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John J. Cali School of Music Immersive
Residency Program

2-15-2023

Voces8

John J. Cali School of Music

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OPUS 3 ARTISTS

PRESENTS

VOCES 8

CHORAL DANCES

FEATURING

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Dr. Heather J. Buchanan, *conductor*

VOCES8

Andrea Haines, *soprano*

Molly Noon, *soprano*

Katie Jeffries-Harris, *alto*

Barnaby Smith, *alto and artistic director*

Blake Morgan, *tenor*

Euan Williamson, *tenor*

Christopher Moore, *baritone*

Dominic Carver, *bass*

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 17 | 7:30-9PM

NO INTERMISSION

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

32 LAKESIDE AVENUE

VERONA, NJ 07044

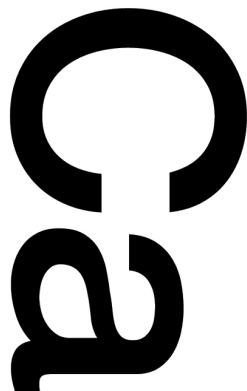
Anthony Mazzocchi

Director

John J. Cali School of Music

Daniel Gurskis

Dean, College of the Arts



CALI SCHOOL OF MUSIC

**CALI
IMMERSIVE
RESIDENCY
PROGRAM**



**MONTCLAIR STATE
UNIVERSITY**

John J. Cali School of Music

OPUS 3 ARTISTS

PRESENTS

V O C E S 8

CHORAL DANCES

FEATURING

Montclair State University Singers

Dr. Heather J. Buchanan, *conductor*

Haec Dies

WILLIAM BYRD
(1543-1623)

Choral Dances from *Gloriana*

BENJAMIN BRITTEN
(1913-1976)

1. Time
2. Concord
3. Time and Concord
4. Country Girls
5. Rustics and Fishermen
6. Final Dance of Homage

Straighten Up and Fly Right

NAT 'KING' COLE, arr. Jim Clements
(1919-1965)

Cheek to Cheek

IRVING BERLIN, arr. Jim Clements
(1888-1989)

Bogoróditse Devo from *All-Night Vigil*

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF
(1873-1943)

Performed by the Montclair State University Singers

A Hymn to the Virgin

BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Featuring the Montclair State University Singers

Boureé

J.S. BACH, arr. Ward Swingle
(1685-1750)

As Vesta Was from Latmos Hill Descending

THOMAS WEELKES

(1576–1623) Dessus le Marché D'Arras

ORLANDO DI LASSO
(1532–1594)

Underneath the Stars

KATE RUSBY, arr. Jim Clements
(b. 1973)

Moondance

VAN MORRISON, arr. Alexander L'Estrange
(b. 1945)

Sway

LUIS DEMETRIO and PABLO BELTRÁN RUIZ,
arr. Alexander L'Estrange
(1931–2007; 1915–2008)

Come Fly with Me (To the Moon)

BART HOWARD,
JIMMY VAN HEUSEN, & SAMMY CAHN,
arr. Alexander L'Estrange
(1915–2004; 1913–1990; 1913–1993)

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Please silence mobile phones and refrain from photos and recording

V O C E S 8

CHORAL DANCES

A Note on the Program

Since the first music was created, music and dance have been constantly entwined. From chapels and courts to cinemas and clubs, this programme rejoices in choral music inspired by dance. Juxtaposing Renaissance music with jazz and pop creates a rare mix of the ethereal and angelic, along with pure foot-tapping fun: a showcase for VOCES8's inimitable stage presence.

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Dr. Heather J. Buchanan, *conductor*

Steven W. Ryan, *accompanist*

Soprano I

Abigail Brodnick
Deonia Conquest
Sailor DeRito
Emma DiLauro*
Maya Henry
Shannon Leff
Janey Lui
Maeve Marron
Brooke Raughton
Thalia Suleymanov

Alto I

Inessa Accilien
Emily Arleo
Anastasia Baker
Sabrina Cantatore
Mackenzie Conaway*
Alianna Davis
Gabrielle Guida
Emily Hicken
Melissa Hughes
April Kachnic
Cristina Latino
Jackie Wick^^
Abbie Wiedemann

Tenor I

Abner Bonifacio
Mitchell Hernandez
Dylan Kozlak*
Michael Mottram
Samuel Sanchez
Skyler Westling

High Baritone

Omar Abdallah
Rashaun Ashley
Kevin Gilroy
Harrison Smith*
Joey Staltari
Christopher Vehmas

Soprano II

Taylor Amato^
Eliza Arnone
Cristina Clare
Dillan Dabice
Marla Gordon
Julia Krempasky
Sabina Kunze
Christine Tanko+
Ava Youngreen

Alto II

Allie Blanchard
Gabby Cintrón
Laurel Cousineau
Samantha Gerbrick
Emma Gunther
Jasmine Jones
Arianna Joseph
Astrid Le
Alexa Tabbacchino
Alex Vandermaas

Tenor II

Joey Cooper
Justin McBurney
Tim Nuzzetti
Nate Robin
Griffin Shoemaker
Benjamin Silvesti

Bass-Low Baritone

Ryan Avallone
RJ Chandler
Chris D'Amato
Marcello Fois
David larkowski
Sean Johnson
Ian Kearney
Chisom Maduakor
Julio Santiago

The 2023 Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble VOCES8 is proud to inspire people through music and share the joy of singing. Touring globally, the group performs an extensive repertory both in its *a cappella* concerts and in collaborations with leading musicians, orchestras, conductors and soloists. Versatility and a celebration of diverse musical expression are central to the ensemble's performance and education ethos which is shared both online and in person.

