

# ARTS & MINDS

Sunday, December 15, 2013



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Letter From the Director





# DIRECTOR

s I write this letter just two days before Thanksgiving (and one day before Chanukah!), I can't help being inspired by the many reasons we at Madison Youth Choirs have to give thanks.

#### Thank you for:

- making the choice and commitment to enroll your singers in our organization
- valuing a deeper, more connected approach to music education
- donating your time, your energy, and your money
- being with us today to hear our incredible young singers share their music

Reflecting on our young musicians' thoughtful study of this year's theme, "Arts and Minds," I'm thankful that I get to work for an organization and a musical community that values the kind of thinking and learning that happens in our rehearsals.

Today you'll hear repertoire that we've explored with our singers in order to start making connections between music and visual art. As we continue to work with our singers to help them become "expert noticers" who use music as a lens to discover the world and delve into life's deeper questions, we are also working with them to connect that same type of thinking to visual art.

Many thanks to Mark Pflughoeft for his incredible work on our program cover and for his beautiful work you can see displayed in the back of the sanctuary. Enjoy today's concerts!

Mike Ross

Artistic/Executive Director

### PLEASE NOTE ...

Every MYC concert is recorded, and each concert represents the extraordinary effort and hard work of our young musicians. We want them to remember their performance for its artistry, not its interruptions.

Please silence or turn off all electronic devices. And if you are attending with young children and they are having trouble enjoying the concert quietly, please consider stepping out into the lobby.

Thank you for your cooperation.



#### **MYC STAFF**

Michael Ross, artistic/executive director Lynn Hembel, managing director Nicole Sparacino, development director Ian Disjardin, rehearsal coordinator Alvssa Gunsolus, program services coordinator Lori Koeritzer, artistic administrative assistant Calli Ingebritsen, instructor Margaret Jenks, conductor Andrew Johnson, accompanist Lisa Kjentvet, conductor Steve Radtke, accompanist Marcia Russell, conductor Jess Salek, accompanist Lisa Shimon, conductor Margaret Stansfield, instructor Randal Swiggum, conductor

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Our winter concerts are generously sponsored by **American Girl Fund for Children** and **Dane Arts**, with additional funds from the **Evjue Foundation** (the charitable arm of *The Capital Times*) and **BMO Harris Bank**.



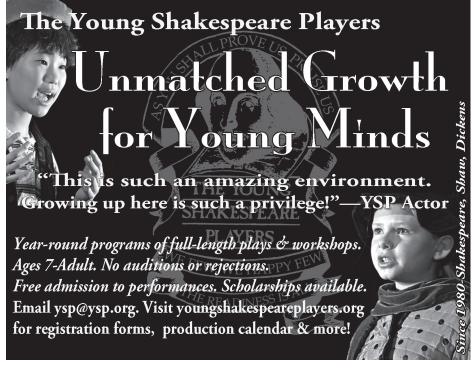




Join us in congratulating Purcell, Britten, Holst, and Ragazzi on their invitation to the Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Aberdeen, Scotland.

In late July 2014, 72 members of our boychoirs will embark on an amazing week of learning, community-building and musicmaking at one of the world's largest celebrations of youth arts.





**Arts & Minds Winter Concerts** 











# **ARTS & MINDS**

1:30 p.m. Sunday, December 15, 2013 First Congregational Church

#### **CANTILENA**

Lisa Shimon, conductor Steve Radtke, piano

#### **RAGAZZI**

Michael Ross, conductor Jess Salek, piano

#### **CANTABILE**

Michael Ross, conductor Jess Salek, piano



#### **CANTILENA**

Be Like the Bird Abby Betinis (b. 1980)

Anna Welton-Arndt, flute

Grace Welton, Isabella Kania, Greta Larget, Susie Mulheran, Grace Little; vocal quintet

This haunting melody was written by the niece of Alfred Burt, who wrote "Caroling, Caroling" and other famous carols. The Burt family had a tradition of sending Christmas cards with carols they had composed, and Betinis wrote this one the Christmas after she succeeded in beating cancer for the second time. When sung in a round, this melody weaves many colors together to create a beautiful tapestry of sound.

#### **Turn Then Thine Eyes** (from *The Fairy-Queen*)

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

This chorus is from Purcell's operatic setting of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Just before this particular chorus, the character Hymen (the God of Marriage) has lost his belief in love and says, "My torch has long been out, I hate on loose dissembled vows to wait, where hardly Love outlives the wedding night, false flames, Love's meteors, yield my torch no light."The women of the chorus try to change his mind, singing, "Turn then thine eyes upon those glories there, and catching flames will on thy torch appear."

Nigra Sum Pablo Casals (1876-1973)

The Biblical text set here comes from the Song of Songs and portrays a woman of lowly stature who is noticed by a great king. She is said to be "black, but beautiful", referring here to the fact that she is a woman who spends her days working outside in the fields, giving her skin a tanned, weathered look. Our Cantilena singers had many rich discussions about what makes a woman beautiful: conforming to today's standards or having an inner confidence and beauty. Our singers also looked at several famous paintings that portrayed women who weren't traditionally beautiful, but had been chosen by the artists because of a particularly engaging or compelling quality.

Gate, Gate Brian Tate (b. 1954)

The Sanskrit text is from the end of the Prajnaparamita Heart Sutra, generally regarded as the essence of Buddhist teachings. Gate means gone - from suffering to the liberation of suffering, gone from forgetfulness to mindfulness. Paragate means gone, all the way to the other shore, all the way over. Parasamgate means everyone, all going to the other shore. Bodhi is the light inside, enlightenment or awakening; and svaha is a cry of joy or excitement, like "Hallelujah!"

Our Cantilena singers enjoyed looking at pieces of art that embodied this feeling of joy and spiritual fulfillment, especially works depicting dancing and making music. (Program notes adapted from the composer.)

#### **RAGAZZI**

**Sicut Rosa** 

Orlando di Lasso (c.1530-1594)

(sung in Latin)

As a rose among the thorns makes them beautiful, So does the Virgin Mary transform her own child; For she has produced a flower which gives fragrance to life.

Lasso was one of the most famous and important composers in the world at the end of the 16th century. Information about his early years is scarce, but famous (mostly untrue) stories still survive; the most widely-known of which tells us that as a young boy his voice was so beautiful that he

was kidnapped three times by rival choirs. Although this story is likely untrue, it speaks to his fame (who but the most famous has stories surrounding their youth that still remain after almost 500 years!). Sicut Rosa is a motet — a somewhat generic term for a polyphonic (multiple voices that move at different times) composition with a religious text. This piece comes from a set of 24 songs for two voices. Even in this somewhat simple duet, Lasso's expertise in weaving competing and complimentary melodic lines is apparent.

#### The Roadside Fire (from Songs of Travel)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

I will make you brooches and toys for your delight Of bird-song at morning and star-shine at night, I will make a palace fit for you and me Of green days in forests, and blue days at sea.

I will make my kitchen, and you shall keep your room, Where white flows the river and bright blows the broom; And you shall wash your linen and keep your body white *In rainfall at morning and dewfall at night.* 

And this shall be for music when no one else is near. The fine song for singing, the rare song to hear! That only I remember, that only you admire, Of the broad road that stretches and the roadside fire. — Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

From a song-cycle based on the volume of poems by Robert Louis Stevenson of the same name, The Roadside Fire begins with a piano accompaniment evoking the bubbly delight of new love. The final section takes the celebration of love to a "shout it from the rooftops" sort of level before ending in a more personal, private manner.

#### The Young Man's Song (premiere)

Eric William Barnum (b. 1979)

9

I whispered, "I am too young," And then, "I am old enough;" Wherefore I threw a penny To find out if I might love. "Go and love, go and love young man, If the lady be young and fair," Ah penny, brown penny, brown penny, I am looped in the loops of her hair.

