



MID-COLUMBIA  
MASTERSINGERS  
2022-2023 SEASON



THE MUSIC PROJECT

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INNER ASTRONOMY

APRIL 29 & 30, 2023 - ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[www.mcmastersingers.org](http://www.mcmastersingers.org)



## ART WITHOUT BORDERS

### THE MUSIC PROJECT

Flower Duet by Leo Delibes

Liebesleid by Fritz Kreisler

Bach Brandenburg Concerto #3

Married Life: theme from Pixar's UP by Michael Giacchino

La Vita e Bella by Nicola Piovani

Tristesse: Chopin Etude #10

Chopin Fantasy Impromptu Opus 66

### PERFORMERS

Annie Powers, speaker

Benjamin Walley, piano

Leah Davis, cello

Nina Powers, violin

Michael Powers, piano



Art Without Borders is an original works production company creating inclusive and lifegiving performances throughout the year. Our shows are eclectic, born out of our own artistic inspirations, with the goal of promoting local talent and connecting people in new ways. We're excited to

be sharing in this evening's performance as an introduction to Inner Astronomy with the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers.

The Music Project explores the effects of music upon the emotions and its application in areas of mental health and healing. This creates a natural tie to Inner Astronomy in its themes of wellness and transformation after suffering and loss. Tonight's performance uses a piano string trio to exemplify the ways in which music listening promotes inner healing and its use in therapeutic practice.

Art Without Borders is a local non-profit, grass roots company. We would love to add you to our email list! If you are interested in supporting us through sponsorship or a one time donation please visit our website at [artwithoutborderstc.com](http://artwithoutborderstc.com) or visit the back table after tonight's performance.



## ART WITHOUT BORDERS UPCOMING EVENTS

**July/August**  
Patio concerts

**September**  
Evening at the Shire (Fundraiser)

**December**  
Festival of Carols

**March**  
Theater Production TBD

**April/May**  
Tri-Cities Encounter featuring  
local wines, performers and more!

## MID-COLUMBIA MASTERSINGERS

### INNER ASTRONOMY

Music by Molly Pease  
Poetry by Randall Pease

- I. Recovery Family
- II. tree's me
- III. Deer Proud of Our Climb  
*soloist: Priscilla Eagan*
- IV. From I to We
- V. Higher Power  
*soloists: Jamie Goad, Ann Garcia,  
Hannah Bonham, Terri Geluso*
- VI. my son my one  
*soloists: Hannah Bonham,  
Elizabeth Erickson*
- VII. ripen, rebirth
- VIII. tree universal path  
*soloist: Donna Glass*



#### **Hannah Evans, Soloist**

Hannah Evans is a Tri-Cities local who is thrilled at the opportunity to create art with her friends. Hannah has enjoyed the performing arts from a young age; a few of her favorite memories are performing in an acapella trio with her two sisters, singing in FreeForm Jazz choir at CBC, and starring in community theatre productions such as Mamma Mia and Guys and Dolls. More recently, Hannah directed Ordinary Days last spring for her directorial debut and you can frequently find her collaborating on projects with local non-profit Art Without Borders. Hannah is excited for you to enjoy this unique experience of “Inner Astronomy” by Molly Pease.

**DIRECTOR**  
Justin Raffa

**SOLOIST**  
Hannah Evans

**SOPRANO**  
Laurel Adams  
Hannah Bonham  
Mary Dann  
Priscilla Eagan  
Ann Garcia  
Terri Geluso  
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Katie White

**STRING QUINTET**  
Lora Roosendaal, violin 1  
Nina Powers, violin 2  
Aaron Clark, viola  
Leah Davis, cello  
Marella McGreal, double bass

*Many thanks to St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Shalom United Church of Christ  
for the use of their facilities*

