LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

Grant Gershon, Kiki & David Gindler Artistic Director



SONIC MASTERWORKS

Sunday, June 5, 2016 − 7 pm Walt Disney Concert Hall

Los Angeles Master Chorale

Grant Gershon, conductor Lesley Leighton, associate conductor Eric Whitacre, guest conductor

Crucifixus Antonio Lotti (1667-1740)

Miserere Gregorio Allegri (1582-1652) Zanaida Robles, soprano | Anna Schubert, soprano

Suzanne Waters, soprano | Andrea Zomorodian, soprano Laura Smith Roethe, mezzo soprano | Niké St. Clair, mezzo soprano Luc Kleiner, bass | Chung Uk Lee, bass

Envoi (from Songs of Smaller Creatures) Abbie Betinis (b. 1980)

Lux Aeterna György Ligeti (1923-2006)

Three New Motets

Steven Stucky 1. O Admirabile Commercium (1949-2016)

2. O Sacrum Convivium

3. O Vos Omnes

Lesley Leighton, conductor

INTERMISSION

Martin Gore (b. 1961) **Enjoy the Silence** arr. Eric Whitacre (b. 1970) Eric Whitacre, conductor Beth Peregrine, soprano

Mouyayoum Anders Hillborg (b. 1954) Eric Whitacre, conductor

Au-Delà Du Chagrin Sydney Guillaume (b. 1982)

Mi lumía Javier Zentner

(b. 1951)

Elijah Rock arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003) Caroline McKenzie, soprano



This concert is made possible, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.



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ListenUp! with Artistic Director Grant Gershon, guest conductor and composer Eric Whitacre, composer Sydney Guillaume and KUSC's Alan Chapman can be heard online after the concert at www. lamc.org.

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Members of the audience who leave during the performance will be escorted back into the concert hall at the sole discretion of House Management.

PROGRAM NOTES

By Thomas May

AURORA CHOREALIS: Celebrating the LA Master Chorale

Among the unforgettable experiences this season the Los Angeles Master Chorale has given us are the inaugural "Hidden Handel" production, Julia Wolfe's Pulitzer Prizewinning Anthracite Fields, a salute to Russian choral music, and an entire concert celebrating the city of LA and its contemporary artistic voices. In the wake of Alexander's Feast, Handel's ode to the power of music, what finer way to cap the season than with a program devoted to the wealth of music for chorus alone?

Artistic Director Grant Gershon has curated a menu of a cappella choral delights spanning from the late Renaissance to the present — with, characteristically for the LA Master Chorale, a healthy emphasis on music from our own time.

First up is a pair of liturgical motets from Italian composers for the Catholic Church, starting with the Baroque **Antonio Lotti** (1667-1740), a Venetian master closely associated with the legendary St. Mark's Basilica in that city. There he produced a trove of sacred choral music, but he was also drawn to opera and wrote works for the houses in Venice as well as Dresden. *Crucifixus* is a motet for eight-part choir setting a portion of the Credo, which in turn is familiar as the lengthiest movement (in terms of text) from the Latin Mass. Lotti's *Crucifixus* is taken from his Credo in F major; the score (discovered from his Dresden period — 1717-19 — but likely composed in Venice) includes a continuo part, though the piece, which uses suspended dissonances to poignant effect, is often performed a cappella.

Over in Rome, during the previous century, **Gregorio Allegri** (1582-1652) carried on the choral tradition of Palestrina, while also looking ahead to the Baroque in his instrumental music and in the sacred music he published in his lifetime. Allegri not only composed but was a priest and singer serving as an alto with the Sistine Chapel Choir. In fact the degree of his authorship of the *Miserere* (the piece for which Allegri is most remembered and which has been in regular usage since it was introduced) is now disputed by scholars — but that's another story.

The story many music lovers have encountered involves the mystique surrounding this particular composition, which sets Psalm 51 (one of the "Penitential Psalms"), a text sung as part of the Tenebrae service during Holy Week (the Liturgy of the Hours associated with the prayers ending at dawn). As a kind of musical equivalent to Walter Benjamin's concept of a painting's unreproducible "aura," this setting of the *Miserere* could be heard only during those services at the Sistine Chapel. Copying out and distributing the music was forbidden, upon pain of excommunication (a far more effective way of enforcing intellectual property rights than copyright seems capable of doing in the era of online streaming).

