

10TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Chronos  
Vocal  
Ensemble

*~inward~*  
**ONWARD**

Sunday, January 21, 2024

All Saints' Anglican Cathedral



Proud to help  
this outstanding choir  
stand out.

*Brands that sing. Ideas that soar.*

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# ((PROGRAM))

## Laudibus in Sanctis Dominum

William Byrd (1543-1623)

## Bogoroditse Devo

No. 6, from *All-Night Vigil* Op. 37

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

## O Sacrum Convivium!

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

## Denn er hat seinen Engeln befohlen

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

## Psaume 98

Peter-Anthony Togni (b. 1959) ✦

## The Frost

Kathleen Allan (b. 1989) ✦

## One Black Spike

Jocelyn Morlock (1969-2023) ✦

## Little Bells

Nicholas Ryan Kelly (b. 1986) ✦

*Kim Cousineau, piano*

## Only in Sleep

Eriks Ešņvalds (b. 1977)

*Elle Lyrette & Tegan Hryciw, soloists*

## intermission

### *World Premiere:*

## Chosen Family

I. Inside the Frame

II. Oxygen

III. What She Gave Me

IV. Chosen Family

Stuart Beatch (b. 1991) ✦

## Lobet den Herrn in seinen Taten/Alles was Odem hat

from *Singet dem Herrn ein neues*

*Lied*, BWV 225

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*Jeremy Spurgeon, organ*

## Seek him that maketh the seven stars

Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)

*Jeremy Spurgeon, organ*

## Ring Out, Wild Bells

from *The Passing of the Year*

Jonathan Dove

*Jeremy Spurgeon, piano*

✦ *Canadian Composer*

*Chronos Music Society operates on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the nêhiyaw/Cree, Dene, Anishinaabe/Saulteaux, Nakota Isga/Nakota Sioux and Niitsitapi/Blackfoot peoples. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.*

# Chronos Voc

Since its founding in 2013, Chronos Vocal Ensemble has gained a national reputation for innovation and excellence. The ensemble has delighted audiences at concerts in Edmonton, on tours in four provinces, and at the conferences of Choir Alberta, Choral Canada and the American Choral Directors' Association. Chronos has been recognized both nationally and locally, with the Healey Willan Grand Prize in the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs, and in Edmonton's Salute to Excellence.

Collaborators have included the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Alberta Baroque Ensemble, Vocal Alchemy, Spiritus Chamber Choir (Calgary), Da Camera Singers and Edmonton Youth Choir. The choir's recordings are regularly featured on CBC's Choral Concert.

In championing new Canadian choral music, Chronos has given more than a dozen world premieres and commissioned composers including Andrew Balfour, Marie-Claire Saindon, Matthew Emery, Katerina Gimon, and Nicholas Ryan Kelly.

To bring more new works into the Canadian catalogue, the ensemble has offered an annual composition competition since 2017. The choir's fourth album, *Resolve*, features new music by eight Canadian composers.



# al Ensemble



## Jordan Van Biert Conductor

Jordan unites singers in the common goal of creating rich musical experiences - for themselves, for each other, and for audiences. He founded Chronos Vocal Ensemble in 2013 to pursue excellence in choral performance. Early in his tenure with Chronos, Jordan was nominated as an Emerging Artist in Edmonton's Mayor's Celebration of the Arts. He also leads the choral organizations Vocal Alchemy and Ante Meridiem, and in 2016 received the Con Spirito award from Choir Alberta, for "spirit, dedication, and commitment to choral music in the Province of Alberta."

Jordan serves as a workshop leader, adjudicator, juror, and organizational consultant. As an educator he has worked with choirs at Concordia High School, Concordia University of Edmonton, and the University of Alberta. He appears regularly as an ensemble member and soloist with Calgary's Luminous Voices. Other interests include permaculture gardening, sustainable building practices, and the frustrating game of golf.