Oh love is the crooked thing, There is nobody wise enough To find out all that is in it, For he would be thinking of love Till the stars had run away, And the shadows eaten the moon. Ah penny, brown penny, brown penny, One cannot begin it too soon. — William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

Yeats' stunning poem about love and youth has been the inspiration for many choral composers (including as part of a commission by Stephen Paulus written for the Madison Boychoir). This setting weaves soaring vocal lines against an equally interesting and supportive piano accompaniment. It was commissioned by a group of Midwest choral groups including the Madison Youth Choirs. Eric William Barnum is a well-known choral composer and currently the Director of Choral Activities at UW-Oshkosh.



Byker Hill

Traditional British song Arranged by Mitchell Sandler

Scottish coal miners endured harsh working and living conditions. This song refers to two especially successful Scottish mines Byker Hill and Walker Shore. In the song, the miners (collier lads) unwind after a day of unenviable conditions by drinking bumble (a mixture of gin and beer) and becoming increasingly absurd (talk of hitting a pig with a shovel and dancing a jig is clearly not to be taken literally). This arrangement is based on the version by the San Francisco-based men's choir Chanticleer.

#### **CANTABILE**

Ich weiß nicht (Op. 113, no. 11) (sung in German)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

I know not why the dove coos in the grave.

Does she lament, like my soul, waiting for the friend who has strayed away from her?

- Frederich Rückert

What begins as a simple tune becomes a complex four-part composition in the hands of an accomplished composer. Brahms crafts a complex canon (round) out of his unison melody.

Les Berceaux (op. 23, no.1)

Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)

(sung in French)

Along the quay, the great ships, that ride the swell in silence, take no notice of the cradles. that the hands of the women rock.

But the day of farewells will come, when the women must weep, and curious men are tempted towards the horizons that lure them!

And that day the great ships, sailing away from the diminishing port, feel their bulk held back by the spirits of the distant cradles. — Rene (Sully) Prudhomme (1839-1907)

Prudhomme (who was the winner of the first Nobel Prize in literature) writes of the conflict between family and the lure of exploration. Fauré sets the text against a piano accompaniment with a rolling rhythm, conjuring images of the sea and of cradles rocking.

#### Nochevala Tuchka Zolotaya

Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908)

(sung in Russian)

Once upon a time, a golden cloud on the bosom of a cliff was sleeping, By sunrise it, with a breeze, was sweeping, gaily playing with its azure shroud. But some traces of the cloud were seeping into the craggy wrinkles. In the desert, the cliff stood and mused without comfort, deeply thinking, desperately weeping. — M. Lermontov (1814-1841)

Rimsky-Korsakov was a member of the group of Russian composers known as "The Five". Though best known for his large-scale works like *Scheherazade* and the orchestra interlude *The Flight of the Bumblebee* from his 1899 opera *The Tale of Tsar Sultan*, the composer also set art songs, sacred choral works, and some secular works, like this setting of a famous Russian poem.



sam was a man

(sun or snow)

rain or hail heart was big
sam done as the world aint square
the best he kin with room for the devil
till they digged his hole and his angels too

:sam was a man yes,sir

stout as a bridge what may be better
rugged as a bear or what may be worse
slickern a weazel and what may be clover
how be you clover clover

gone into what sam was a man like all them kings grinned his grin you read about done his chores and on him sings laid him down.

a whippoorwill; Sleep well

- E.E. Cummings (1894-1962)

Both E. E. Cumming's brilliant poem and Persichetti's effective composition offer more than immediately meets the eye (or ear). The titular Sam was a complicated person — with room in his heart for "the devil" and "his angels", who was "stout" and "rugged" and slick ... and more. Persichetti matches the poem by using what on first hearing seems to be a simple three-note motif, heard first in the piano but upon further study reveals jazz-inspired melody and harmony, rhythms that look simple on the page but sound complex ... and more.

(nobody'll know)

 Svatba
 Traditional Bulgarian

 (sung in Bulgarian)
 Arranged by K.Todorov

A great dark fog is gathering, Stoiane.

It wasn't, it wasn't a great dark fog, but it was very much a sad Boyar wedding.

Ahead of the wedding a well-fed horse was leading.

On the horse was a young maiden, on her head a red kerchief fluttered.

This traditional Bulgarian wedding song, sung in a hard-voice style, is often performed by the amazing Bulgarian women's choir Le Mysteré des Voix Bulgares.

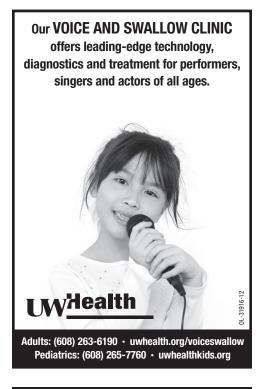
With or Without You

U2, based on an arrangement by Scala/Kolacny Brothers choir

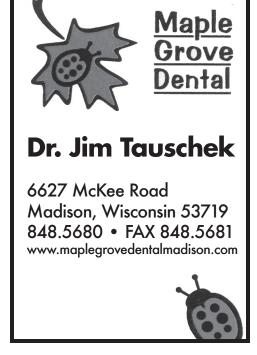
Transcribed and arranged by George Chung

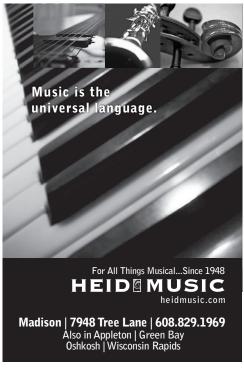
The Belgian women's choir Scala and their conductor/arrangers the Kolacny brothers became an internet sensation in 2010 when their version of Radiohead's *Creep* was used in the trailer for the movie *The Social Network*. More than 250 million people have seen the trailer in the theaters, TV, or online. Since then, their success and popularity has grown with the release of several albums. They work as an "indie-rock" choir, with Stijn and Steven Kolacny writing choral arrangements of songs by Kings of Leon, Foo Fighters, Nirvana, and here, U2. *With or Without You* is from the 1987 album *The Joshua Tree*. In 2010 it was included in *Rolling Stone*'s list of "The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time".













# **ARTS & MINDS**

4:30 p.m. Sunday, December 15, 2013

First Congregational Church

#### **PURCELL**

Margaret Jenks, conductor Andrew Johnson, piano

#### BRITTEN

Randal Swiggum, conductor Steve Radtke, piano

#### **HOLST**

Margaret Jenks, conductor Randal Swiggum, conductor

#### **RAGAZZI**

Michael Ross, conductor Jess Salek, piano



#### **MADISON BOYCHOIR**

#### Magno gaudens gaudio

Anonymous, 12th century

(sung in Latin)

Magno gaudens gaudio nostra puericia Psallat cum tripudio propter hec natalia! Ad onorem innocentum sonent lire timpana. Lete mentis argumentum cantus sit et organa.

Refrain: lure festi cum celesti curia Gratulemur et letemur, eya! Nostra sint familia iocus et Leticia, Risus pax et gracia cum perenni gloria.

Gaudeamus, pueri, Herodes defunctus est. Facti sumus superi hostis noster victus est penam ferens infernalem surgere non poterit Et nos agnum immortalem sequimur quo ierit. Rejoicing with great joy, let our company of boys Celebrate with song and dance this anniversary feast! In honor of the Innocents let harps and drums sound. Let songs and instruments bear witness to a happy mind.

Rightly festive, with the court of heaven Let us rejoice and be merry. Eya! Let our family of boys be made up of games and gladness, Laughter, peace, and grace, to eternal glory.

Let us rejoice, boys! Herod is dead! We have conquered, our enemy is overcome. Suffering eternal torment, he will not rise again, And we shall follow the immortal Lamb wherever he may go.

Imagine a few leaves of parchment folded together, poorly written, decayed by dampness, marred by stains and the ravages of time. *Magno gaudens* comes from such a songbook, probably copied around 1200, but discarded within a generation or so and used as flyleaves for another book. This is fortunate, for repurposing the paper (which was expensive), some unknown benefactor preserved for us over thirty medieval songs and poems. The songbook was then discarded and remained hidden for some six hundred years.

