



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY CHORAL DIVISION

PRESENTS

ECHOES OF ETERNITY

featuring

Cantaré

Phillip Stockton, *conductor*
Rachel Wood, *collaborating pianist*
Seth Matlock, *collaborating pianist*

October 4, 2024
Music Building Recital Hall

CHORAL EXCELLENCE, HEALING, & COMMUNITY

www.statesings.com

msuchoir@msstate.edu

PROGRAM

SORIDA

Words & music by Rosephanye Powell

Kirklyn Johnson, Kyle Austin, & Taylor Moore, soloists

CANTATE DOMINO

Music by Claudio Monteverdi

Psalms 96 & 98

Monteverdi was an Italian composer, string player, choirmaster and priest. Cantate Domino canticum novum was published in 1620. At this time the Renaissance musical style was giving way to the early Baroque style of different groups and/or voices sounding together, or stile concertato. This wasn't a passing musical fad – the notion of different groups that produce contrasting sounds was the exact opposite of the homogenous choral texture that had been cultivated during the Renaissance. Stile concertato eventually evolved into the sacred cantata and secular concerto grosso, the central forms of the Baroque era. And the idea of dividing a choral body into different subsets to generate variety in choral sound is still with us today. The text of this motet is based on verses from Psalms 96 and 98.

~Levi Alexander

*Sing to the Lord a new song,
Sing and give praise to His name:
For He has done marvelous deeds.
Sing, exalt, and praise in songs with the harp and voice:
For He has done marvelous deeds.*

HYMNE AU SOLEIL

Music by Lili Boulanger

Words by Casimir Delavigne

Addison Coleman, soloist

Lili Boulanger's life was a remarkable blend of talent and tragedy, set against the backdrop of a rich musical heritage. Born in 1893 into a family where music was one of the core foundations, Lili's talent was evident from an early age. Throughout the early years of her life, she accompanied her acclaimed sister, Nadia Boulanger, to courses at the Paris Conservatoire, where she would later study with notable figures such as Marcel Tournier, Alphonse Hasselmans, and Paul Vidal.

In 1900, a tragic point in Lili's life altered her emotional involvement in society: the death of her esteemed father, Ernest Boulanger. For the next 12 years, Lili was plagued by constant sickness and grief over this loss. However, a glimmer of hope emerged through her reflections on a poem written by Casimir Delavigne that resonated with her struggles. On her spiritual journey, Lili reflected on this poem to help her move through her grief toward the light at the end of the tunnel.

By the end of those 12 years, Lili finally entered a phase of life not overshadowed by sorrow. In 1912, known as the "happiest time of her life," she spent spring in Italy with her sister and acclaimed pedagogue, Nadia Boulanger. It was during this time that a new work for choir emerged: "Hymne au Soleil." This piece was written to commemorate her journey through grief and reflection, using the text from the poem that she had contemplated for so long. The French setting of the piece reflects the natural beauty of her life and the joy that comes at the end of her long battle. The English text of the piece gives hope to all listeners through its powerful words: "Let us bless the power of the reborn sun / with all the universe let us celebrate its return / Crowned with splendor, it rises, it soars. / The waking of the earth is a hymn of love."

~Dylan Hall, MSU Music Student

*Let us bless the power of the reborn sun.
With all the universe let us celebrate its return.
Crowned with splendor, it rises, it soars.
The waking of the earth is a hymn of love.
Seven rushing steeds that the God scarcely holds back
Ignite the horizon with their scorching breath.
Oh, vivid sun, you appear!
With its fields in bloom, its mountains, its thick forests,
The vast sea set ablaze by your fires,
The universe, younger and fresher,
With morning vapors are glistening with dew.*

STARS

Music by Erik Ešenvalds
Words by Sara Teasdale

*Alone, alone in the night on a dark hill,
With pines around me spicy and still.
And a heaven full of stars over my head,
White and topaz and misty red;
Myriads with beating hearts of fire
The aeons cannot vex or tire;
Up the dome of heaven like a great hill
I watch them marching stately and still
And I know that I am honored to be witness of so much majesty.*

I WILL LIFT MINE EYES

Music by Jake Runestad
Psalm 21

*I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence comes my help?
My help comes from the Lord, He is the maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved.
He who keeps you will not slumber, nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
The sun shall not harm you by day nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil.
He will keep your soul.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this day forth.
Forever more.*

PERHAPS

Music by Dale Trumbore
Words by Brandon Elliot

*In our lifetime, we will undoubtedly have so many questions left unanswered.
So many stories will be left untold.
Perhaps we may live an answer or illuminate a story.
Perhaps we may not.
So we turn to the security of constancy as dependable as the sea,
Nature full of beauty and peace,
Music that can teach and inspire.
Perhaps all we can do is seek comfort in such things as
flowers, and song, and You.*

I'LLY FLY AWAY

Music & words by Albert Brumley
Arranged by Faith Zimmer

*I'll fly away, Oh glory, I'll fly away;
When I die, Hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away.
Some glad mornin when this life is over, I'll fly away.
To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away
I'll fly away, Oh glory, I'll fly away;
When I die, Hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away
When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away;
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away.
I'll fly away, Oh glory, I'll fly away;
When I die, Hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away
Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away;
To a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away.*

Special Thanks

Dr. Garrett Torbert, coordinator of voice
Mr. Peter Infanger, voice faculty
Ms. Rachel Wood, collaborative piano faculty
Dr. Daniel Stevens, music department head

Dr. Roza Tulyaganova, voice faculty
Danielle Gaudé, choral administrator
Dr. Sophie Wang, collaborative piano faculty

Dr. Jeanette Fontaine, applied coordinator
Ms. Cori Reece, voice faculty
Dylan Hall, program notes
Anne Catherine Ragsdale,
collaborative piano faculty

UPCOMING CHORAL EVENTS

Visit www.statesings.com for more details

Friday, October 25, 2024	New Beginnings Featuring Schola Cantorum, OPUS and State Singers	First Baptist Church – Starkville
Tuesday, December 3, 2024	A Festival of Carols Featuring Schola Cantorum, OPUS, Cantaré and State Singers	First Baptist Church – Starkville
Thursday, February 20, 2024	Black History Choral Concert	First Baptist Church – Starkville
March 28 - 30, 2025	<i>Hunchback of Notre Dame</i> with Golden Triangle Theatre Featuring Cantaré	Cromwell Theatre – Columbus MUW Campus
Friday, April 11, 2025	Lux Featuring Schola Cantorum, OPUS and State Singers	First Baptist Church - Starkville

CANTARÉ

Sopranos

Addison Coleman
Mary Parish
Eva Claire Pettet
Lacie Pittsley
Paulina Roman Medina
Amelia Summy

Altos

Katherine Alonzo
Angel Dupre
Anika Jerge
Asia Kelly
Taylor Moore
Riley Washburn
Sommer Williams

Tenors

Kyle Austin
Aiden Ayers
Chad Bryant
Kindal Gammill
Micah Mudder

Basses

John Allison
Griffin Bowers
Kirklyn Johnson
Alexander Mosher
Austin Powell
Dylan Thompson
Benton Traffanstedt