### SOPRANO

Melanie Astle  
Virginia Clevette  
Namisha Greening  
Jessica Heine  
Kaley Henbest  
Tegan Hryciw  
Rebecca Patterson  
Carla Stolte  
Amanda Wong

### ALTO

Brynn Bellingham  
Erin Crocker  
Deanna Davis  
Vita Lorence  
Roxanne Runyon  
Emily Stremel  
Anne-Marie Switzer  
Alex Thompson

### TENOR

Aaron Addorisio  
David Dykstra  
Tim Lo  
Caleb Nelson  
Isabela Ramos  
David Salmon  
Andrew Whiteside

### BASS

Adam Arnold  
Stuart Beatch  
Cole Dorchester  
Ryan Garbett  
Kurt Illerbrun  
Josiah Maxfield  
Paul Mitchinson  
Chad Ohman  
Frank Thede

10TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

**Chronos**  
Vocal  
Ensemble

Jordan Van Biert Conductor

**ORIGINS**  
*+ exploration*

*with the University of Alberta  
Madrigal Singers & Concert Choir*

**Saturday**  
**February 10**  
**7:30 PM**

McDougall Church



Edmonton



EDMONTON  
COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL



PROFESSIONAL  
AUDIOLOGY



**Tickets**

[ChronosVocalEnsemble.com](http://ChronosVocalEnsemble.com)





# WELCOME

**Jordan Van Biert** Founder & Conductor

As we approach this exciting event, I'm very grateful for the music-making of the last ten years, and for the people who have made it happen.

Looking over our materials from the last decade in recent weeks has again given me ample opportunity to reflect on the valuable input given to Chronos since the start. From the builders, investors, caretakers, colleagues and collaborators; to the givers of advice and criticism, boosters, and problem-solvers, we would not be here today without their incredible gifts.

Tonight's program opens with sacred repertoire, mostly first performed by the choir in its first two seasons, followed by new Canadian repertoire explored in subsequent years. Each chosen work is significant in the choir's development, and several are represented on our recorded albums. We conclude the first half with *Only in Sleep*, featuring a heartfelt text about memory, which was the subject of a unique video project during the pandemic.

We began rehearsals on Stuart Beatch's *Chosen Family* in October 2023; Stuart has written us a gorgeous and meticulously crafted piece, and the process has been joyful. We have also been privileged to interact with poet John Barton during the final preparations for this performance, adding richness to the process. His poems selected by Stuart portray people and situations that are clearly so personal for *him*, yet are laden with relatability for us as readers. Stuart cares deeply about text, and his coupling of text and music here has achieved profound depths of emotion.

We conclude the concert joined by additional singers from our community, more than thirty in all, including folks who've sung with Chronos over the ten years we've been at it. We also feature both Jeremy Spurgeon and Kim Cousineau, whose hands at keyboards have also been a consistent and much-appreciated feature of this decade of music.

I'm deeply appreciative of all the singers who have given their voices, their artistry and their time to the music over this decade of singing, and it's been a delight to work with so many of them again in the past two weeks.

Thank you for sharing in this experience with us.



Scan for extended program notes

<https://chronosvocalensemble.com/inward-onward-program-notes>

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With gratitude to all our supporters, we are able to celebrate a decade of performing, recording and touring. Your financial support makes all the difference.

Make a one-time donation or commit to a monthly recurring donation through our website.

To support a specific initiative or program, reach out to us.







## **Jeremy Spurgeon organ**

British-born Jeremy Spurgeon has won scholarships to study both piano accompaniment and organ at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and later studied organ with Lionel Rogg at the Geneva Conservatoire where he gained the Premier Prix de la Classe de Virtuosit .

In 1980 he came to Edmonton as director of music at All Saints' Cathedral and has since appeared in concert with many Canadian and international ensembles, singers and instrumentalists, including the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Richard Eaton Singers, Pro Coro Canada, Edmonton Metropolitan Chorus, and Edmonton Opera. Jeremy has performed as piano accompanist and organist across Canada and Europe.

For four decades, Jeremy has devoted his talents to building and serving Edmonton's music community. A versatile performer and dedicated mentor to generations of young musicians, he is also an advocate for classical and church music in Edmonton.



