathed her last I found this original poem of her’s written on the inside front cover of her journal. She even added instructions to share the poem at her wake. Only after several months following her passing when I found the courage to go back to this poem and set it into music. It was not easy, but was quite healing as well. I hope this piece gives even just a little bit of comfort to anyone who has lost a loved one.”

*See me in each butterfly
emerging from its cocoon.*

*Hear me in the rustling
of the falling leaves.*

*Kiss me back when the soft breeze
kisses you.*

*Feel me when your heart
beats in joy and sorrow.*

*I am here with you
...always*

— Regina B. Alcala

Suk Suk Fegesuk

Suk Suk Fegesuk features layers of rhythms that imitate traditional percussive instruments from Southern Philippines. The text of this composition comes from a spoken rhyme of the Tiruray tribe. The word Tiruray (also used interchangeably with Teduray) comes from the word “tew” meaning man and “duray” which refers to a small bamboo with a hook and a line used and is used for fishing. The text roughly translates as, “Pierce, pierce with a knife! Pierce a hole on that bamboo!”

*Suk suk fegesuk Stab, stab with a knife!
Senuksuk tosong rebuk! Stab a hole on that bamboo!*

— Tiruray chant (Cotabato City, Southern Philippines)

Meet the Composers

Trailblazing composer and artist **Nilo Alcala** is carving a legacy for Philippine Arts internationally. He is the first Philippine-born composer to receive the COPLAND HOUSE Residency Award, as well as to be commissioned by Grammy-winner Los Angeles Master Chorale. He is also the first Filipino-American artist to be featured as Musical America Worldwide’s Artist of the Month, and be awarded The American Prize in the Professional Division, Major Choral Works Category. He has received two Ani Ng Dangal (Harvest of Honor) from two Philippine Presidents.

His commissions include San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, Asia-Europe Foundation; Andrea O. Veneracion International Choral Festival; Korean Ministry of Culture; National Music Competition for Young Artists, Manila Symphony Orchestra, FilipinoAmerican Symphony Orchestra, among others. Other notable performances include the World Youth Choir, Asia Pacific Youth Choir, San Francisco Girls Chorus, the U.P. Symphony Orchestra, the Metro Manila Community Orchestra, and the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra.

Alcala’s virtuosic choral works have been performed by numerous winning ensembles in prestigious competitions and festivals in Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas. He was member and composer-in-residence of the Philippine Madrigal Singers

(UNESCO Artist for Peace). An Asian Cultural Council grantee, Alcalá was a Billy Joel Fellow at Syracuse University where he received the Irene L. Crooker Music Award.

Anuj Bhutani is a quickly emerging composer. Since 2020, he's won an ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award, 1st prize in Cerddorion Vocal Ensemble's Emerging Composer Competition, Verdigris Ensemble's ION Composer Competition, 3rd prize in the American Prize in Choral Composition and The Choral Project's Composition Competition, and was a Finalist in the RED NOTE Composition Competition. His work has been selected for the NewAm Composer's Lab, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, RED NOTE Festival Composition Workshop (2021), among others. His music has been commissioned or performed by Ashley Bathgate, Raleigh Civic Symphony, Metropolis Ensemble, Verdant Vibes, Andrew Tholl of Wild Up, Lauren Cauley Kalal of Switch~ ensemble, the WPU Percussion Ensemble, and more. He currently attends University of Southern California (MM Composition) and previously attended University of North Texas (BM Composition). His primary teachers have included Joseph Klein, Andrew May, Sungji Hong, Drew Schnurr, and Bruce Broughton.

Megan DiGeorgio is a composer, performer, educator, and arts administrator in the Washington, DC area. She was recently featured in the Out of Our Shells album, documentary, and live concert, organized by American University's Humanities Truck. She has also been awarded Concertia's Emerging Composers Fellowship for 2021-2022, which includes a commission, live performance, and studio recording. Other recent commissions include Duo Entre-Nous, the University of Maine Farmington, Joanna McCoskey Wiltshire, and Fear No Music. Her music has been performed by the International Contemporary Ensemble, Duo Entre-Nous, Fresh Squeezed Opera, Jackie Glazier, Joanna McCoskey Wiltshire, Hypercube, Artifice, Invoke, Fear No Music, TURNmusic, the Pennsbury Community Band, and the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra. Megan is the Director of Education Advancement for Boulanger Initiative, is on the leadership board of District New Music Coalition, is a founding member of Artifice, and is Director of Music at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine.

