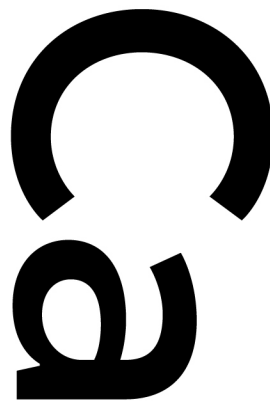


FALL CONCERT 2020

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Dr. Heather J. Buchanan, *conductor*
Steven W. Ryan, *accompanist*

CALI MUSIC LIVE
Friday, November 13th, 2020
7:00 pm



Cali School of Music



PROGRAM

Black is the Color of my True Love's Hair

Appalachian Folk Song
arr. Stuart Churchill

"Set Me As a Seal" from A New Creation

René Clausen

"The Promise of Living" from The Tender Land

Aaron Copland

*Steven W. Ryan, Piano I
Christopher Vehmas, Piano II*

Ain't No Grave Can Hold My Body Down

Traditional Spiritual
arr. Paul Caldwell & Sean Ivory
Jessica Karasik & Harrison Smith, ASL Song Signers

CALI PRODUCTION STAFF

*Phil Clifford (production manager) and Marc Critelli
Prof. Karen Driscoll: "The Promise of Living" staging
Rob Davidson: Video Production
Harrison Smith: video tableaux
MSU-ACDA Chapter: recording retreat logistical support*

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

Montclair State University Singers 2020-21

Since 2003 the Montclair State University (MSU) choral program has been recognized for its successful collaborations with world-renowned artists and celebrated professional musicians in national and international venues. The **Montclair State University Singers** is the university flagship choir - a mixed-voice elective ensemble comprising undergraduate & graduate students who are experienced musicians. Students from all schools/colleges in good academic standing may audition. University Singers performs a variety of sacred and secular repertoire, genres and styles, with special interest in contemporary composers.

Previous season highlights include New York Choral Festival Showcase Concerts performances at Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall, their ACDA Eastern Division Convention debut performance in Providence, RI (2012), their NAFME All-Eastern debut in Atlantic City, NJ (2017), Mid-Atlantic tour of the USA (May 2013), and collaborating with the esteemed American composer Morten Lauridsen on his *Nocturnes* during his November 2013 MSU residency. The choir has also toured Central Europe and Russia with performances in Prague, Budapest, Bratislava, Debrecen, Moscow, Pushkin and St. Petersburg. An important ensemble in the NJ arts community, the University Singers perform regularly with the NJSO, presenting Handel's *Messiah* annually since 2014. They have also performed 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 University Singers has also had an exciting performance relationship with renowned composer-artist Meredith Monk beginning with their historic collaboration in December 2006 and continuing with the critically acclaimed March 2009 performances of *Ascension Variations* at the Guggenheim Museum. They recorded the CD *Songs of Ascension* with Meredith Monk and Vocal Ensemble on the prestigious European label ECM Records under the legendary producer Manfred Eicher, released May 2011. This collaboration was included in the Producer of the Year section of the 2012 Grammy nominations.

2019-20 saw the choir perform the NJ and NY Metropolitan area premiere of *Considering Matthew Shepard*, two performances of *Messiah* under the baton of guest conductor Roderick Cox, with a live broadcast from the Cathedral Basilica, Newark on WQXR. Their first MSU CD project, *I Sing Because* was released in March

2020, and in April 2020 they performed André Thomas' *Mass* at Carnegie Hall under the Composer's direction.

Dr. Heather J. Buchanan, Conductor

Australian-born conductor **Heather J. Buchanan**, PhD, is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Montclair State University (MSU), New Jersey, where she conducts choirs ranging in size from 175 – 24 voices. Choirs under her direction have won critical acclaim for their “heartfelt conviction,” “vibrant sound,” “grace and precision,” and for singing with the “crispness and dexterity of a professional choir.” During her tenure, MSU choirs have collaborated with a variety of renowned national and international performing artists and composers including Meredith Monk, Richard Alston Dance Company (RADC-UK), Chen Yi, Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin (Ireland), Tarik O’Regan, members of the Vienna Philharmonic strings (Austria), and conductors Neeme Järvi, Jacques Lacombe, Xian Zhang, George Manahan, Patrick Duprè Quigley, Roderick Cox, John Mauceri, Jeffrey Schindler, and Susie Benchasil Seiter with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra (NJSO). Her choral-orchestral collaborations with the NJSO include Beethoven’s ***Ninth Symphony***, Mozart’s ***Requiem***, Verdi’s ***Messa da Requiem***, Orff’s ***Carmina Burana***, Mahler ***Symphony No. 3***, Mendelssohn’s ***Midsummer Night’s Dream***, ***Zelda: Symphony of the Goddesses***, ***Harry Potter & The Prisoner of Azkaban***, and Howard Shore’s Academy Award winning ***The Lord of the Rings Symphony***, with Handel’s ***Messiah*** annually since December 2014. Her choirs have sung on commercially produced recordings with Meredith Monk (***Songs of Ascension***) and the NJSO (***Carmina Burana*** & Verdi ***Requiem***).