## **Kim Cousineau piano**

Kim Cousineau received a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Victoria, and studied privately with Anna Cal, student of Russian pianist Pavel Egorov. He is an alumnus of Opera Nuova's collaborative pianist program and has studied at the Franz Schubert Institute in Baden, Austria. Kim has worked as a r p titeur and music director for numerous organizations including Pacific Opera Victoria, Opera Nuova, Mercury Opera, Mayfield Dinner Theatre, MacEwan Theatre, and Concordia University of Edmonton. He is in high demand as a choral accompanist, collaborating with many groups including Chronos Vocal Ensemble, Vocal Alchemy, A Joyful Noise, Da Camera Singers, Concordia Concert Choir, and King's Cantorum and Chamber Choir. In addition to his work with choirs, Kim freelances as a vocal coach and studio pianist in the Edmonton area.

JORDAN VAN BIERT, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Vocal  
Alchemy

# WINTER SUN

Sunday, March 3, 3:00 PM  
McDougall United Church

featuring  
Morten Lauridsen's  
*Lux Aeterna*

with guests  
Chronos Vocal  
Ensemble  
and chamber  
orchestra



Edmonton



TIENDALATINA  
ARGVLLFOODS

Tickets from choir members, online, or at the door [VocalAlchemy.com](http://VocalAlchemy.com)



## Stuart Beatch Composer-in-Residence

Stuart Beatch is a Canadian choral composer currently living in Edmonton. He received a Master of Music in Composition from King's College London, studying with composer Rob Keeley, and is the former composer-in-residence for The Fourth Choir (an LGBT chamber choir in London, UK). Beatch previously studied composition at the University of Alberta and has also received mentorship from Scottish composer Sir James MacMillan and Latvian composer Uģis Prauliņš. While Beatch has a special affinity for the Canadian choral community, his music has frequently been sung by vocal ensembles across North America and Europe, including the BBC Singers, Voces Nordicae, Pro Coro Canada, National Youth Choir of Canada, Luminous Voices, musica intima, Chronos Vocal Ensemble, Spiritus Chamber Choir, Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, Cantabile Chamber Singers, Chorus Austin, and Choral Arts Initiative. He is an Associate Composer with the Canadian Music Centre and a member of the Canadian League of Composers.



Photo: John Preston

## John Barton Poet

John Barton is a poet, essayist, editor, and writing mentor. Among his twenty-eight books are twelve volumes of poetry, including *West of Darkness: Emily Carr, a Self-Portrait, Hymn, For the Boy with the Eyes of the Virgin: Selected Poems*, and *Polari*; a book of essays, *We Are Not Avatars*; and six critical books and anthologies, including *Seminal: The Anthology of Canada's Gay-Male Poets* and *Best Canadian Poetry in English 2023*. He is the recipient of three Archibald Lampman Awards, a CBC Literary Award, an eLit Award, and a National Magazine Award. His twelfth book of poetry, *Lost Family*, from which Stuart Beatch drew the four sonnets he set to music in "Chosen Family", was nominated for the Derek Walcott Prize in 2021. Born in Edmonton in 1957 and raised in Calgary, he lives in Victoria, B.C., where he was the city's fifth poet laureate from 2019 to 2022.

# TEN YEARS OF GRATITUDE

## COLLABORATORS

Roger Admiral  
Piano  
Ryan Arcand  
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Concordia Concert  
Choir  
Kim Cousineau  
Piano  
Edmonton Youth Choir  
Virginie Gagné  
Orchestra  
Concertmaster  
Paul Grindlay  
Bass  
Brian Jones  
Percussion  
Nolan Kehrer  
Tenor  
Court Laslop  
Percussion  
Alyssa Miller  
Oboe  
Tammy-Jo Mortensen  
Organ  
Ryan Pliska  
Percussion  
Colin Ryan  
Cello  
Sarah Schaub  
Soprano  
Mark Segger  
Percussion  
Jeremy Spurgeon  
Organ/Piano  
Brian Thurgood  
Percussion  
Toscha Turner  
Double Bass  
Josephine van Lier  
Cello  
Mathew Walton  
Piano  
Leanne Zacharias  
Cello

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Shad Turner  
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*\* Founding members*

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Kim Cousineau

THANK YOU TO THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE BEEN ALONGSIDE US ON THIS JOURNEY.