Most of the songs are associated with major liturgical festivals, especially those that fall during the very festive period between Christmas and New Year's. The tone of this song is joyful — suggesting great celebrations in the darkest, coldest and deadest time of the year.

We know that this song was sung particularly by boys because of its opening line. We also know the occasion: the Feast of Innocents (December 28) which marks Herod's massacre of children to destroy the Christ Child. Did they dance to it? Sing it in processional? We don't know for sure. But we do know that boys, far from their families and hometowns, growing up in a cathedral choir school or monastic institution certainly formed their own little "family" characterized by "games and gladness, laughter, peace, and grace."

#### **PURCELL**

#### Ich will den Herrn loben

Georg Phillip Telemann (1681-1767)

(sung in German)

Amber Dolphin, violin; Eric Miller, cello; Zachary Yost, flute

I will praise the Lord at all times.

*His praise will be always in my mouth.* (Psalm 34:1)

The custom of signing a guest book after dinner with friends dates back several hundred years. On several occasions, the renowned German composer Telemann chose to do more than sign his name — he signed the page with music: in this case this little ditty, a complex canon in three parts. Its melismas and athletic melody give it a robust, joyful character.

The canon was an extremely versatile genre in the 17th and 18th centuries and could be used to satisfy a wide variety of musical demands. Serving an educational function, canons helped young students to sing in parts, a practice that continues to this day. We used this canon not only to learn about the demands of Baroque singing style and to practice some relatively difficult part



singing, but also as a way of noticing patterns and repetition in the world and art around us. The idea of patterns that repeat and fit together like a canon is both visually and aurally compelling.

#### **Express Train**

Alasdair Nicolson (b. 1961)

Scottish composer Alasdair Nicolson set Scottish poet Robert Louis Stevenson's poem *From a Railway Carriage* to create an exciting sound-picture of an accelerating locomotive. The galloping rhythms and expansive vocal range capture the sensation of a high-speed trip through towns and countryside. Every Purcell boy could remember some time that they spent looking out the window of a fast moving car or train, wondering about the glimpses of stories they saw on their journey.

We explored the perspective of seeing something from a window passing quickly by as opposed to being a part of any one of the scenes. The idea of perspective — being aware that we are understanding things from a certain angle or view — is helpful in interpreting language and visual art. We discussed various ways that the composer helps to make the visual perspective clear — for example, the quickly moving accompaniment, the fast, leaping vocal line and the dynamics that build and diminish to show the passing from scene to scene.

#### Walking in the Air

Howard Blake (b. 1938)

Written for the 1982 film *The Snowman*, this piece also describes passing landscapes like *Express Train*. However it is clear from the easy, floating melodic line and magical sounding minor tonality that these scenes are being viewed from a very different perspective. Purcell boys thought that the many melodic leaps up and the "hovering" feeling of the melody contributed to the sense of floating or flying.

With both of these pieces, we discussed an important issue: Is this song about one thing or more than one thing? Most of the boys felt that the music and poetry, while fitting with *The Snowman*, also fit with many things that they had experienced — flying in a plane, climbing a high mountain, looking out from a hill where the view was expansive, or even sitting on the perch of a tree house. This was an important thing to discover about great art — it can feel both very personal and have a universal quality at the same time.

#### BRITTEN

**Bright is the Ring of Words** (from Songs of Travel)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Bright is the ring of words when the right man rings them,
Fair the fall of songs when the singer sings them.
Still they are caroled and said — on wings they are carried,
After the singer is dead, and the maker buried. — Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

In a concert season dedicated to intersections of visual art and music, it has been interesting to explore words used to describe both — words like "line" and "texture" and "rhythm." Before Britten began learning this piece, we looked at the single word "bright" on the board, and debated whether it was a sound or sight word. Then we looked at the phrase "bright is the ring" and realized we still could not say for certain whether the image was supposed to be visual or aural. Even the complete phrase "bright is the ring of words" was ambiguous, but it was becoming clearer that the ambiguity was intentional on the poet's part. This is just one of the magical aspects of this wonderful poem by Robert Louis Stevenson, which celebrates the legacy of the great artist (singer or composer) and how their work lives on after they are gone.

After a ringing "call to attention" from the piano, the vocal part (which has traditionally been sung by a solo baritone voice) pours forth in glorious melody, often making use of a characteristic Vaughan Williams musical signature: three notes in intervals of a second and then a third, or what we called a "knight's move." Seeing how the composer constructed nearly every measure of the piece (and its rich accompaniment) with this little melodic motif in various guises, was a fascinating puzzle to solve.



Fancie

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Although only 55 seconds long, this amazing piece gave the choir three big ideas with which to wrestle. First, motif — whether in visual art, interior decorating, or music — is a repeating idea. In this piece it is just two short notes as suggested by the word "fan-cy". Second, modulation (how music changes keys) is displayed randomly and frequently. Finally, the idea of ambiguity — how a word can have several possible meanings at the same time or how some things are not what they might seem at first notice — launched rich discussions in rehearsal.. With a text by William Shakespeare — from *The Merchant of Venice* — the piece is filled with puzzles. Why does the key keep changing? How does the ambiguity of key center play with the ambiguity of the word "fancie," which had several different meanings to Elizabethans? We are delighted to carry on a tradition of performing a piece by our namesake, Benjamin Britten, whose 100th birthday was celebrated last month with gala performances of his music around the world.

#### **All Things Bright and Beautiful**

John Rutter (b. 1945)

One of MYC's main curriculum objectives is creating young "expert noticers" (an idea developed by Margaret Jenks), which often means attending to the details of a painting, poem, or musical score, and interpreting their purpose and effect. This contemporary hymn, with an 1848 text by Fanny Alexander (1818-1895) is an anthem to expert noticing in nature, taking pleasure in the myriad details of creation. A wonderful melody to sing, it gave Britten boys the chance to share some of their favorite "that's so cool!" facts about plants, animals, weather, or natural history.

#### **HOLST**

#### All Ye Who Music Love

Baldassare Donato (1548-1603) Text by Thomas Oliphant (1799-1873)

Artistic styles are trendy. They enjoy popularity and then are replaced by newer, trendier styles. One style, the madrigal, has enjoyed comebacks and revivals continually since its heyday in the 16th century. In the 1580's of Elizabethan England, the style most in vogue was Italian, and sophisticated amateur musicians were eager for the latest musical imports from Italy, including little ditties like this one (properly a villanella). In its original form, *Chi la gagliarda* is a saucy madrigal in which a dancing teacher brags about his prowess in teaching women to dance the gagliard.

By the 19th century, singing old madrigals had come back in style, especially in England which had developed its own madrigal style. Scottish musician Thomas Oliphant was continuing a two-hundred year old tradition of publishing Italian madrigals newly "Englished" (with English lyrics) and in 1837 issued "All Ye Who Music Love" (with lyrics of a much more proper Victorian sensibility). Besides providing Holst their first experience with a classic madrigal, it also linked them to the long tradition of keeping this particular musical style alive; indeed, madrigals have been sung by high school glee clubs through the entire 20th century and show no sign of losing their trendiness.

#### **Exultate Justi in Domino**

Lodovico Grossi da Viadana (c.1560-1627)

(sung in Latin)

Rejoice in the Lord, you who are just; Praise befits the upright. Praise the Lord with the lyre; Make melody to him on the ten-stringed harp! Sing to him a new song; Play skillfully with loud shouts of joy. (Psalm 33)

Any art form is a way of knowing about something — the color of a sunrise, the patterns of a leaf, the chaos of a city street, or even anger or joy — and then finding a way to express it in a different medium, whether painted canvas, dance, or musical sounds. In the Renaissance, composers began to



actually "paint" specific words of text with melodic figures that expressed not just their feeling but something more specific about their meaning. In this motet from 1602, Viadana uses "word painting" on chitara (harp) with its fancy flourishes, and in psalterio decem chordarum (on a ten-stringed harp) with its ascending and descending scales, like student exercises. Vociferatione (loud shouts) gets a bombastic, "vociferous" melody. The whole piece is a perfectly symmetrical ABA structure, with the energetic middle section framed by a dancelike opening in triple meter, which also rounds out the ending. Viadana was a Franciscan monk who held musical posts in large churches throughout ltaly but whose influence was felt throughout Europe in the 16th century.