But when a certain 14-year-old prodigy named Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart toured Italy and paid a visit to the Sistine Chapel during Holy Week of 1770, he went ahead and captured the music on paper from memory. The *Miserere* alternates between a choir that sings a plainer version of the ancient chant associated with the Psalm and a spatially distributed choir (performed tonight by an octet) that adds ornamental stylings (including a beatific high C lofted, originally, by the castrati or boy sopranos); both choirs join together at the end. Instead of being excommunicated, Mozart was rewarded by Pope Clement XIV with a knighthood in the Papal Order of the Golden Spur.

Choral music's ability to amplify pre-existing poetry is illustrated by *Envoi*, the third and final piece from *Songs of* Smaller Creatures by Abbie Betinis (b. 1980). Born in Wisconsin and trained in the Suzuki method at an early age, she is now based in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and in 2011 was included by NPR Music and WQXR in New York on their list of "100 Composers Under 40." Betinis describes Songs as "three short tone-poems for mixed a cappella chorus, each a character study on a small creature from the natural world." In Envoi, the creature in question is the butterfly. With wonderful charm, Betinis sets a simple text by the Victorian poet Algernon Charles Swinburne to a rocking meter, turning the words, as the composer puts it, "into a flocking of a mass of butterflies. The nonsense syllables propel the piece while providing a subtle flapping of tiny wings, as if the singers are suddenly there in the thick of the migration."

If *Envoi* transforms the singers onomatopoetically, so to speak, into butterflies, the Hungarian Modernist master **György Ligeti** (1923-2006) fashions a startling, at times terrifying, cloud of voices that evokes a feeling of supernatural mystery in his setting of the *Lux Aeterna* — the Latin text for the concluding part of the Communion rite during the Roman

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Catholic Requiem. (This is the text heard at the end of Mozart's Requiem, for example, in its posthumously completed version.)

In 1965 Ligeti had composed a Requiem up through the Dies irae; a fresh commission the following year brought an opportunity to complete it — though the *Lux Aeterna* is often performed as a self-standing piece. Both the Requiem and the Lux Aeterna appear (along with two other Ligeti compositions) on the soundtrack for Stanley Kubrick's epochal science-fiction classic 2001: A Space Odyssey (used without the composer's permission). As a team of investigators heads off on their "moonbus" to examine a recently discovered lunar monolith, strains of the Lux Aeterna for 16-part mixed choir are heard. In Ligeti's superdense polyphonic treatment — a technique the composer labeled "micropolyphony" — the words themselves become buried within the thick choral textures. This is the opposite of Baroque (or Romantic) "word painting," generating instead a mesmerizingly opaque soundscape of lines tightly woven in canonic imitation and using early Flemish music as a model for Ligeti's complex polyphonic technique.

The opening distributes the same stepwise sequence of pitches among four soprano and four alto parts. Ligeti articulates these at varying temporal intervals to establish unpredictable patterns of entrance and overlapping. Getting it to work poses extreme challenges for the singers: they must maintain crystalclear intonation within the resulting, almost claustrophobic, sonic fog, and at the same time they must adhere to Ligeti's complex rhythmic subdivisions. "Sostenuto, molto calmo, as if from afar," writes Ligeti at the head of his score. Eternity, in a sense, becomes a trick of time.

The music world has been numbed with shock over the past few months by several tragically sudden deaths. In February came news of the loss of Steven Stucky (1949-2016), who had only recently been diagnosed with brain cancer. Angelenos were fortunate to watch this widely performed composer of orchestral and chamber music develop as an artist, thanks to his long association with the Los Angeles Philharmonic (initially as a Composer-in-Residence and then as an advisor for new music). That connection resulted in his Second Concerto for Orchestra, which was premiered during the inaugural season of Walt Disney Concert Hall and which garnered Stucky the Pulitzer Prize in Music in 2005. As recently as 2014 came the world premiere of his brilliant first opera, The Classical Style, commissioned for the Ojai Festival (and, yes, based on the musicological classic by Charles Rosen, from which pianist Jeremy Denk crafted a superbly witty libretto). Stucky was also active as a conductor, writer, and scholar (he was a leading expert on the music of Witold Lutosławski), and he became a widely influential teacher of some of the brightest young composers at work today.

