



trail of light

memory, love, and the night sky

Sunday

November 10, 2024

All Saints' Cathedral

with
Kim Cousineau
piano



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((PROGRAM))

Anang (A Star)

Andrew Balfour (b. 1967) ♣

Glockenspiel: Aaron Addorisio

Northern Lights

Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978)

A Poplar and the Moon*

Jeff Enns (b. 1972) ♣

hope, faith, life, love

from *Three Songs of Faith*

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Constellation

Frank Ticheli (b. 1958))

i. From the Sea

Soloist: Amanda Wong

ii. The Falling Star

iii. There will be Stars

Sa nuit d'été

No. 1 from *Nocturnes*

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

Lux Aeterna

After "Nimrod" from *Enigma Variations*

Edward Elgar (1857-1934),
arr. John Cameron

Picikîksîs Chant

Sherryl Sewepagaham (b. 1970) ♣

*Soloists: Alex Thompson, Caleb Nelson,
Erin Crocker, Paul Flowers*

I Am Not Yours*

Gerda Blok-Wilson (b. 1955) ♣

Soloist: Melanie Astle

In a Railroad Station

David von Kampen (b. 1986)

The Eighth of September

Peter-Anthony Togni (b. 1959) ♣

Your Stars To Hold

Stuart Beatch (b. 1991) ♣

*Soloists: Rebecca Patterson, David Dykstra,
Alex Thompson*

Soneto de la noche

No. 2 from *Nocturnes*

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

♣ *Canadian Composer*

* *World Premiere Performance*

intermission



Scan for additional information about this program
chronosvocalensemble.com/trail-of-light-program-notes

Chronos Voc

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.

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 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. When not making music he enjoys spending time with his kids, gardening with Tamara, and chasing birdies.

SOPRANO

Melanie Astle
Gina Friedrich
Rebecca Patterson
Emily Stremel
Jessica Wagner *
Amanda Wong

ALTO

Brynn Bellingham
Erin Crocker
Abby Mendola
Amelia Pask Snook
Roxanne Runyon
Alex Thompson
Melodie Vander Wey

TENOR

Aaron Addorisio
Grant Bowering
David Dykstra
Samuel Esteban
Tim Lo
Caleb Nelson
Isabela Ramos
David Salmon

BASS

Stuart Beatch
Erik Dolinsky
Paul Flowers
Kurt Illerbrun
Paul Mitchinson
Chad Ohman
Nicholas
Rheubottom
Frank Thede

* guest singer



WELCOME

Jordan Van Biert Founder & Conductor

Our broad theme this year is the human relationship with *time*: past, present, future. For our season-opener, we gaze into the past, exploring memory (specifically, memory of love) and the night sky.

The concept began to develop through conversations with a friend and longtime Chronos audience member after the loss of his wife. He reflected on memories of love and beauty -both in personal life and in the enjoyment of music- that flowed from that experience. Those inspiring conversations with Bill Illerbrun in turn sparked generative discussions with composer Jeff Enns about thematic concepts and modes of musical-textual expression, leading to the selection of a text for a brand new work. The result is *A Poplar and the Moon*, commissioned in memory of Marley Illerbrun. We are pleased to present the premiere performance this evening.

Extending from those anchoring concepts, the program as a whole reflects memory, beauty, love, loss, and the inspiration of the night sky: The Ticheli and Gjeilo works look upward to the stars and the aurora borealis. The Lauridsen *Nocturnes* convey night-time, desire, and deep devotion. Selections from Sherryl Sewepagaham, Stuart Beatch, David von Kampen, and Peter Togni each represent moments in a -hypothetical- narrative of love and devotion.

Tonight's program features many living composers, including several Canadians, and *two* world premieres: along with the new Jeff Enns piece, we are pleased to present *I am not yours*, the winning entry from our latest composition competition, by Gerda Blok-Wilson from Vancouver.

We're so glad you could join us this evening, and we hope to see you throughout the season!

Enjoy the music.





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 répétiteur 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.

**HELP
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THRIVE!**

With the help of many generous supporters, Chronos recently completed an expanded 10th Anniversary season featuring fruitful collaborations, a major commission project, and unique engagement with our audiences.

As we venture forward, we continue to champion new Canadian music, to plan challenging and expansive collaborations, and to produce compelling and meaningful musical experiences for audiences in Edmonton and beyond.

Please join our supporters in contributing to this future by setting up a one-time donation, or a monthly recurring commitment, through our website.

To learn more about supporting a specific program or project, reach out to us anytime.





Gerda Blok-Wilson composer

Gerda Blok-Wilson, a Canadian composer, conductor, and educator, believes in the transformative power of choral music to inspire people of all abilities. Her motto is: "If you can talk, you can sing!" Since 2018, Gerda has focused on compiling and editing her compositions for publication. Her portfolio includes musicals, choral works for emerging choirs, and advanced repertoire performed internationally. Gerda is the artist in residence at St. Patrick's Regional High School in Vancouver and artistic director of the Vancouver Cansing Community Choir, which she founded in 2010. She holds a Bachelor of Music, a Kodály Teaching certificate, and a Master of Education specializing in Kodály pedagogy.