#### **RAGAZZI**

#### **Sicut Rosa**

Orlando di Lasso (c.1530-1594)

(sung in Latin)

As a rose among the thorns makes them beautiful, So does the Virgin Mary transform her own child; For she has produced a flower which gives fragrance to life.

Lasso was one of the most famous and important composers in the world at the end of the 16th century. Information about his early years is scarce, but famous (mostly untrue) stories still survive; the most famous of which tells us that as a young boy his voice was so beautiful that he was kidnapped three times by rival choirs. Although this story is likely untrue, it speaks to his fame (who but the most famous has stories surrounding their youth that still remain after almost 500 years!). Sicut rosa is a motet — a somewhat generic term for a polyphonic (multiple voices that move at different times) composition with a religious text. This piece comes from a set of 24 songs for two voices. Even in this somewhat simple duet, Lasso's expertise in weaving competing and complimentary melodic lines is apparent.

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I will make my kitchen, and you shall keep your room, Where white flows the river and bright blows the broom; And you shall wash your linen and keep your body white In rainfall at morning and dewfall at night.

And this shall be for music when no one else is near, The fine song for singing, the rare song to hear! That only I remember, that only you admire,

Of the broad road that stretches and the roadside fire. — Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

From a song-cycle based on the volume of poems by Robert Louis Stevenson of the same name, *The Roadside Fire* begins with a piano accompaniment evoking the bubbly delight of new love. The final section takes the celebration of love to a "shout it from the rooftops" sort of level before ending in a more personal, private manner.

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Oh love is the crooked thing,
There is nobody wise enough
To find out all that is in it,
For he would be thinking of love
Till the stars had run away,
And the shadows eaten the moon.
Ah penny, brown penny,
One cannot begin it too soon.

— William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

Yeats' stunning poem about love and youth has been the inspiration for many choral composers (including as part of a commission by Stephen Paulus written for the Madison Boychoir). This setting weaves soaring vocal lines against an equally interesting and supportive piano accompaniment. It was commissioned by a group of Midwest choral groups including the Madison Youth Choirs. Eric William Barnum is a well-known choral composer and currently the Director of Choral Activities at UW-Oshkosh.

#### **Byker Hill**

Traditional British song Arranged by Mitchell Sandler

Scottish coal miners endured harsh working and living conditions. This song refers to two especially successful Scottish mines Byker Hill and Walker Shore. In the song, the miners (*collier lads*) unwind after a day of unenviable conditions by drinking *bumble* (a mixture of gin and beer) and becoming increasingly absurd (talk of hitting a pig with a shovel and dancing a jig is clearly not to be taken literally). This arrangement is based on the version by the San Francisco-based men's choir Chanticleer.

#### **MADISON BOYCHOIR**

#### **Johnnie Cope**

18

Ken Johnston (b. 1960) Text by Adam Skirving (1719-1803)

The subject of this text is Sir John Cope (d. 1760), commander in chief of the English army defeated by Bonnie Prince Charlie and his Scottish rebels at the Battle of Prestonpans, 22 September 1745. According to legend, Cope challenged Prince Charlie to a battle and then — losing his nerve—secretly deserted his own troops in the night. "Johnnie Cope" has been "skeired" (mocked) as a coward in this famous poem ever since.

The poem itself, as well-known to Scottish schoolchildren as "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere" was to generations of Americans, was penned by a literate farmer, Adam Skirving, whose fields were trampled in the battle. This setting, with its martial music, fanfares and marching beat, was composed in 2001 by Scottish composer Ken Johnston for the National Youth Choir of Scotland. Learning to sing the piece in Scots dialect was a fun challenge, bringing life and energy to the story. The taunting "Are ye waukin' yet?" means "Are you awake yet?"

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# **ARTS & MINDS**

7:00 p.m. Sunday, December 15, 2013

First Congregational Church

#### **CHORALIERS**

Lisa Kjentvet, conductor Steve Radtke, piano

#### **CON GIOIA**

Marcia Russell, conductor Jess Salek, piano

#### **CAPRICCIO**

Lisa Kjentvet, conductor Steve Radtke, piano



#### **CHORALIERS**

**Da Pacem Domine** 

Melchior Franck (c. 1579-1639)

(sung in Latin)

Grant us peace, O Lord, in this our day.

Melchior Franck, a prolific German composer of the late Renaissance and early Baroque eras, ingeniously crafted a sophisticated sounding composition from a simple six-measure melody. Unlike traditional canons, this canon is sung at the interval of a fourth, with the second and fourth parts singing the same melody but beginning four notes lower than the others. For our singers, this piece served as an analogy for how we choose to look at a work of art: with basic understanding or with much deeper appreciation.

Dormi, Dormi

(sung in Italian)

Traditional Italian carol Arranged by Mary Goetze

Sleep, O sleep, my lovely child, King divine, King divine.

Close your eyes and sweetly slumber, King divine, King divine.

Close your eyes and sweetly slumber. Fa, Ia, Ia, Ia...

O my treasure, do not weep. Sweetly sleep, sweetly sleep.

Close your eyes, my son, my dear one. Sweetly sleep, sweetly sleep.

Close your eyes, my son, my dear one. Fa, la, la, la...

This delightful Italian carol is a study in contrast, a basic principle of art. Visual artists arrange opposing elements of color, value, size and texture to create visual interest much like a composer varies musical elements. *Dormi*, *Dormi* captures the listener's ear by alternating simple and compound meter, interchanging Italian text with syllabic singing, and varying the dynamics. The result is two distinct musical sections: one a simple legato lullaby and another full of bright and lilting joy.

This Little Light of Mine

Traditional spiritual Arranged by Ken Berg

Eric Miller, cello

Ken Berg's arrangement of *This Little Light of Mine* presents a slow, lyrical melody in contrast to the more familiar version of this song. Melody is frequently described as musical line and represents the path the ear most often follows. Listen carefully and you will hear subtle changes of color in each of the subsequent verses. The singers have enjoyed the creative aspect of interpreting the meaning of 'light', which serves as a metaphor.

**Shake the Papaya Down** 

Traditional calypso Arranged by Ruth Dwyer and Judith Waller

Grace Rosholt, claves; Haddie Ryan, maracas

Shake the Papaya Down is a delightful calypso song with a focus on repetitive syncopated rhythms. The infectious melody is a favorite among children and is presented here with two countermelodies, one based on stepwise motion and the other based on sequence.

#### **CON GIOIA**

#### One December, Bright and Clear

Traditional Catalonian carol Arranged by Mack Wilberg

MYC is fortunate to be a part of the Madison Symphony Orchestra's annual Christmas celebration held at Overture Hall. The singers noticed right away how the dancing melody and crisply dotted rhythms of One December, Bright and Clear captured the joy and excitement of a Christmas morning — or that of any morning where presents are anticipated!



#### Star of Bethlehem

John Williams (b. 1932)

Star of Bethlehem is the second of three songs set for children's choir and orchestra from the feature film Home Alone. The singers of Con Gioia noticed how the composer and lyricist created two verses, each with a ternary ABA phrase structure. They also discovered that the orchestra arrangement creates the ABA form within the texture: orchestra, voices, then orchestra again. The vocal challenge of this piece is how the melody moves from unison to two parts and back to unison, yet another variation of the ternary theme.

#### **Non Nobis Domine**

William Byrd (1543-1623)

Non Nobis Domine is a canon (round) from the Renaissance. A typical canon would have the singers enter at different times, singing the same melody at the same pitch level. In this canon, the second part enters on the fifth scale degree. We compared the craftsmanship of this melody with some drawings of optical illusions that appear to have only one picture, but in reality have two. The singers even tried to create drawings of faces that appear to have one face, but in actuality have two. Their creations were very clever.