Three New Motets, first performed in 2006 in Kansas City, was commissioned by a consortium including Seattle Pro Musica, the Kansas City Chorale, the Grinnell Singers, and the Phoenix Bach Choir in honor of the 500th anniversary of Thomas Tallis. Stucky dedicates his score "in memoriam Thomas Tallis (born 1505 ca.)." The texts, set for double choir (four parts each), imply a kind of miniature Passion (Last Supper and the Crucifixion) and include the following: O Admirabile Commercium (a motet for the Feast of the Circumcision on New Year's Day), O Sacrum Convivium (associated with the Magnificat for Corpus Christi and its praise of the Eucharist), and O Vos Omnes (another text often used during the Holy Week Tenebrae service). Stucky frames the rhythmic and harmonic agitation of the middle panel of this choral triptych (the brief O Sacrum Convivium) with two motets that are homophonically more serene.

Recently the LA Master Chorale announced its appointment of Eric Whitacre (b. 1970 in Nevada) as the ensemble's first-ever Artist-in-Residence: a two-year post that begins in the coming season and that will expand the LA Master Chorale's ongoing relationship with this enormously popular and influential composer of choral music. Tonight's program offers a sample of the multitalented Whitacre's contributions, beginning with his arrangement of the song *Enjoy the Silence* by the British synthpop band **Depeche Mode**.

The song, released in 1990 as a single as well as a track on their seventh studio album (titled The Violator as a tongue-in-cheek reference to Heavy Metal excess), marked a turning point for the band's rising fortunes since their founding at the start of the 1980s. Enjoy the Silence, which included a tribute to Sibelius on the record's B-side, has attracted many artists to cover it. The official music video alluded to the imagery of The Little Prince and another video was released showing Depeche Mode lip-syncing the song atop the observatory on the south tower of the former World Trade Center. According to the band's biographer, Steve Malins, Enjoy the Silence was conceived as a slow ballad but morphed into a more typical electro-up-tempo song. Whitacre's arrangement restores something of the slow ballad sensibility, translating the song's poignant dissonances into pure choral poetry. This version of Enjoy the Silence was made for his own Grammy Award-winning vocal ensemble, the Eric Whitacre Singers; they released a recording as part of the choir's first EP on vinyl in 2014.

Anders Hillborg (born in Stockholm in 1954), is a composer who, like so many fellow Scandinavians, acquired his first musical experiences from choral singing. Since 1982 the prolific Hillborg has supported himself as a freelance composer (along with occasional teaching stints), amassing an output that spans widely across genres, in collaboration with many of today's

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leading conductors and soloists. A longtime friend of Esa-Pekka Salonen, Hillborg dedicated his LA Phil-commissioned *Eleven Gates* (2006) to him; both Hillborg and Salonen presented brief new piano pieces during the LA Phil/LA Master Chorale's special *Part of Radical Light* concert in homage to Steven Stucky in April, 2016.

Mouyayoum dates from 1983 — relatively early in Hillborg's career — and represents the Nordic take in those years on Minimalism. The title is merely a formula: a phonetic reference point for Hillborg's wordless music. During rehearsal of the piece, he asks the singers to "choose a comfortable pitch and sing the formula [mouyayoum] at a slow tempo such that each individual phoneme is consciously articulated (legato); once this starts to work, gradually increase the tempo; finally, sing so quickly that the individual phonemes cannot be articulated clearly and the formula is perceived as a single sound." The composer also describes the formula as "an opening and closing of the timbre." The musical material derives from transparent harmonies and two types of phrases extending over 16 quarter notes: one sustained and one broken into a flow of 16th notes.

