

Double Feature

MID-COLUMBIA MASTERSINGERS
& SPOKANE CHORAL ARTISTS

FEBRUARY 9 & FEBRUARY 10
PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, KENNEWICK



Hope
for 
RESOLUTION
2012-2013 SEASON


MID-COLUMBIA
MASTERSINGERS
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JUSTIN RAFFA



A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Choral composers of the Renaissance era in the 16th century were among the first to experiment by writing music for more than one ensemble. This was inspired primarily by the unique architecture of the churches which served as their main performance venues. One of the earliest developers of this polychoral style was Italian composer Andrea Gabrieli, who served as organist at St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice, one of the most prestigious musical posts of the day. Both the cathedral's resonant acoustic and physical design allowed for the placement of multiple choirs around the church, in which the choirs could sing at the same time. The resultant stereophonic effect was particularly useful for festivals and grand celebratory occasions. Just think how exciting it must have been to hear in the days before microphones, speakers, and electronic amplification!

Today's program presents a wide palette of musical styles and demonstrates how composers of several eras and backgrounds took advantage of the double choir concept. Listen for how each composer utilizes the forces of two choirs: when they sing back and forth antiphonally, when they sing together, when textures change from homophony to polyphony, and the variety of voice combinations used within each choir. Having a minimum of eight parts (four in each choir) gives a composer more possible combinations than the standard four part SATB combo. Listen for how the double choir style varies as we move from Italy to Germany, France, and England. Today's performance includes some of the most significant works of the double chorus oeuvre, including Poulenc's colossal *Figure Humaine* as the concert centerpiece.

It has been one of my long term dreams to put together a program of this caliber with another choral ensemble in our region. I am indebted to Max Mendez and the Spokane Choral Artists for their shared vision, preparation, and masterful musicianship that has given life to this project. It is an absolute pleasure to make music together with them. I hope you enjoy the pure beauty of these singers on our mostly *a cappella* program. This combined group of artists has committed an incredible amount of time and energy in preparing today's concert. So sit back, relax, close your eyes, and be transformed by the power of choral music!

Justin Raffa
Artistic Director

PROGRAM

Please silence cell phones

Surge illuminare, Jerusalem
(*Arise, be enlightened, O Jerusalem*)

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
(1525-1594)

Vier Doppelhörige Gesänge, Op. 141
(*Four Songs for Double Chorus*)

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

1. *An die Sterne*
2. *Ungevises Licht*
3. *Zuversicht*
4. *Talismane*

Figure Humaine, FP 120
(*The Face of Man*)

Francis Poulenc
(1899-1963)

1. *De tous les printemps du monde*
2. *En chantant les servantes s'élancent*
3. *Aussi bas que le silence*
4. *Toi ma patiente*
5. *Riant du ciel et des planètes*
6. *Le jour m'étonne et la nuit me fait peur*
7. *La menace sous le ciel rouge*
8. *Liberté*

INTERMISSION

Mass in G Minor

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

1. Kyrie
2. Gloria in excelsis
3. Credo
4. Sanctus - Osanna I - Benedictus - Osanna II
5. Agnus Dei

Easter Hymn from Cavalleria Rusticana

Pietro Mascagni
(1863-1945)

Selected by Friendraiser auction winner Samuel Purvine



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PERFORMERS

MID-COLUMBIA MASTERSINGERS

SPOKANE CHORAL ARTISTS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Justin Raffa

SOPRANO

Laurel Adams
Mary Dann
Molly Holleran
Kristin Swisher

ALTO

Terri Geluso
Erin Patterson
Tara Swanson
Kelli Winbender

TENOR

Will Ekstrom
Ted Miller
Matthew Monroe
Samuel Purvine

BASS

Robert Hanson
Joseph Haws
Tyler Kruse
Reginald Unterseher

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Max Mendez

SOPRANO

Andrea Dawson
Lizzy Mosback
Kristen Nauditt
Rose Waterbury

ALTO

Brittany Pfundheller
Darnelle Preston
Gretchen Ramey
Barbara Tappa

TENOR

Mark Branscom
Cody Bray
Drew Olsen
Isaac Robbins

BASS

Nathan Heard
Nathan Lansing
Max Mendez
Ed Winkey

CONDUCTING INTERN

Will Ekstrom

REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST

Tara Swanson

PRODUCTION MANAGER

John Tuttle

SPECIAL THANKS

Jenn Hesse, German language coach
Annie Tchemitcheff, French language coach



SUPPORT THE ARTS IN THE TRI-CITIES!

CBC Arts Center

"Distracted"

February 7, 8, & 9 - 7:30 PM
February 10 - 2:00 PM
CBC Theatre

Camerata Musica

Natasha Farny, Cello
Kuang-Hao Huang, Piano
February 23 - 8:00 PM
Battelle Auditorium

Community Concerts

Red Priest Instrumental Ensemble
March 4 - 7:30 PM
Faith Assembly Auditorium

CBC Arts Center

Free Music Concerts - 7:00 PM
Concert Band - March 5
Jazz Nite - March 7
Orchestra & Choir - March 12
Robert Richardson Recital - March 14
CBC Theatre

Richland Players

"Proof"

March 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24
Richland Players Theatre

Mid-Columbia Symphony

Young Artists
March 16 - 8:00 PM
Three Rivers Convention Center

Academy of Children's Theatre

"25th Annual Putnam County
Spelling Bee"
March 15, 16, 22, 23 - 7:00 PM
March 16, 22 - 2:00 PM
ACT Theatre

Mid-Columbia Musical Theatre

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown"
March 15, 16, 22, 23, 24
Richland High School Auditorium