#### Yet Gentle Will the Griffin Be

Francisco J. Núñez (b. 1965)

In this text, the moon is portrayed as the egg from a griffin (a fabled monster, usually having the head and wings of an eagle and the body of lion). The full text comes from Vachel Lindsay's *Twenty Poems in Which The Moon is the Principal Figure of Speech*.

During rehearsals, the singers were sent on a musical treasure hunt to locate small rhythmic and melodic motifs used in the piece, and then when put together, emerge into a whole. We connected this to an activity we began at camp this summer. Each singer was given a 2x2 inch piece of paper with some colors and shapes on it. They were asked to re-draw their piece onto a larger 3x3 inch piece of paper. Then they placed their piece on a grid to reveal it was actually a part of a real painting (*Night of a Thousand Stars* by Amy Giacomelli). While we typically do not approach singing this way, this was a metaphor for each of us having an important individual part to play within the whole of the choir.





Night of a Thousand Stars by Amy Giocomelli (left) and Con Gioia's recreation of the same work.

23

Fire Mary Goetze

The poem *Fire* was written by Patricia Taylor when she was thirteen years old. The words describe the potential fire has to give warmth and comfort, while at the same time, causing devastation and destruction. The music captures this dichotomy in the use of varied tempos and cascading vocal entrances. This is a theme Con Gioia will carry into the second semester as we continue to discover works of visual art that inspire multiple interpretations.



#### **CAPRICCIO**

**Dona Nobis Pacem** (sung in Latin)

Attributed to Clemens non Papa (c. 1510-1556)

Grant us peace.

Jacobus Clemens non Papa was a Netherlandish composer of the Renaissance, based for most of his life in Flanders. He was a prolific composer in many of the then-current styles, and was especially famous for his polyphonic settings of the Psalms in Dutch. This challenging five part canon leads from simple unison to great complexity, symbolizing how one attains a deeper level of understanding of an artwork over time.

**Ich jauze, ich lache** (from *BWV 15*)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

(sung in German)

I shout for joy, I laugh, I shout resoundingly for joy. You mourn with sighs; you weep over the same cause: the sudden destruction of your power distresses you.

To me such ruin has brought great joy, since in future death, devil and sin will be mocked.

This lovely duet from Bach's cantata *Denn du wirst meine Seelenicht in der Holle lassen* is a lesson in Baroque polyphony and a prime example of text painting, a compositional technique where the sound of the music reflects the literal meaning of the words. Two masterfully crafted melodies are woven together to paint a vivid picture of contrasting viewpoints, laughing at death and mourning. The subject is a lilting melody built on thirds to represent shouting and laughing for joy. The descending chromatic countersubject exemplifies mourning with musical sighs. In addition, text painting is heard in the major and minor passages and the short, separated notes on *verlacht* (laugh).

**Pavane** 

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924); arranged by Doreen Rao

Amber Dolphin, violin

Fauré's *Pavane* embodies the clarity, balance, and serenity of the Renaissance dance form of the same name as well as the subtle colour and shading of French music at the end of the nineteenth century. In the spirit of an elegant Renaissance processional, Fauré composed his *Pavane* during the summer of 1887 for Countess Greffulhe, a Parisian lady who was known for commissioning salon music. Although the piece was originally scored for cello and orchestra, the countess later realized Fauré's dream of including miming, dancing, as well as an invisible choir at an evening soiree performance in 1891. Sung entirely without words, the challenge comes in the ability to sing expressively without relying on text, using the different syllables to create subtle color changes.

J'entends le Moulin

French folksong
Arranged by Donald Patriquin

(sung in French)

Kirsten Schoff, finger cymbals; Maddy Smith, triangle; Lily Sandholm, woodblock

I hear the millwheel tique tique taque. My father is having a house built. It is being built with three gables. What do you have in your apron? It's a pie made of three pigeons.

There are three carpenters building it.

Let's sit down and eat it.

The youngest is my darling.

While sitting down they all lept up, Causing the sea and fish to tremble, And the stones on the bottom of the sea.

This lively song has a driving repetitive rhythm as its focal point. The text appears at times to be illogical and nonsensical due to its "game of rhymes" in which the final syllables of each line all rhyme with "tends" of "J'entends". However, the joyful sounds of the millwheel, rhythm instruments and rapidly articulated text spark the imagination and paint a completed picture.

24 Madison Youth Choirs

# BACH MASS in B MINOR

Madison Bach Musicians
&
Madison Choral Project

April 18, 7:30 pm First Congregational Church

> April 19, 7:30 pm First Unitarian Society

Marc Vallon, conductor Albert Pinsonneault, MCP director

6:45-7:15 pm pre-concert lecture both performances by MBM director Trevor Stephenson

information at madisonbachmusicians.org and themcp.org



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For boys in grades 2–12

Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014

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# **Music Educators**

Madison Youth Choirs wishes to recognize, honor and thank the music educators who teach and inspire our singers in their classrooms. Thank you for your dedication to the art of teaching young people!

art or teaching young	g people.		
Michael Allen	Theresa Felton	Amy Lenard	Sussanah Sasman
Eric Anderson	Christopher Forbes	Melissa Lentz	Patty Schlafer
Holly Atkinson	Abby Frederick	Nancy Lesh	Mary Schmidt
Carrie Backman	Judy Georgeson	Eric Love	Brad Schneider
Brandon Bautz	Vicky Gleason	Melissa Ludois	Frederick Schrank
Janice Baylor	Pat Greven	Claire Ma	Pam Schroeder
John Becker	Tim Gruber	Dennis McKinley	Jane Schutt
Brooksy Beilke-Skoug	Beverly Haimerl	Tim Meinholz	Ann Sederquist
Judy Bennett	Kristeen Hanson	Erika Meyer	Erin Selbee
Cheryl Bentley	Darlene Harper	Tom Mielke	Tom Shaver
Kay Black	Mark Harrod	Mindy Nelson-Bergman	Lisa Shimon
Raelynn Bodell	Ellen Hartford	Anne Nichols	Kelley Sinclair
Peggy Boettger	Janet Heineman	Jamie Niemann	James Skaleski
Barbara Brown	YoungJoo Hong	Heidi Nimm	Pam Smith
Jeff Burkel	James Huschka	Levi Olson	Rodger Solie
Jennifer Bussan	Calli Ingebritsen	Paul Otteson	Ken Stancer
Anthony Cao	Danielle Iskandarani	Michelle Pare	Margaret Stansfield
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Rhonda Chalone	Ben Jaeger	Ben Petersen	Lee Stovall
Barbara Chusid	Will Jannsen	Kevin Peterson	Heather Thorpe
Kirsten Clark	Margaret Jenks	Molly Petroff	Geri Toole
Cody Nichols	Jill Jensen	Jamie Pitt	Jesus Valencia
Mark Cyra	Guy Johnson	Christopher Powers	Andrea Van Hof
Diane Dangerfield	Sarah Jordan	Glen Pufahl	Anne Vanderbloemer
Carl Davick	Aviv Kammay	Mary Rasmussen	Brian Vanderbloemer
Laurin Dodge	Elizabeth Kiser	Heather Rattmann	Julie Verban
Patrick Dorn	Lisa Kjentvet	Nancy Reisch	Jessica Wahl
Kellen Dorner	Thomas Krabbe	Rob Rickman	Shawn Weber
Candie Douglas	Allyssa Kroes	Amanda Riley	McMahon
Scott Eckel	Cassie Krueger	Angela Roberts	James Wesson
Thomas Elmer	Sara Krueger	Sam Robinson	Chad Whalley
Ashley Erickson	James Kyle	Jessica Roys	Jennifer Yancey
Andrew Estervig	DeAnn Larson	Aggie Salter	Cindy Zblewski

Many of our members study voice privately. We wish to publicly thank the following private voice teachers who work with our members and inspire them every week to accomplish great things:

Ann Albert	Jane Ferris	Lynn Najem	Heather Thorpe
Katie Bell	Marylin Fisher	Kathy Mohs	Jessica Timman
Caitlyn Cisler	Lori Gothard	Amber Nicole Dilger	Andrea Wiltzius
Amanda Clark	Carol Graves	Kathy Otterson	
Robert Curley	Ruth Horrall	Cheryl Rowe	
Rachel Edie Warrick	Gail Koppa	J. Adam Shelton	

This list reflects information shared by our current members and is not intended to be a comprehensive list of area music teachers. If your singer's teacher is not listed and you wish for them to be recognized in our next program book, please contact the MYC office. Thank you!