Dr. Buchanan’s guest conducting and residency engagements are wide-ranging and include US and international venues. Highlights include ***Passion of Italy 2017*** (Rome & Florence); The 2016 ***Fall for Dance*** festival in NYC; ***Firenze 2015*** (Florence, Italy); the Australian ***Voices across the Pacific*** choral festival (July 2014); the Queensland Conservatorium’s 2014 State Honours Education Program (Australia); Britten’s ***Rejoice in the Lamb*** with RADC for ***Peak Performances*** 10th Anniversary, again at Sadler’s Wells (London) for the RADC 20th Anniversary Season opening; the 30th Anniversary ***Pacific Basin Music Festival*** (Hawaii); CODA Festivals at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts; and headlining the 2017 and 2020 Australian Choral Conductor’s Education and Training Summer School (Melbourne).

Dr. Buchanan holds degrees from the Queensland Conservatorium of Music, Griffith University (Australia), Westminster Choir College of Rider University, and the University of New England (Australia). She specializes in the teaching of Body Mapping, a neuro-anatomical approach for enhancing music technique, and has been a Licensed Body Mapping Educator since 2002. In June 2017 she was awarded the ***Barbara***

Conable Teaching Award in recognition of exemplary teaching, innovative ideas, support to colleagues, active involvement in Body Mapping & 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 US and abroad.

Steven W. Ryan, Pianist

Pianist **Steven W. Ryan** joined the Cali School faculty in 2005. 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 2012 Steven was a featured artist in The Dessoff Choir's first Midwinter Festival, performing Robin Holloway's Gilded Goldbergs at Weill Recital Hall. In 2011-12 he also appeared on the Stamford Symphony recital series, performed Grammy Award-nominated composer Robert Aldridge's Piano Trio, and toured in Austria. Mr. Ryan is the accompanist for the MSU choral program and is also a collaborative artist for faculty and student recitals in the Cali School of Music.

MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SINGERS 2020-21

SOPRANO 1

Briana Alvarez
Deonia Conquest
Noelle Dadon*
Emma DiLauro
Sarah Doran
Anita Freedson Jackson
Maya Henry
Hailey LaBar
Sara Pabst
Hannah Ranzan
Alexa Tammone +
Christine Tanko

Alto I

Inessa Accilien
Jessica Anderson
Madison Bustamante
Mackenzie Conaway
Alianna Davis
Victoria Domiciano
Casey Gorab **
Gabrielle Guida
Melissa Hughes
Cristina Latino
Natalia Wajda
Grace Wampler *
Lauren Wright

Tenor I

Nicholas Scafuto *
Eric Van Hoven
Stefanos Hunter
Antonio Zarco

Baritone

Rashaun Ashley
Julian Dippolito
Jude Duane #
Nathan Mahon #
Matteo Rosales
Harrison Smith **
Ethan Smith
Christopher Vehmas #

Soprano II

Eliza Arnone
Lisa Bremer ^^
Christine Brower
Elizabeth Caplan
Morgan Damato
Aleksandra Durin
Angela Gibilisco
Angie Lovato
Marissa Marciano
Christina Monticciolo

Alto II

Amanda Blum
Jen Chie
Samantha Gerbrick
Emma Gunther
Jessica Karasik
Baylee Kramer
Jessalyn Nordin-Garcia
Kira Paul

Tenor II

Richard Cardile
Quinn Furnald ^
David Hartway
Kyle Kennedy
Dylan Kozlak

Bass

Christian Collazo
Taylor Droege
Sean Johnson
Colin Keyes
Chisom Maduakor
Drew Sabo *
Julio Santiago

+Manager *Section Leader ** Assistant Section Leader
^Graduate Assistant ^^ Teacher Assistant. # Student Accompanist