VOCES8 has performed at many notable venues since its inception in 2005 including Wigmore Hall, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Cité de la Musique Paris, Vienna Konzerthaus, Tokyo Opera City, NCPA Beijing, Sydney Opera House, Mariinsky Theatre Concert Hall, Victoria Concert Hall Singapore, Palacio de Bellas Artes Mexico City amongst many others. This season they perform over 100 concerts in the UK and across Europe, in Israel and the USA – a welcome return to touring after the covid restrictions.

The group's entrepreneurial and community spirit and its innovative approach are fostered by the Co-Founders of VOCES8, brothers Paul and Barnaby Smith. The pandemic has provided the impetus for VOCES8 to further transform its already exceptional offerings, nurturing a new audience community providing hope, resilience and a chance to engage with classical music in new ways. Pioneering initiatives include ventures such as the *LIVE From London* digital festivals and the *VOCES8 Digital Academy*.

LIVE From London was created as a specific response to the pandemic. Winning praise for its collaborative approach from artists, press and audiences around the world, the team

has delivered five digital festivals to date, broadcasting 70 concerts and selling 150,000 tickets in over 75 countries. The *VOCES8 Digital Academy* is an online choral programme for high schools, colleges and individuals featuring live interaction with members of the ensemble, live and recorded lectures, and video resources to learn and perform music from the renaissance to today.

Alongside this online work on its own platforms VOCES8 is heard regularly on albums, international television and radio. The ensemble is a Decca Classics artist and alongside that releases projects on its own label, *VOCES8 Records*. The latest Decca Classics album is "The Lost Birds" featuring music by Christopher Tin which is nominated for a Grammy at the 2023 Awards. New projects with Eric Whitacre, Paul Simon and Taylor Scott Davis are being released in 2023.

VOCES8 is passionate about music education and is the flagship ensemble of music charity the *VOCES8 Foundation*, which actively promotes 'Music Education For All'. Engaging in a broad range of outreach work that reaches up to 40,000 people a year, the group runs an annual programme of workshops and masterclasses at the Foundation's home in London, the *VOCES8 Centre* at St Anne & St Agnes Church. Dedicated to supporting promising young singers, the group awards eight annual choral scholarships through the *VOCES8 Scholars* initiative. These scholarships are linked to the annual Milton Abbey Summer School at which amateur singers of all ages are invited to work and perform with VOCES8. Through the separate VOCES8 USA Foundation there is another set of talented Scholars

VOCES8 is proud to be working with Roxanna Panufnik as the group's Composer-in-Residence, and Jim

Clements as Arranger-in-Residence. The ensemble has premiered commissions from Jonathan Dove, Roxanna Panufnik, Roderick Williams, Paul Smith, Jocelyn Hagen, Melissa Dunphy, Ken Williams, Taylor Scott Davis, Alexander Levine, Alexia Sloane, Alec Roth, Ben Parry, Ola Gjeilo, Mårten Jansson, Philip Stopford, Graham Lack, Thomas Hewitt Jones and Owain Park. As ambassadors for Edition Peters the ensemble publishes educational material including the *VOCES8 Method*. Developed by Paul Smith, this renowned and unique teaching tool is available in four languages and adopts music to enhance development in numeracy, literacy and linguistics. Also available are anthologies of its arrangements, and an ever-expanding *VOCES8 Singles* range.

General Management of VOCES8 is provided by Robin Tyson at Edition Peters Artist Management. Exclusive North American Booking Representation is provided by Opus 3 Artists.

The Montclair State University choral program is an inclusive and dynamic community built on humanistic values (INTEGRITY – COMPASSION – RESPECT), artistic excellence, and service through music. Montclair State's flagship choir, **UNIVERSITY SINGERS** is an auditioned mixed-voice elective ensemble comprising undergraduate and graduate students. The choir performs a wide variety of choral styles/genres, with special interest in contemporary composers and thought-provoking repertoire contributing to important issues in our community and the world at large. Collaborative artist Steven W. Ryan has been their accompanist since September 2006.