Jeff Enns composer

Jeff is a native of Waterloo where he studied organ, viola and composition at Wilfrid Laurier University. His music has been commissioned by choirs across North America, Europe and New Zealand and performed and broadcast around the world. He sings with the Elora Singers and the Canadian Chamber Choir. Jeff is the co-head of the music department at Rockway Mennonite Collegiate in Kitchener where he directs the string program and senior choir.

He is also organist and choir director at St. George's Anglican Church in Guelph where he directs a very active music program.

TEXTS & Translations

Anang (A Star)

Ojibway and English text by Andrew Balfour

Anang (a star)

A star fell through the sky towards me

Anang giipidagoojin (a star fell through the sky towards me)

Baga kaasigeway anangoog (stars shine brightly)

Stars shine brightly



CHRONOS
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guest performances



December 1

with Alberta Baroque Ensemble

Music for a Festive Season

featuring Cantatas by Bach and Buxtehude

Robertson Wesley United Church

December 13

Final Fantasy VII

Rebirth with orchestra

Jubilee Auditorium

December 14

Home Alone with orchestra

Jubilee Auditorium

more info **ChronosVocalEnsemble.com**

Northern Lights

Text from *Song of Songs* 6:4-5

Pulchra es amica mea,
suavis et decora sicut Jerusalem,
terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata.

Averte oculos tuos a me
quia ipsi me avolare fecerunt.

*Thou art beautiful, O my love,
sweet and comely as Jerusalem,
terrible as an army set in array.*

*Turn away thy eyes from me,
for they have made me flee away.*

A Poplar and The Moon

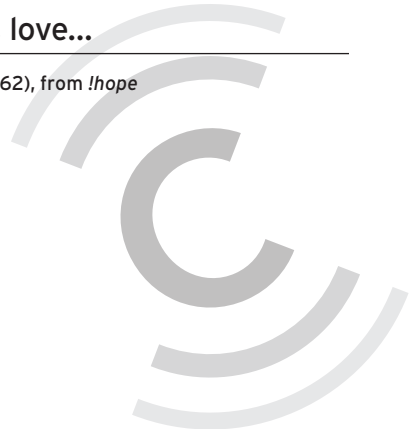
Text: Siegfried Sassoon (1886-1967)

There stood a Poplar, tall and straight;
The fair, round Moon, uprisen late,
Made the long shadow on the grass
A ghostly bridge 'twixt heaven and me.
But May, with slumbrous nights, must pass;
And blustering winds will strip the tree.
And I've no magic to express
The moment of that loveliness;
So from these words you'll never guess
The stars and lilies I could see.

hope, faith, life, love...

Text: e.e. cummings (1894-1962), from *!hope*

!hope
faith!
!life
love!



Constellation

Texts: Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

1. From the Sea

from *Rivers to the Sea* (1915)

For us no starlight stilled the April fields,
No birds awoke in darkling trees for us,
Yet where we walked the city's street that night
Felt in our feet the singing fire of spring,
And in our path we left a trail of light
Soft as the phosphorescence of the sea
When night submerges in the vessel's wake
A heaven of unborn evanescent stars.

2. The Falling Star

from *Collected Poems* (1930)

I saw a star slide down the sky,
Blinding the north as it went by,
Too burning and too quick to hold,
Too lovely to be bought or sold,
Good only to make wishes on
And then forever to be gone.

3. There Will Be Stars

from *Dark of the Moon* (1926)

There will be stars over the place forever;
Though the house we loved and the street we loved are lost,
Every time the earth circles her orbit
On the night the autumn equinox is crossed,
Two stars we knew, poised on the peak of midnight
Will reach their zenith; stillness will be deep;
There will be stars over the place forever,
There will be stars forever, while we sleep.

Sa nuit d'été

Text: Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)

Translated by Byron Adams

Si je pourrais avec mes mains brûlantes	<i>If, with my burning hands,</i>
fondre ton corps autour	<i>I could melt the body surrounding</i>
ton cœur d'amante,	<i>your lover's heart,</i>
ah que la nuit deviendrait	<i>ah! how the night would become</i>
transparente le prenant pour un astre	<i>translucent, taking it for a late star,</i>
attardé qui toujours dès le premier	<i>which, from the first moments</i>
temps des mondes était perdu et qui	<i>of the world, was forever lost,</i>
commence sa ronde et tâtonnant	<i>and which begins its course with</i>
de sa lumière blonde	<i>its blonde light, trying to reach</i>
sa première nuit,	<i>towards its first night,</i>
sa nuit, sa nuit d'été.	<i>its night, its summer night.</i>