## INNER ASTRONOMY

### PROGRAM NOTE

“When I was a child, Dad would story-tell me to sleep. In every one of these stories I was the heroine, whether the story was scary, bizarre or romantic. The most memorable tale Dad told me before bed was his bird story. I started as a girl living in a castle tower overlooking forests and mountains. Dad was a character too, a father who really loved his daughter and wanted her to be safe, and I was the daughter, wide-eyed and imaginative. Every day, I stared out the tower window, wondering what was out there in the world to experience, to create, to feel. My father tried to satisfy my adventurous spirit by reading stories from books, and playing make-believe with me. But every morning, I would still be sitting in the windowsill longing to be set free. One night, I wished to develop wings, fly over the mountains and explore the cities and lands beyond them. In the morning, I awoke as a bird. To my amazement, my wish had come true. I perched on the windowsill and looked out, suddenly overwhelmed at the endless opportunities before me. Where would I go first? Could I take care of myself? Would I be lonely? My father came into my room, seemingly unsurprised that I had developed wings. “Daughter,” he said, “I too wished for you to become a bird, because although I love you and will miss you dearly, I know you belong out in the world, and not stuck here in this tall tower overlooking it. It is time for me to let you go.” I looked at him with tears in my bird eyes, and then turned, spreading my wings outside the windowsill and launching into flight. By telling me this story Dad was sending me a message that would stick with me for life — that I am strong, capable, and should pursue everything I am called to do. I’m grateful to Dad for nurturing and supporting my creativity, and for always being proud of me, even in his darkest days. The poems in Inner Astronomy were written during some of those dark days, when Dad was struggling with severe depression and recovering from addiction. When he sent them to me, I was living in New York, having spread my wings, pursuing my dreams, embracing my creativity and seeking new adventures, just as he had taught me to do through his, no my, bird story.”

—Molly Pease



### COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

Molly Pease is an eclectic LA-based singer, composer and improviser with experience in a wide range of musical styles including folk, jazz, classical, opera, experimental, contemporary, and improvisatory music. Molly is an avid explorer of extended vocal sounds, in both her performance and composition. She leads experimental rock project ACKLAND and also creates works for voices, strings and other combinations. Her compositions have been performed at venues such as The Sharon Disney Lund Dance Theater, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Non de Gen and Monk Space. She was a 2019 composer fellow at N.E.O. Voice Festival.

Molly completed her MFA in Jazz Studies at California Institute of the Arts in 2017, and received her BFA at The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music in New York. Throughout Molly’s musical education, she has studied with such profound teachers as vocalist and new-music composer Theo Bleckmann, pianist and composer David Roitstein, composer and conductor Marc Lowenstein, experimental vocalist Carmina Escobar, jazz singer-songwriter Alicia Olatuja, arranger Kirk Nurock, and many others. [www.mollypeasemusic.com](http://www.mollypeasemusic.com)

# INNER ASTRONOMY

Poetry by Randall Pease

## I. Recovery Family

Our love  
Above  
lip buds bloom  
as if they're moons  
Spirits starring, still eyes  
shining.  
To pass to others  
As if one mother.  
One wave,  
As cave  
When wave breaks,  
beach they seek.  
lip buds bloom  
as if they're moons  
Eternal sea.  
Our womb  
Our tomb.

## II. tree's me

My self inside's  
a tree as wide  
as inner me,  
now lives as tree.  
In fall, leaves fall  
Tree's agony tall.  
Branches lose leaves  
As it's life feels.  
Turns with weather's knife  
To a naked life.  
Thoughts rise in strife  
With soon future's life.  
Defined by past,  
Soon a leaf is last.  
They fall day to day,  
Trees on the way.  
It's to be at soon,  
When naked trees loom.  
The winter's cold,  
When future turns old.