# **Britten**

Samuel AndersonSavanna Oaks Middle School
Kurt BorcherdingHamilton Middle School
Luke BrownSaint Mary's School
Owen BusseJefferson Middle School
Levi CallahanMadison Country Day School
Sammy Coleman Marquette Elementary School
Bruno Crump West Middleton Elementary School
Charlie DeckHamilton Middle School
Andrew Fernandez Hamilton Middle School
Simon FordyceHamilton Middle School
Lucas HemmingO'Keefe Middle School
Christian JaegerNuestro Mundo
William KellyHome School
Jack KjentvetGlacier Creek Middle School
Clayton KruseSpring Harbor Middle School
Johannes Laurila Shorewood Hills Elementary School
Lucas Parana Hamilton Middle School
Raymond PontySennett Middle School
Jameson RoteringVerona Area Core Knowledge
Charter School
Nathaniel RyanRandall Elementary School
Ezekiel Sacaridiz Marquette Elementary School
Isaiah M.E. SmithLincoln Elementary School
Stuart Thomason Hamilton Middle School
Oliver Van NoteChavez Elementary School
Christopher Waller Hamilton Middle School
Ryan WallerLincoln Elementary School

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Sallie BestulMiddleton High School
Mara Blumenstein Madison Memorial High School
Sophia CanonWest High School
Eva CornwellMadison Memorial High School
Anna DeLong West High School
Ellis ErbMonroe High School
Maya FabianStoughton High School
Madeline Franz-BawdenMadison Memorial High
School
Eden GirmaMiddleton High School
Natalie GuseEdgewood High School
Kaitlyn HamersMadison Memorial High School
Zoe HansenVerona Area High School
Kyla JohnsonVerona Area High School
Zoe Kjos East High School

Clariel Kramer	Verona Area	High	School
Shivani Kumar	.Madison Memorial	High	School
Tessa Larson	Evansville	High	School
Samara Lerner			
Caroline Liu			
Tatiana Lyons	West	High	School
Katherine McCarthy			
Noelle McNeill			
Tatum Miller	.Madison Memorial	High	School
Arielle Mitchell	Portage	High	School
Emily Peterson	Stoughton	High	School
Maya Pierick			
Alicia Pope			
Sloan Potter	East	High	School
Ariella Rader	Middleton	High	School
Emma Rankin-Utevsl	ky East	High	School
Natalie Riopelle			
Kaia Hansen Rubin	East	High	School
Madeline Schluesche	Monroe	High	School
Deana Schmidt	Waunakee	High	School
Emily Schmidt	Middleton	High	School
Emily Stephenson	.Madison Memorial	High	School
lennifer Strugnell	West	High	School
Marlowe Thomas	Verona Area	High	School
Claire Van Fossen	Verona Area	High	School
Clare Virnoche	West	High	School
Cora Wiese Moore	East	High	School
Sophie Wolbert	West	High	School
lenine Ybanez	Verona Area	High	School
Angela Yu	Madison Memorial	High	School

# Cantilena

<u> </u>
Allison BellMadison Memorial High School
Jena BlissMadison Memorial High School
Kendra BorcherdingWest High School
Nora CahillWest High School
Claire CloughDeForest High School
Elizabeth EverittMadison Country Day School
Emma Everitt Madison Country Day School
Malaika FloresWest High School
Julia Woodruff Fritz Monona Grove High School
Holly Graser East High School
Molly GrindleMiddleton High School
Elizabeth JordanMiddleton High School
Hannah JosephMiddleton High School
Isabel KaniaMcFarland High School
Rachel KnoeblVerona Area High School

Sanjana Kumar	Madison Memorial High School
Greta Larget	Madison Memorial High School
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Susan Mulhearn	McFarland High School
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Kylie Peters	Middleton High School
Lili Pierce	Mount Horeb High School
	Sun Prairie High School
Julia Russell	West High School
Ameya Sanyal	Madison Memorial High School
	Edgewood High School
Anna Welton-Arndt.	Middleton High School
Hannah Wollack	LaFollette High School
Jillian Ybanez	Verona Area High School

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Lily Sandholm Cherokee Heights Middle School
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Rose Torti Madison Country Day School
SusanV anderbloemenWhitehorseMiddleSchool
Jillian VeldeySavanna Oaks Middle School
Jessica WangVerona Area Core Knowledge Charter School
Lucy Wendt Hamilton Middle School

Julia White	Cherokee Heights Middle School
Kirsten Wingate	McFarland High School

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Elementary School
Sesily BakerCrestwood Elementary School
Susannah BennettFranklin Elementary School
Miriam BloomIsthmus Montessori Academy
Hana Bohling Shorewood Hills Elementary School
Maya BorowskiEmerson Elementary School
Evelyn BusseCrestwood Elementary School
Megan CarolanWindsor Elementary School
Elizabeth CulverOur Lady Queen of Peace School
Sydney DaiStephens Elementary School
Ineesha FogesWindsor Elementary School
Samantha FrakesVan Hise Elementary School
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Rosemary HerringaVan Hise Elementary School
Anna Jordan-VazquezHuegel Elementary School
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Cassandra SobotaVan Hise Elementary School
Mariana ValenzuelaSaint John Vianney School
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Zoe Andrew Jefferson Middle School
Simone Asen-Klaskin Hamilton Middle School
Emma AubyGlacial Drumlin School
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Lucy BootzMount Horeb Intermediate School
Phoebe Cahill Hamilton Middle School
Abigail DavisKromrey Middle School
Emma DiasWaunakee Intermediate School
Davida DiazVan Hise Elementary School



4-
Lucy DohertyLincoln Elementary School
Maya DresangWalbridge School
Maya EdgooseWalbridge School
Lauren EngleO'Keefe Middle School
Piper ErikssonRandall Elementary School
Joy FarkasHome School
Emily Friedlander Madison Country Day School
Parnassus Funk Hamilton Middle School
Catherine GormanSaint Maria Goretti School
Riley HerrickYahara Elementary School
Acacia Holmquist Winnequah Elementary School
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Carissa HuiJohn Muir Elementary School
Ella Hursh Elm Lawn Elementary School
Grace HutterKromrey Middle School
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Sylvia Knauss Hamilton Middle School
Cassidy LongKromrey Middle School
Jennifer Lu Hamilton Middle School
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Clio Maya-Johnson Marquette Elementary School
Palma Maya-Johnson Marquette Elementary School
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Natalie SchickLincoln Elementary School
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Maria Torti Madison Country Day School

## Holst

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Aris AwesSpring Harbor Middle School
Kyle BurgerLakeside Lutheran High School
Andrew CarranToki Middle School
Noah ClarkMadison Memorial High School
Peter DimondVerona Area High School
Jeremiah EenigenburgEdgewood High School
Liam Forrest Hamilton Middle School
Albert Shoshany GlosserLaFollette High School
Marcus GrahamO'Keefe Middle School
Patrick HillHamilton Middle School
Nathaniel Johnson Hamilton Middle School
Randy KessenichVerona Area High School
Christopher Kjentvet Glacier Creek Middle School
Jacob LargetEagle School
Matias Laurila Hamilton Middle School
William MacAlister Hamilton Middle School
Henry MaluegIndian Mound Middle School
Liam NelsonSpring Harbor Middle School
Eric Roman-BinhammerEagle School
Leo RossmillerGlacier Creek Middle School
Jacob SieglerLaFollette High School
3