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 Trinity Lutheran  
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 Vancouver Cantata  
 Singers  
 Vocal Alchemy



# TEXTS & Translations

## Laudibus in Sanctis Dominum

---

Text: Psalm 150, paraphrased in Latin elegiac verse

Laudibus in sanctis Dominum celebrate supremum: Firmamenta sonent inclita facta Dei. Inclita facta Dei cantate, sacraque potentis Voce potestatem saepe sonate manus.	<i>Celebrate the Lord most high in holy praises: Let the firmament echo the glorious deeds of God. Sing ye the glorious deeds of God, and with holy voice Sound forth oft the power of his mighty hand.</i>
--	---

Magnificum Domini cantet tuba martia nomen: Pieria Domino concelebrate lira. Laude Dei resonent resonantia tympana summi: Alta sacri resonent organa laude Dei.	<i>Let the warlike trumpet sing the great name of the Lord: Celebrate the Lord with Pierian lyre. Let resounding timbrels ring to the praise of the most-high God, Lofty organs peel to the praise of the holy God.</i>
---	---

Hunc arguta canant tenui psalteria corda, Hunc agili laudet laeta chorea pede. Concava divinas effundant cymbala laudes, Cymbala dulcison a laude repleta Dei.	<i>Him let melodious psalteries sing with fine string, Him let joyful dance praise with nimble foot. Let hollow cymbals pour forth divine praises, Cymbals filled with the sweet-sounding praise of God.</i>
--	--

Omne quod aethereis in mundo vescitur auris Alleluia canat tempus in omne Deo.	<i>Let everything in the world that feeds upon the air of heaven Sing Hallelujah to God for evermore.</i>
--	---

## Bogoroditse Devo

---

Marian hymn, Russian Orthodox tradition

Богородице Дево, радуйся,  
благодатная Марие, Господь с тобою.

Благословенна Ты в женах,  
и благословен плод чрева твоего,  
яко Спаса родила  
еси душ наших.

*O Virgin Mother of God, rejoice!  
O Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
for thou didst give birth  
to the Saviour of our souls.*

## O Sacrum Convivium!

---

Text: Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)

O sacrum convivium!  
in quo Christus sumitur:  
recolitur memoria passionis eius:  
mens impletur gratia:  
et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur.  
Alleluia.

*O sacred banquet!  
in which Christ is received,  
the memory of his Passion is renewed,  
the mind is filled with grace,  
and a pledge of future glory to us is given.  
Alleluia.*

## Denn er hat seinen Engeln befohlen

---

Text: Psalm 91:11-12

Denn er hat seinen Engeln  
befohlen über dir,  
daß sie dich behüten  
auf allen deinen Wegen,  
daß sie dich auf Händen tragen  
und du deinen Fuß nicht  
an einen Stein stoßest.

*For he shall give his angels  
charge over thee,  
to keep thee  
in all thy ways.  
They shall bear thee up in their hands,  
lest thou dash thy foot  
against a stone.*

## Psaume 98

---

Text: Psalm 98

Chantez au Seigneur un chant nouveau	<i>Sing a new song to the Lord!</i>
Car il a fait des merveilles.	<i>He has worked miracles,</i>
Sa droite, son bras très saint	<i>and with his own powerful arm,</i>
l'ont rendu vainqueur.	<i>he has won the victory.</i>
Le Seigneur a fait connaître sa victoire	<i>The Lord has shown the nations</i>
aux yeux des nations,	<i>that he has the power to save</i>
Il a révélé sa justice, il s'est rappeleé	<i>and to bring justice.</i>
sa fidélité, sa loyauté,	<i>God has been faithful</i>
en faveur de la maison d'Israël.	<i>in his love for Israel.</i>

## The Frost

---

Archibald Lampman (1861-1899)

The frost that stings like fire upon my cheek,  
The loneliness of this forsaken ground,  
The long white drift upon whose powdered peak  
I sit in the great silence as one bound;  
The rippled sheet of snow where the wind blew  
Across the open fields for miles ahead;  
The far-off city towered and roofed in blue  
A tender line upon the western red;  
The stars that singly, then in flocks appear,  
Like jets of silver from the violet dome,  
So wonderful, so many and so near,  
And then the golden moon to light me home -  
The crunching snowshoes and the stinging air,  
And silence, frost and beauty everywhere.