## III. Deer Proud of Our Climbs

But two turned love  
Around. One lives  
As I turns to O,  
Other turns too.  
But then she turns  
As father burns,  
As the joy she knew now  
Passed through him.  
Children turn fallen  
Parents to parental  
Lovers, physical

## IV. From I to We

Blackbirds in flight  
turns sun in sight  
On tops of trees  
they set us free  
As if their rays  
that raise the day  
I cannot fly  
but if spirit speaks.  
They talk of love  
with worlds above  
That world's inside  
when we are kind  
But once, given up  
the bird in us  
Into flock takes flight  
As we's the I's insight

## V. Higher Power

Shuffle free  
through fallen leaves  
into night's  
lit path.  
Where spruce, maple  
hold the air.  
Green shadows  
guide the way off  
through tunnel trees  
toward the sea  
above.  
The starlit sky  
where moon flies,  
shadows lights,  
the bird  
soars.

## VI. my son my one

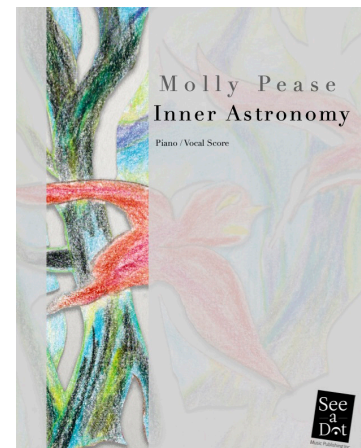
As if the sun  
disguised by clouds  
its sight not found  
by an addict  
since visual is  
only what's real.  
chrysalis  
blossoms this  
fragrant wing  
where sun sings  
into play  
this one day,  
only here.  
invisible  
impossible.  
him all alone  
no heart known.  
buried in skin  
dark clouds blind him,  
makes permanent  
spirit absence.  
a willing prayer  
under layers  
of disbelief —  
God set me free  
from material  
to spiritual.

## VII. ripen, rebirth

Breathe in,  
say "in."  
Stay in.  
Let go control,  
but not  
unless  
I test  
my chest  
at first.  
But not last.  
Breathe out,  
say "out,"  
the route  
to create  
the space  
to face  
higher  
lover  
of all.  
Wave calls  
the beach wall,  
but there  
flutters  
under  
wave's father  
the sea.

## VIII. tree universal path

Space on your tree,  
Here, there a seed.  
Stand high, one grows  
in thoughts, one sows.  
But watch simply,  
to see a tree  
Where a tree grows,  
to lift life, glow!  
Once observed, trees  
make time as free  
as if love's will.  
What a lover,  
wood.





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**\*Continuo Donors make a regular monthly contribution**

## ABOUT THE MID-COLUMBIA MASTERSINGERS

The mission of the Mid-Columbia Mastersingers is to transform lives through the power of choral music.

We offer a series of vocal music concerts throughout the year. Performers include a variety of our many choral groups, and we often collaborate with other musical groups and organizations.

The Chamber Choir, Symphonic Choir, and Treble Choir are our performance choirs whose primary goal is the preparation of repertoire for a quality concert performance. The Columbia Chorale is our social choir whose primary goal is the joy of singing and building camaraderie with other singers in a more relaxed rehearsal environment.

In addition to our adult choirs, we are proud to offer a youth choir program for singers in 4th-6th grade. The Mid-Columbia Youth Choir rehearses weekly on Thursday afternoons from September to May at The Academy of Children's Theatre, with an additional Choir Summer Camp for singers this June 26-29. No audition is required and tuition assistance is available.

Special events throughout the season include our annual B Reactor Concert, the Mid-Columbia Arts Fundraiser, performances and workshops by visiting artists, communal singing events with our Beer Choir Atomic Chapter, appearances by our choirs at events around the community, and much more!

**Please visit [www.mcmastersingers.org](http://www.mcmastersingers.org), or follow us on Facebook for more information!**



*Transforming lives through the power of choral music*

### ADDRESS

1177 Jadwin Ave, Ste 110  
Richland WA 99352

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 10am-2pm

### CONTACT INFORMATION

509-460-1766  
[info@MCMastersingers.org](mailto:info@MCMastersingers.org)  
[www.MCMastersingers.org](http://www.MCMastersingers.org)



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Mid-Columbia  
Mastersingers



# Summer Pop Concerts

**June 30 & July 1**

**Uptown Theatre, Richland**

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