Connor Smith	Hamilton Middle School
Noel Tautges	Eagle School
John Unertl	Oregon High School
Michael Verban	Hamilton Middle School
Peter Woods	Eagle School
Henry Zavos	Hamilton Middle School
Jonathan Zhu	West High School

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Felix BerkelmanRandall Elementary School
Zachary BlissNorthside Elementary School
John ChafeSunset Ridge Elementary School
Alexander ConnellVan Hise Elementary School
Brennan DeMarb SchuchVan Hise Elementary School
Enzo DeRosaWinnequah Elementary School
Miles FaberVan Hise Elementary School
Jack FortneyWinnequah Elementary School
Finn FrakesVan Hise Elementary School
Ethan Fruit-RossLincoln Elementary School
Miles GarciaRandall Elementary School
Pablo GarciaFranklin Elementary School
Charlie GraboisRandall Elementary School
Owen HortonYahara Elementary School
Hansen Jin Elm Lawn Elementary School
Simon JohnsonVan Hise Elementary School
Eli KuzmaWinnequah Elementary School
Espen LyshekLincoln Elementary School
Henry Merrell-Van SickleWingra School
Ben Miller-GrandeRandall Elementary School
Kin MiuraOrchard Ridge Elementary School
lan Morrison-MiessEagle School
Logan MoslingWingra School
Vaughn PfaffVan Hise Elementary School
Henrik SiemeringVan Hise Elementary School
Aidan SigmundOur Lady Queen of Peace School
Kai SorensenVan Hise Elementary School
Logan SpahosWaubesa Elementary School
Ethan StaverWinnequah Elementary School
Mark VandenbergHigh Point Christian School
Lukas WehlitzEagle School

# Ragazzi

Morgan Alexander	West High School
William Altaweel	West High School
Gillis Benson-Scollon	West High School
Oliver Cardona	West High School
Joshua Falkos	Madison Memorial High School
Anders Frank	Mount Horeb High School
Benjamin Gellman	Madison Memorial High School
Eliav Goldman	West High School
Nathan Hemming	LaFollette High School



Noah Holland	West High School
Adam Jiumaleh	West High School
Noah Johnson	Columbus High School
Matthew Kaiser	Madison Memorial High School
Barrett Karstens	East High School
Michael Kjentvet	Middleton High School
Nathaniel Langlie	Edgewood High School
Mitchell Lattis	West High School
Eli Lipasti	Lakeside Lutheran High School
	Oregon High School
Colin Pitman	Madison Memorial High School
Christian Rasmussei	nWest High School
Mason Rather	Madison Memorial High School
an Rollo	West High School
	Verona Area High School
Derek Rott	University School of Milwaukee
Ethan Seidenberg	West High School
	Monona Grove High School
	Madison Memorial High School
Andrew Turner	Madison Memorial High School
Simon Weaver	West High School
Ethan White	West High School
Eli Wilson	West High School

#### Fall Introductory Choirs

### **Colla Voce**

Eugenia Bukhman
Eleanor Burns
Stella Cornelius
Grace DeCroix
Sofia Losada
Tess McGlenn
Kendra Mekdes Anderson
Ariana Mikkelson
Claire Pevehouse
Makeda Renfro-Sargent
Erika Schick
Gracie Sellers
Emily Thom
Isabella Urzagaste
Isabella 012agaste

## **Tallis**

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#### **ARTISTIC STAFF**

Michael Ross, Artistic/Executive Director, Conductor of Cantabile and Ragazzi

Michael was the first full-time Artistic Director of the Madison Youth Choirs and now additionally serves as Executive Director of the organization. He was previously the Music Department Chair and Vocal Music Teacher at Madison West High School. Michael was the Tallis instructor for the former Madison Boychoir for ten years. He has both bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he studied with Robert Fountain, Beverly Taylor, Julia Koza, and Anthony Barresi. Michael has also taught at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Summer Music Clinic, conducted the University Chorus at UW-Madison, and led the former Basso Continuo choir of the Madison Boychoir.

Michael has extensive accompanying and music directing experience, including having been accompanist for the Madison Boychoir and Madison Children's Choir, department accompanist for the UW-Madison choral program, and music director for many UW-Madison and area theater productions.

Michael has been active in state music organizations, having been the choral chair for the Wisconsin Music Educators' Association, accompanist for the Wisconsin Choral Directors Associations' Next Direction conference, and both section leader and accompanist for various WSMA and WCDA state honors choirs. Michael is a member of the Voice Care Network, and has been named several times to "Who's Who Among America's Teachers." Michael is an active clinician, having led clinics and choral festivals in Wisconsin, lowa, and Michigan. In January 2014 he will conduct the WCDA State Honors Children's Choir in Milwaukee.

#### Calli Ingebritsen, Colla Voce Instructor

Calli Ingebritsen is a new member of the MYC team. Calli graduated summa cum laude from the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater in 2008 with a Bachelor of Music degree in choral and general music education. For the past five years, she has taught choir and general music at Mount Horeb Area Middle School. Calli met and worked with Marcy and Margaret at the CMP workshops the past four years, and is thrilled to now be a part of the MYC team with such amazing teachers. She currently lives in Mount Horeb with her husband, Jeff. She is an active musician in area community ensembles and theatres. She enjoys reading anything she can get her hands on and crocheting.

#### Margaret Jenks, Conductor of Colla Voce, Tallis, Purcell, and Holst

Originally from Holland, Michigan, Margaret is a summa cum laude graduate of the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music. Her teaching and performing career has taken her from Freiburg, Germany to Eagan, Minnesota and to Waukesha, Wisconsin, where she taught at Butler Middle School and North High School. At Butler, Margaret created the Bridge Ensemble, an innovative choir which gained attention for its unique approach of pairing students with cognitive disabilities with gifted and talented students. The Bridge Ensemble appeared by invitation at the Wisconsin Choral Directors Convention, in a moving and memorable performance

Margaret has performed extensively as soprano soloist in such works as the Bach *Magnificat*, Haydn's *Creation*, and Handel's *Messiah*. Presently, she designs and teaches MYC's Introductory Choir programs. Margaret's idea of a choir for boys in voice change led to the founding of our Holst choir and has resulted in invitations to work with other boychoirs. In 2010, Margaret led the first ACDA Young Men's Honor Choir in Cincinnati with colleague Randy Swiggum. She and Randy also were invited to conduct the APAC Choral Festival in Seoul, Korea in 2009, mentoring teachers from across southeast Asia in a conference focused on comprehensive musicianship, MYC-style. They have since led similar conferences for teachers in Hong Kong and at Carnegie Hall. Margaret is current chair of the CMP (Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance) Project, focusing on the deeper rehearsal experience for young musicians. Since 2004, she has lived in Madison with her husband Andy and their own lively boys, Nathaniel and Simon, who intend to sing in boychoirs until they are old enough to direct them.



#### Lisa Kjentvet, Conductor of Choraliers and Capriccio

Lisa Kjentvet is in her fourteenth season with the Madison Youth Choirs and the former Madison Children's Choir. Her history with the organization began as the conductor of Capriccio for the Madison Children's Choir where she subsequently served as artistic director for two years. After serving as co-artistic director of the Madison Youth Choirs during its inaugural season, she added to her conducting responsibilities and currently directs Choraliers and Capriccio. Her choirs have appeared at regional choral festivals and the North Central American Choral Directors Association Convention.

Lisa graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in General and Choral Music Education. She has previously served as choral director at Kettle Moraine Middle School in Dousman, Wisconsin and Jefferson Middle School and Memorial High School in Madison. She has worked with various community groups including the Madison Savoyards where she met her husband, John. Now the busy mom of three boys, Lisa currently teaches music at St. Francis Xavier in Cross Plains. She is a member of the Voice Care Network and is active as a conductor, clinician, performer and private piano and voice instructor.