## One Black Spike

---

Jocelyn Morlock

One black iron spike  
One mile east of Fort Fraser  
Three thousand miles of track, standard gauge  
Three thousand days of immigrant labour  
One resource economy  
One black spike

## Little Bells

---

Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

I heard you, solemn-sweet pipes of the organ, as last  
Sunday morn I pass'd the church;  
Winds of autumn!—as I walk'd the woods at dusk,  
I heard your long-stretch'd sighs, up above, so mournful;  
I heard the perfect Italian tenor, singing at the opera—  
I heard the soprano in the midst of the quartet singing;  
...Heart of my love!—you too I heard, murmuring low,  
through one of the wrists around my head;  
Heard the pulse of you, when all was still, ringing little  
bells last night under my ear.



# Chronos Vocal Ensemble

## TEN YEAR ROSTER OF SINGERS

Aaron Addorisio	David Fraser	Jackie Malcolm *	David Salmon
Aliya Ahmad-Korop	Christopher Friesen	Peter Malcolm *	Stephanie Sartore
Olivia Albert	Ryan Garbett	Annette Martens *	Spencer Schafers
David Almond	Iain Gillis *	Bart Mattingly	Beth Schuld
Adam Arnold	Jessica Gillis *	Stephanie Mattingly	Janet Smith *
Melanie Astle	Namisha Greening *	Christian Maxfield	Katrina Smith
Russell Ault *	Bronwen Harvey *	Josiah Maxfield	Tom Soldan
Gilbert Baerends	Jessica Hatton	Hugh McCune	Gabriel Stephens
Hendrick Baerends	Jessica Heine *	John McCune	Elizabeth Stolte *
Ian Bannerman	Kaley Henbest	David McCune *	Carla Stolte
Stuart Beach	Kelly Henry	Nathan McDonald	Justin Strand *
Brynn Bellingham	Aaron Hill	Adam McKenzie	Emily Stremel
Joy Berg	Bryce Hocken	Matthew Milner	James Strohschein
Thomas Bergen	Elsie Hoover	Paul Mitchinson	Anne-Marie Switzer
Nathan Bootsma *	Tegan Hryciw	Slava Morozov	Siobhan Taylor
Juliet Bryce	John Huck	Oliver Munar	Chelsey Ternes
Daniel Bullock	Micah Hussell	Caleb Nelson *	Frank Thede *
Natassja By	Britney Hyunh	David Nogerius	Alex Thompson
Kyle Carter *	Erin Iampen	Kyra Noster-Tinant *	Sarah Thomsen
Javier Castillo	Kurt Illerbrun	Chad Ohman	Tim To
RJ Chambers	Camilla Kershaw	Erin Olovson-Cleveland *	Toscha Turner *
Sable Chan	Rachael King	Brittany Ottens	Shad Turner *
Virginia Clevette *	Elizabeth Kreiter	Rebecca Parsons	Knut Ulsrud
Erin Craig	Catherine Kubash *	Amelia Pask Snook	Tamara Van Biert *
Gregory Crawford	John Lambert *	Rebecca Patterson	Melodie VanderWey *
Erin Crocker	Douglas Laver *	Judith Plumb *	Amy Voyer *
Lana Cuthbertson *	Guyllaine Lefebvre-Maunder	Chantal Poyser	Jessica Wagner
Deanna Davis *	Brittany Liska	Jason Ragan	Jordyn Warke
Cole Dorchester	Monica Littleton	Juan Ramirez	Ellen Whatley
Joshua Dykstra	Tim Lo	Isabela Ramos	Andrew Whiteside
David Dykstra *	Vita Lorence	Jolene Rech	Nathan Willis
Elize Erasmus	Brett Ludwig *	Joe Renzi	Amanda Wong
Werner Erasmus	Elle Lyrette	Gordon Ritchie *	Noah Wright
Graham Fast	Damon MacLeod	Sylvia Romanowska	Anthony Wynne *
Joel Forth	Andrew Malcolm *	Roxanne Runyon	Angela Zhang