An important ensemble in the NJ arts community, University Singers perform regularly with the New Jersey Symphony

Orchestra, presenting Handel's *Messiah* annually since 2014. They have also sung Mozart's *Requiem* under Jacques Lacombe (2013) and Xian Zhang (2018). In October 2018 they gave the US Premiere performance of *Speak Out!* by Kate Whitley (UK), an inspiring work based on texts by Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala, for the NJSO's 2018-19 season opening. The choir's relationship with renowned composer-artist Meredith Monk culminated with the 2012 Grammy-nominated *Songs of Ascension* on the prestigious European label ECM Records under legendary producer Manfred Eicher. The choir's first solo CD recording, *I Sing Because...* was released in March 2020 and is also available for digital download on Spotify and iTunes. National media attention via *The Today Show*, *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, and regional news/media outlets during 2020-21 highlighted the choir's innovative, impactful performing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021-22 season highlights included two NYC debut performances: collaborating with the internationally acclaimed UK-based vocal ensemble VOCES8 at Merkin Hall; and the MSU-Cali showcase event in the Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium at The Metropolitan Museum. This season the choir performed the NY metropolitan premier of the new social justice piece *Weather* (Rollo Dilworth) in collaboration with the MSU Wind Symphony (Dr. Thomas McCauley, conductor), and are honored to collaborate again with VOCES8 through the Cali Immersive Residency Program.

Building on a distinguished 115-year history, Montclair State is proud to be a leading institution of higher education in New Jersey. The university's six colleges and schools serve more than 21,500 undergraduate and graduate students in over 300 majors, minors, concentrations,

and certificate programs. The University Singers' performances are broadcast on Cali Live and the Cali YouTube Channel.

Australian-born conductor **Heather J. Buchanan, PhD**, is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Montclair State University (MSU) where she conducts choirs ranging in size from 24 - 160 voices. Choirs under her direction have won critical acclaim for their "heartfelt conviction," "grace and precision," "vibrant sound," "eloquence", and for singing with the "crispness and dexterity of a professional choir." During her 20-year tenure, MSU choirs have collaborated with a variety of renowned national and international performing artists, perform masterworks regularly with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra (NJSO), and have sung on commercially produced recordings with Meredith Monk (*Songs of Ascension*) and the NJSO (*Carmina Burana* and *Verdi Requiem*). The MSU Singers released their first solo CD recording *I Sing Because...* in March 2020.

Dr. Buchanan holds degrees from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music (Australia), Westminster Choir College of Rider University (USA), and the University of New England (Australia). A licensed Body Mapping Educator since 2002, Dr. Buchanan specializes in the teaching of this neuro-anatomical educational technique that trains musicians to attain freedom of expression through effective movement. In June 2017 she was awarded the *Barbara Conable Teaching Award* by the Association for Body Mapping Education (ABME) in recognition of exemplary teaching, innovative ideas, support to colleagues, active involvement in ABME, & personal growth. A vibrant teacher, dynamic performer, and passionate musicians' health advocate, Dr. Buchanan is in

demand as a guest conductor, somatic educator, and choral clinician in the U.S. and abroad. In June-July 2023 she will undertake a comprehensive five-week national tour for the Australian National Choral Association, guest conducting and leading choral conducting/pedagogy and Body Mapping workshops in six states.

Steven W. Ryan joined the Cali School faculty in 2006. He has performed as an orchestral keyboardist with most of the major orchestras in New York City, including members of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra. He has played celesta with the legendary Berlin Philharmonic at Carnegie Hall; piano, harpsichord, and portative organ with the Dessoff Choirs; and synthesizer with the Moody Blues rock band. He has collaborated with conductors such as Lorin Maazel, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Neeme Järvi, Bernhard Haitink, Gerard Schwarz, and Maxim Shostakovich, among others. Mr. Ryan took first place in the 2001 Concours des Grands Amateurs de Piano. At the close of this international competition, he was engaged to perform Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-Flat Minor at the Sorbonne in Paris. In addition to winning the French competition, Steven took second prize in the 2000 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs. In July 2022 he performed Messiaen's *Couleurs de la Cité Céleste* with the Wind Symphony (Dr. Thomas McCauley, *conductor*) in Prague for WASBE Conference. Steven recently performed at Merkin Hall with VOCES8 in their collaboration with Montclair State University's Vocal Accord.

Special thanks to **Pastor Fr. Peter G. Wehrle** and Music Director **Vincent Carr** for use of the beautiful **Our Lady of the Lake** venue.

The Cali School of Music
at Montclair State University
aims to create dynamic and
comprehensive pathways
to higher education
and careers in music



Cali pathways project

Goal

Identify young motivated students
and assist them in breaking down
the barriers that may otherwise
preclude them from achieving their
full musical potential.

Through the generosity of our
donors, the Cali School will
ensure that these students have
the educational and musical
resources to advance their
goals. This support may include:

- Acquisition of a musical instrument
- Private instruction
- Master classes and workshops
- Mentoring
- Tuition aid to summer camps
- On-campus activities at MSU
- Travel expenses to
and from instruction
- Full tuition remission to the
Cali School of Music



for talented
student musicians
from under-
represented
backgrounds.

For more information or to nominate a student:

www.montclair.edu/music/pathways



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John J. Cali School of Music