Internationally-performed composer **Carrie Magin** traverses a wide emotional range with her fresh and universal voice. Recent and significant collaborations include commissions by the Trombones of the Saint Louis Symphony, Georgia College Choral Ensembles, the University of Cincinnati's CCM Chorale, and Amity Trio in addition to performances by Boston Opera Collaborative, Buffalo Chamber Players, Vocalis Chamber Choir, Interlochen World Youth Honors Choir, and Ottawa New Music Creators. Past honors include a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship, four Arts Education Grants (New York State Council on the Arts), and composer residencies with the Interlochen Arts Academy Wind Symphony, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Chamber Music Campania in Foggia, Italy. Carrie Magin holds degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She teaches at Interlochen Arts Camp and is Assistant Professor and Area Coordinator of Composition and Theory at Houghton College, where she was nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2017.

Michael Rickelton is a composer of "extremely attractive and thoughtfully shaped" (Music Web International) music. Composer Lori Laitman described Michael as having "a great and clear gift for writing for the voice." The inspiration for his work encompasses poetry, prose, visual arts, and diverse musical influences from Hässler to Nine Inch Nails. Recordings of Michael's music have been released by Albany, Delos, and Petrichor Records. He is an active and devoted music educator, serving on the music faculties of The Peabody Conservatory, Johns Hopkins, Towson University, and Loyola University Maryland. He also co-organizes Go Compose North America, an organization offering online workshops and opportunities for young composers. He resides in Baltimore with his wife and two sons. Determined to get his 13,000 steps in each day, his athletic pursuits include powerlifting, CrossFit, and coaching both of his sons' baseball teams.

Patrick Vu (b. 1998) is an award-winning composer from Allen, Texas whose music has quickly gained increasing attention in the United States. His vocal and choral music has been performed across the United States by both professional and collegiate ensembles. Even in his short career, he has already received commissions and performances from professional organizations including the VocalEssence, Dallas Chamber Choir, Chorus Austin, Fort Worth Opera, the Savannah VOICE Festival, the TEXOMA Regional NATS Conference, TMEA, ACDA, TCDA, and the International Trumpet Guild. While Patrick remains mostly self-published, his art songs have been published by North Star Music, and his choral music is published by Gentry, Hinshaw, and Alliance. Currently, Patrick is pursuing his MM in Choral Conducting from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. In May 2022, Patrick graduated with a BM in Music Composition and a BME Vocal Music Education from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

Please join us for these upcoming music events in Hendricks Chapel:

Sunday, November 13, 4 PM: Setnor Choirs in Concert

Setnor Sonority and Crouse Chorale present a fall choral concert with works by Dale Trumbore, Elaine Hagenberg, Veljo Tormis, Ivette Herryman, Kyle Pederson, Felix Mendelssohn, Eric Whitacre, Brandon Waddles, and Reginal Wright, among others.

Sunday, December 4, 4:30 PM and 7:30 PM: Holidays at Hendricks

Join us for a festive holiday concert featuring Syracuse University student ensembles:

- Syracuse University Symphony Orchestra directed by James Tapia
- The international award-winning Syracuse University Singers under the direction of John Warren
- Crouse Chorale and Setnor Sonority directed by Wendy Moy and Peppie Calvar, respectively,
- Student organists and University Organist Anne Laver on the Hendricks Chapel organ
- The Syracuse University's big band, the Morton Schiff Jazz Ensemble, directed by John Coggiola
- The World Premiere of "Quem Vidistis Pastores" from Christmas Cantata, by Peppie Calvar

For more information, visit chapel.syracuse.edu.

Stay in Touch!

Sign up for Hendricks Chapel's Emails



Direct your phone's camera at the QR code to access our form.