\* Founding singers

## Only in Sleep

Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)  
From *Flame and Shadow* (1920)

Only in sleep I see their faces,  
Children I played with  
when I was a child,  
Louise comes back  
with her brown hair braided,  
Annie with ringlets warm and wild.

The years had not sharpened their  
smooth round faces,  
I met their eyes and found them mild –  
Do they, too, dream of me, I wonder,  
And for them am I too a child?

Only in sleep Time is forgotten –  
What may have come to them,  
who can know?  
Yet we played last night as long ago,  
And the doll-house stood  
at the turn of the stair.

# JESSICA HEINE build again

ALBUM RELEASE CONCERT

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Christ Church Anglican

doors 6:30 pm, show 7:30 pm

Tickets:

**Edmonton Arts  
Council Shop**

online & Churchill Square





# "Music doesn't really exist..."

by Iain Gillis

**...until it's performed in real time."** I had the pleasure of speaking with Stuart Beatch over a glass of Portuguese red during the first proper snowfall of the winter. Like the snow, we covered a lot of ground – an early crisis of conscience; tools, techniques, and harmonic language; commissions and collaborations; and what might lie ahead...

## ***How did you get into composing?***

I started dabbling in composition while I was in high school, mostly instrumental music. For years, I never had anything performed - it was just something I loved doing. A turning point came when I was in the last year of my education degree, when Dominic Gregorio started as Director of Choral Activities at the

University of Regina. It was his first position after finishing his doctorate; he was enthusiastic to start new things. One of the first things was a composition competition, which I won. That was the first performance of my first choral piece, about 11 years ago. He did another competition in the winter semester, which I also won, and gave me my second choral piece performed.

“ *There are lots of projects I'd love to do. It just is about finding the time to do them, finding the people that want to make it happen.* ”

I was not involved in the choral scene at all, I had sung maybe two years of my life - I'm a trumpet player by trade - that was the moment at which I realized that this was something that I enjoyed doing. I really liked working with text. I felt like the medium of choirs fit my music a whole lot better. I had a crisis of conscience when I was finishing my education degree of realizing, like, do I really want to do this? Is this what I want to do for my career? And no, it definitely wasn't.

***Very few people can make a full-time living doing just composition. Do you have a day job?***

I do, yeah, working for an insurance company as a writer on their marketing team. I'm at my computer, and then I'm off at the end of the day and I don't think about it. It's so much easier for me to leave that space to create and to do the things that I love doing.

***On your website, you've branded yourself as a Canadian choral composer. Do you have any concerns about being pigeonholed?***

I've been focusing on choral music and vocal music, and now in recent years focusing a lot on queer-themed music as being the main kind of niche that I do. I'm not sure if [instrumental music]

is where I want to keep going because I love working with text so much. I've kind of branded myself as a queer composer, and that's now a lot of the themes in the music that I'm doing...

I think every artist has multitudes within them, that there are lots of ideas I have, and lots of things I can do, and lots of projects I'd love to do. It just is about finding the time to do them, finding the people that want to make it happen.

***A favorite saying of Brahms was: "to be a good musician, you have to read a lot." That's always stuck with me, as being true. You read quite widely...***

[leaves and re-enters the room] This is my stack of chapbooks of all the poetry and things that I want to do at some point, people I want to work with, projects I want to make happen, poems I want to set to music. Just a million ideas, and I keep finding new books that jump out at me. In the last couple of years, where I've been trying to go down this road and working with more queer poets, trying to explore more projects that I want to make happen, I've had a lot more joy in doing what I do and really enjoying the process of writing music, really digging into poetry.

10TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

# Chronos Vocal Ensemble

Jordan Van Biert Conductor

# CONNECT *create!*

*with Spiritus Chamber Choir*

Sunday  
May 26  
3:00 PM

McDougall Church



Edmonton



EDMONTON  
COMMUNITY  
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EDMONTON  
AUDIOLOGY

H+D  
Halter  
Hutton

Tickets

[ChronosVocalEnsemble.com](http://ChronosVocalEnsemble.com)





***Do you have a text that you would love to set someday?***

[leafing through the stack] What's in here? A couple poems by John Barton for sure. His poetry is just gorgeous and sexy and fantastic. There's this book by Kevin Cantor, *Please Come Off Book*, a couple in here, especially one called "People You May Know", which deals with sexual assault that is just gut-wrenching, that I would love to set to music one day if I can find the emotional opportunity to do so.

One that I've wanted to set for a long time, by a poet called Chen Chen, is "i love you to the moon &". The poem is very silly and talks about living on the moon growing lots of moon veggies. It's just so fun and so joyful. I think that's really what I want to keep doing in my music: more joy and more of the music that I want to hear.

***It's early 2024: do you make musical resolutions? Is that a thing?***

It's not. I mean, it hasn't been a thing, but I suppose it could be a thing. Just to continue making music with the people that I want to make music with. I think especially writing queer music and working with queer artists, being able to do something not focused on the commercial aspect, but just focused on creating music that I want to hear with the people that I want to make it with, with poetry that I love.

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*Erstwhile musicologist Iain Gillis was among the original members of Chronos Vocal Ensemble.*

## Chosen Family

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Poems by John Barton (b. 1957) From *Lost Family: A Memoir* (2020)

### Inside the Frame

Kept to one floor, he rolls his chair from bed  
To easel, weekdays spent behind windows  
Houseflies walk across, the light-torn, rain-bleed  
Squares of glass they lift from, blankly going

Where he cannot, grandchildren in and out  
Wife opening her florist's shop, daughter  
Attentive, busy, wheeling him around  
Time an island trapped by shallow water

He paints his mornings out of, each canvas  
A sail catching what flails inside a frame  
He turns windward to make bell out, nexus  
Of what could albatross the picture plane

Unbound by able brushstrokes, an old man's  
Youthful sightlines stretched life-sized, a life's span.

### Oxygen

We were close. My iPhone scrolling us through

Photos I took to show you, a last glimpse  
In your final days, though we had no clue  
Or would not see or must have looked askance.

I did, at least. In your hospital room  
Chair drawn up to your bed. Oxygen tank  
Hung overhead, not unlike a vacuum

Cleaner canister, you breathing in banks  
Of purifying air; cheerful, loving  
While affirming the flora you knew well

Camas, grape hyacinth, dogwood, quince-spring  
Weeks old, as if its efflorescent spell  
When stemmed, could carry forward still; grateful

For your poised life with us; as I'm grateful.



---

## What She Gave Me

Their arrival forthright as a stopwatch  
Every March slid inside my bachelor  
Apartment's milk chute by whistling postmen  
Boxes my mother winged over divides

Mountains would incline between us, candied  
Peel and cherries drunk on brandy or rum  
Eggs beaten in after siftings of flour  
Baked, then swathed in bubble wrap and dispatched

Uniced, candles if unpacked set aflame  
The years I'd blow out seldom passed alone  
Consumed in thick slices before they went

Stale, my Murphy bed springing back unmade  
Inside the wall on mornings stomached prone  
The crumbs scattered from two plates not misspent.