Lux Aeterna

Text from the Requiem Mass

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,	<i>May eternal light shine on them, Lord,</i>
cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.	<i>with your saints for ever, for you are good.</i>
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,	<i>Give them eternal rest, Lord,</i>
et lux perpetua luceat eis,	<i>and may light perpetual shine upon them,</i>
quia pius es.	<i>for you are good.</i>



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2024-2025

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all career stages.**

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The winning composition will
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*We are grateful to our generous
anonymous donor who has funded this
award for eight consecutive seasons.*

Picikîsksis Chant

Text: Sherryl Sewepagaham

Pîwâysis	<i>Bird</i>
Inkamoyan	<i>I am singing</i>
Kipîhtatin	<i>I hear you</i>
Omah nîya ninkamowin	<i>This is my song</i>
Kinkamôstamâtin nitohta	<i>I am singing for you, listen</i>
Picikîsksis	<i>Chickadee</i>
Kiwâpamitin	<i>I see you</i>
Astam pîwîtapimin nîcimós	<i>Come here, sit beside me, sweetheart</i>
Nipihîtn kinkamon miyâsin	<i>I hear your song, it's good/beautiful</i>

Text: Woodland Cree Y-Dialect
Translation and Transliteration: Bill and Emily Sewepagaham,
Little Red River Cree Nation

I Am Not Yours

Text: Sara Teasdale, from *Rivers to the Sea* (1915)

I am not yours, not lost in you,
Not lost, although I long to be
Lost as a candle lit at noon,
Lost as a snowflake in the sea.

You love me, and I find you still
A spirit beautiful and bright,
Yet I am I, who long to be
Lost as a light is lost in light.

Oh plunge me deep in love—put out
My senses, leave me deaf and blind,
Swept by the tempest of your love,
A taper in a rushing wind.



In A Railroad Station

Text: Sara Teasdale, from *Rivers to the Sea* (1915)

We stood in the shrill electric light,
Dumb and sick in the whirling din
We who had all of love to say
And a single second to say it in.

"Good-by!" "Good-by!"—you turned to go,
I felt the train's slow heavy start,
You thought to see me cry, but oh
My tears were hidden in my heart.

The Eighth of September

Text: Pablo Naruda (1904-1973)

This day, Today, was a brimming glass.
This day, Today, was an immense wave.
This day was all the Earth.

This day, the storm-driven ocean
lifted us up in a kiss
so exalted we trembled
at the lightning flash
and bound as one, fell,
and drowned, without being unbound.
This day our bodies grew
stretched out to Earth's limits,
orbited there, melded there
to one globe of wax, or a meteor's flame.
A strange door opened, between us,
and someone, with no face as yet,
waited for us there.

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Our deepest thanks to all those who have been able to support us in the past year. You keep the music going!

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

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Your Stars to Hold

Text: Sara Teasdale, *Peace*, from *Rivers to the Sea* (1915)

Peace flows into me
As the tide to the pool by the shore;
It is mine forevermore,
It ebbs not back like the sea.
I am the pool of blue
That worships the vivid sky;
My hopes were heaven-high,
They are all fulfilled in you.
I am the pool of gold
When sunset burns and dies,--
You are my deepening skies,
Give me your stars to hold.

Soneto de la noche

Text: Pablo Neruda (1904-1973)

Translated by Nicholas Lauridsen

Cuando yo muero quiero tus manos en mis ojos: quiero la luz y el trigo de tus manos amadas pasar una vez más sobre mí su frescura: sentir la suavidad que cambió mi destino. Quiero que vivas mientras yo, dormido, te espero, quiero que tus oídos sigan oyendo el viento, que huelas el aroma del mar que amamos juntos y que sigas pisando la arena que pisamos. Quiero que lo que amo siga viva y a ti te amé y canté sobre todas las cosas, por eso sigue tú floreciendo, florida, para que alcances todo lo que mi amor te ordena, para que se pasee mi sombra por tu pelo, para que así conozcan la razón de mi canto.	<i>When I die, I want your hands upon my eyes: I want the light and the wheat of your beloved hands to pass their freshness over me one more time: I want to feel the gentleness that changed my destiny. I want you to live while I wait for you, asleep, I want your ears to still hear the wind, I want you to smell the scent of the sea we both loved, and to continue walking on the sand we walked on. I want all that I love to keep on living, and you whom I loved and sang above all things, to keep flowering into full bloom, so that you can touch all that my love provides you, so that my shadow may pass over your hair, so that all may know the reason for my song.</i>
--	---

Thank you

Trinity Lutheran Church
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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.

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vocal ensemble

awakening

in mid-winter, we dream of forging onward

Featuring

Jonathan Dove
The Passing of the Year

Morten Lauridsen
Mid-Winter Songs

with

Roger Admiral
piano

7:30 pm, Sunday
January 19, 2025
All Saints' Cathedral

Tickets

ChronosVocalEnsemble.com



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