#### Marcia Russell, Conductor of Con Gioia

Marcia Russell teaches Choral and General Music at Platteville Middle School. She graduated magna cum laude from Lawrence University with a Bachelor of Music Degree in Voice Performance and General/Choral Music Education, and is pursuing a Masters of Music in Music Education. Ms. Russell conducts Choristers, one of the three choirs in the Platteville Children's Choirs, and Con Gioia. one of the nine choirs in the Madison Youth Choirs

Ms. Russell is an active member of ACDA and MENC, and has held many leadership roles. She has served as the WSMA Middle Level and High School Honors Choir Coordinator and Section Coach, and the Coordinator for the NC-ACDA Middle Level Boys Honor Choir. She is a member of the Wisconsin Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance (CMP) Project. As a performer, Ms. Russell finds herself at home on the musical theatre stage of UW-Platteville's Heartland Festival, having performed for over ten seasons in such shows as *The Music Man* (Mrs. Paroo 2011 and Marian Paroo 2002), *Beauty and The Beast* (Mrs. Potts), *Nunsense 2* (Mother Superior) and *Annie* (Miss Hannigan).

#### Margaret Stansfield, Instructor of Colla Voce

Margaret (Maggie) Stansfield is a magna cum laude graduate of Luther College with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and German Studies. She has been teaching voice privately and in schools since 2006. She directed the high school choirs at Lakeland Union High School in Minocqua, WI and currently instructs choir, voice, guitar and piano to 5-12th grade students at Madison Country Day School. "The Margarets" aligned when Maggie, a disciple of CMP, met Margaret Jenks and Randy Swiggum at the 2011 Wisconsin CMP workshop.

#### Randal Swiggum, Conductor of Britten and Holst

Besides ten years with MYC, Randy has served as Artistic Director of the award winning Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra since 1998. He is also Education Conductor for the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, creating and conducting its youth and family concert series. He was Artistic Director of Madison Children's Choir from 1996 — 2000 and led the first international tour for Ragazzi and Cantabile to Brazil in 1998

Recently he has conducted orchestra or choral festivals in Aberdeen, Scotland; Seoul, Korea; and Singapore, as well as the Boise Philharmonic Orchestra and The Florida Orchestra with whom he has created and conducted dozens of youth concerts including Beethoven Superhero, The Amazing Technicolor Orchestra, and What's So Scary About a Rubber Shark? In 2009, he conducted the Scottish National Youth Symphony and returned to Seoul for the APAC Choral Festival, which he co-conducted with colleague Margaret Jenks. He and Margaret also co-conducted ACDA Young Men's Honor Choirs in Cincinnati (2010) and Madison (2012). He has conducted both the Wisconsin Honors Choir and Orchestra. Randy is also a frequent consultant with music educators around



the country, most recently at the invitation of Carnegie Hall's Weill Institute. He is author of *Strate-gies for Teaching High School Chorus* (MENC 1998) and co-author of *Shaping Sound Musicians* (GIA 2003), and chair-elect for the CMP Project (Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance). He has taught at UW-Milwaukee, Lawrence University, and Whitefish Bay High School.

#### Lisa Shimon, Conductor of Cantilena

Lisa has been with MYC since 2008. She is an elementary music teacher in Stoughton and holds a bachelor's degree in Music Education from UW-Madison and a master's degree in Music Education from UN-Kearney. Before moving to Stoughton with her husband and two boys, she taught at Nathan Hale High School and Pius XI High School in Milwaukee, where her choral ensembles were recognized for their excellence.

A talented singer and pianist, Lisa has performed with the Bel Canto Chorus, Bach Chamber Choir, and other ensembles in Milwaukee, and in various venues in Stoughton and Madison. She has also provided music for many churches and has worked as clinician for area high schools and as a private voice and piano teacher. In addition to her experience with traditional choirs, Lisa has done extensive work with vocal jazz programs throughout the state and has trained many educators to work in that idiom.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

#### Lynn Hembel, Managing Director

Taking her cue from the Handbook of How to Succeed in Business with a Liberal Arts Degree (English and Art History), Lynn paid attention in class and learned how to type. This led to a myriad of opportunities, mostly beginning with the word "temporary". Knowing that temporary is never permanent, she persevered and landed a career directing human resources for a global investment management firm in San Francisco. This she loved very much, almost as much as art history.

When MYC succeeded in teaching her whistling boys how to sing, she became MYC's biggest fan and considers it a privilege to be working for her favorite non-profit. Renovating an ancient house along with her talented husband and tracking the schedules and whereabouts of her active teenagers make her days (and nights) complete.

#### Nicole Sparacino, Development Director

Nicole is thrilled to be joining the MYC team. Nicole previously served as Communications & Development Manager for Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras, where she first came to know the many fantastic folks who make the Madison youth arts community so vibrant. Nicole is a graduate of UW-Madison and the Cooperstown Graduate Program in upstate New York. She has worked with the Wisconsin Historical Museum, the Milwaukee Public Museum, The Theatre Museum, and the New York State Historical Association. In her free time, Nicole enjoys tackling increasingly elaborate recipes with her husband, hosting monthly "Bad Movie Nights," and acquiring random knowledge to stay on top of the local pub trivia scene.

#### **ACCOMPANISTS**

#### **Andrew Johnson**

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Andrew Johnson holds degrees in mathematics and piano performance from Lawrence University, where he was a student of Catherine Kautsky and winner of several competitions and prizes. His master's degree from Marquette and The Medical College of Wisconsin is in bioinformatics. Andrew's career has included work in both the math and science fields and as a freelance musician, and he has performed extensively as both a classical and jazz pianist, a choral and instrumental accompanist, and musical theatre arranger and conductor. Nowadays he is kept busy at Epic Systems, but during bits of free time Andrew can be spotted behind a drum set, djembe,



dumbek, or keyboard. Andrew has long-time connections to MYC as the father of two singing boys and husband of conductor Margaret Jenks.

#### Steve Radtke

Steve Radtke is a native of Shawano, Wisconsin. A 2007 graduate of UW–Stevens Point, Steve has a degree in piano performance, having studied with Dr. Molly Roseman. He has also had the opportunity to study composition in London with Dr. Charles Rochester Young and piano performance with Douglas Weeks at Brevard Music Festival. Steve is currently amidst his 4th tour with Opera for the Young and has worked as a freelance accompanist for more than eight years with vocalists and instrumentalists alike. In the past, he has collaborated with small ensembles such as the UWSP Opera Workshop in their productions of *Gianni Schicchi, La Boheme*, and *The Tender Land*, and UWSP Danstage in their production of Philip Glass' *Mad Rush*. Steve also enjoys dabbling in composition, improvisation, and electronic music.

#### **Jess Salek**

Jess has degrees in piano performance from Lawrence University and from State University of New York, Stony Brook, and is completing doctoral studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He has served on the teaching faculty of both Interlochen Arts Academy and Prairie Music Academy, and also as adjudicator at music festivals and concerto competitions throughout the state. Mr. Salek proudly teaches a diverse studio of 40 students. An active performer, he was a featured soloist at the 2008 Syttende Mai festival in Viroqua, WI, and also has performed a solo recital at Farley's House of Pianos. A passionate chamber musician, Mr. Salek has performed chamber concerts at Unitarian Society of Madison and has most recently, performed with Jane Peckham in a piano duo recital at Farley's. He also performs as assistant keyboardist in the Madison Symphony Orchestra and the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra for Concerts on the Square.



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Because tuition alone covers roughly half the total cost of our program, each MYC family commits to raising an additional \$200 per year as part of their fundraising commitment. For our singers, the It's MY Choir campaign combines an education in philanthropy with the excitement of sharing their enthusiasm for MYC with people dear to them. Our goal is tremendous: \$30,000 by March 2014! If you would like to sponsor a singer or make a donation in their honor, please use the form below.

Please note, because the fundraising commitment is a required part of MYC membership, the IRS does not allow us to receipt donations made to the It's My Choir campaign. Rest assured, whether your donation is made to a singer's fundraising commitment or to the general fund, your gift is used to advance music education and support the ongoing work of Madison Youth Choirs.

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