## Chosen Family

Coasting above the sun-drenched sequoias  
Anchored in your backyard, wingtips touching

Shadows turning—skydivers with hands joined  
Who've yet to come to ground—the thermals quaffed

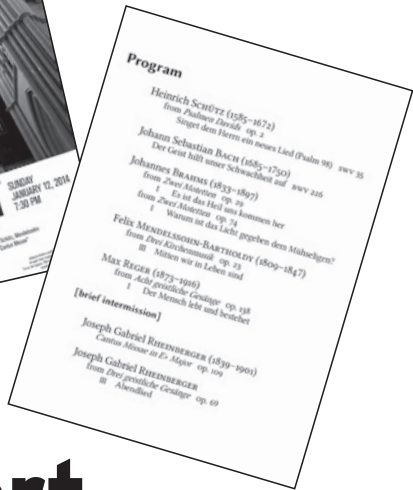
Pouring them through ellipses, tipped spirals  
Uncoiled and rewind, feathers wind-tethered

Kaleidoscopic when light-struck, a braille  
The eye runs across, the air read lower

Down where we sit brimming, gazing up thrilled  
Your table holding us to a circle

Buoyant with cheeses and glasses of chilled  
Tequila, words unplanned, luffed vertical—

A prayer held in beaks of like-minded steel  
The Earth spinning, four eagles a sun wheel.



January 12, 2014

# In Concert for the first time

Ten years ago this month, Chronos Vocal Ensemble gave its first full-length concert performance.

Following a recital in November 2013 featuring 24 singers presenting an hour-length program, *Chronos Vocal Ensemble In Concert* was presented on January 12, 2014, featuring the full 32-voice ensemble in performance at All Saints' Cathedral. Jeremy Spurgeon joined the choir at the organ, and the featured work was Rheinberger's Mass in E Flat (*Cantus Missae*) for Double Choir.

To fund that first full concert, a Kickstarter campaign garnered \$5835 from 56 backers. This proved to be more than a third of that season's total operating budget of \$14,481.



## Chronos Vocal Ensemble



# What an amazing ten years it's been

We look back with gratitude and pride  
for what we've accomplished together  
with our community.

150

total singers

48,000

hours of rehearsal and  
performance

28

season- concerts  
productions

6000

tickets purchased

\$180,000

donations

140

composers' music  
performed

68

living composers

20

world-premiere  
performances

39

tracks of first recordings  
of Canadian music on  
four albums

13

commissions

75

performances  
in four provinces  
& two states

7000

volunteer hours

\$415,000

in grants from  
foundations and  
government

\$125,000

in business  
community support

## Lobet den Herrn/Alles was Odem hat

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Text: Psalm 150:2,6

Lobet den Herrn in seinen Taten,     *Praise the Lord in His works,*  
lobet ihn in seiner großen Herrlichkeit.     *praise Him in his great glory.*

Alles was Odem hat,     *Everything that has breath,*  
obe den Herrn,     *praise the Lord,*  
Halleluja!     *Hallelujah!*

## Seek him that maketh the seven stars

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Text: Amos 5:8, Psalm 139

Seek Him that maketh the seven stars and Orion,  
And turneth the shadow of death into the morning.  
Alleluia,  
Yea, the darkness shineth as the day, the night is  
light about me.  
Amen.

## Ring out, wild bells

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Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892)

O Earth, O Earth, return!

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light:  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the time;  
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,  
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

# DONORS

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*Our deepest thanks to all those who support us with charitable donations.*

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***We've done our best to include everyone from January 1, 2023;  
please let us know of any errors or omissions.***

## SEASON SPONSORS

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& Dutton*  
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## Thank you

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All Saints' Anglican  
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volunteers  
Production  
volunteers

Richard Ouellet  
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David Salmon

Karen Mills  
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## Chronos Music Society Board of Directors

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Chronos Vocal Ensemble is governed and operated by Chronos Music Society, a non-profit organization and registered charity.

Our aim is to support the production of high calibre choral performances in Edmonton, Alberta, and beyond.

## Chronos Vocal Ensemble Team

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### Staff

**Jordan Van Biert**  
artistic & executive  
director

**Beth Mackey**  
administrator

**David Mitchell**  
engagement &  
communications  
coordinator

**Aaron Addoriso**  
music librarian

**Trent Worthington**  
artistic advisor

### Production

**Ron Yachimec**  
recording engineer

**Patrick Marchand**  
lighting

**Morgan Gold**  
video production

**Joselito  
De Los Angeles**  
camera operator

**Sam Reid**  
camera operator

### Marketing & Promotion

**Halkier + Dutton Design**  
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program layout

**Sonder Creative**  
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