Hillborg divides his mixed choir into 16 parts (four each of SATB), of which each should be sung by a minimum of two voices — adding that the high soprano parts actually require at least three singers "in view of the demanding passages at the end of the piece." *Mouyayoum* "may be considered as a study in which the main purpose is to achieve the greatest possible precision with regard to timbre, pulse, and dynamics," writes Hillborg. Yet, as with Ligeti's *Lux Aeterna*, the enveloping sonorities readily spur the imagination to accompany with all manner of imagery: could this be a sonic replication of the Aurora borealis?

Based in Los Angeles, the Haitian-American composer, conductor and singer Sydney Guillaume (b. 1982) is a familiar presence in the choral community. Au-Delà Du Chagrin ("Beyond the Sorrow") is a touching a cappella work from 2009. Guillaume was commissioned to write this piece by choral conducting professor Kevin Fenton in memory of his wife Peggy Fenton, who had died of breast cancer. He sets a (mostly) French text by Gabriel T. Guillaume, written "with deepest sympathy for the husband and daughters of Peggy Fenton." The imagery of hats in the poem derives from a program Peggy presented at her church shortly before her death, as explained by Kevin Fenton: "During the program, she weaved stories of her life and the many relationship roles one plays: as a daughter, sister, and then as wife, mother, and teacher. As she talked about each role she wore a different hat." Guillaume sets the text for a five-part chorus (SATBB). incorporating a passage in which the singers blow for a few

seconds "to create the sound of a quiet wind." Followed by complete silence, this gesture becomes a powerful musical metaphor and prepares the way for the jubilant close.

Argentine composer and conductor **Javier Zentner** (b. 1951 in Buenos Aires) chose a poem from the collection *En la masmédula* by fellow Argentine poet Oliverio Girondo (1891-1967) for his a cappella setting of *Mi lumía* (1997). When Grant Gershon chose this piece for the program concluding his fifth season with the LA Master Chorale, he singled out the "mysterious and evocative" qualities of Zentner's music and Girondo's poem alike, adding that "*Mi lumía* is the choral version of pillow talk — half-whispered, edge-of-sleep murmurings to the one you love."

From the choral intimacy of Zentner's composition the program moves on to conclude with one of its calling cards: the traditional spiritual *Elijah Rock* in the eight-part choral arrangement by Moses Hogan: an emblem of the mingled pain and pulsating hope that this signature American musical genre so unforgettably expresses.

— Thomas May, program annotator for the Los Angeles Master Chorale, writes about the arts and blogs at memeteria.com.

LAMC 2016 SUMMER GUEST APPEARANCES

Tan Dun's Water Passion Fri, Jun 10, 2016 - 7:30 pm

Martin Theater, Ravinia Festival (Chicago) Grant Gershon, conductor

West Side Story

Thu, Jul 14, 2016 - 8 pm Tue, Jul 19, 2016 - 8 pm

Hollywood Bowl Los Angeles Philharmonic Gustavo Dudamel, conductor

Tosca

Sun, Jul 24, 2016 - 7:30 pm

Hollywood Bowl Los Angeles Philharmonic Gustavo Dudamel, conductor

Beethoven and Ravel

Tue, Jul 26, 2016 - 8 pm

Hollywood Bowl Los Angeles Philharmonic Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, conductor

A Handel Celebration Tue, Aug 16, 2016 - 8 pm

Los Angeles Philharmonic Nicholas McGegan, conductor

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GRANT GERSHON

Kiki & David Gindler ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"Invigorating, inventive and enormously gifted"

— LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES **MASTER CHORALE**

"Thrilling, ultimately



Now in his fifteenth season as Artistic Director, Grant has led more than 100 performances with the Chorale at Disney Hall. In addition to conducting acclaimed performances of the classics, he has expanded the choir's repertoire significantly by conducting a number of world premieres: Iri da iri by Esa-Pekka Salonen, the national anthems by David Lang, Songs of Ascent, Inscapes and Plath Songs by Shawn Kirchner; Succession by Nackkum Paik, Los Cantores de las Montañas by Gabriela Lena Frank: Mugunahwa: Rose of Sharon by Mark Grey; You Are (Variations) by Steve Reich; Requiem by Christopher Rouse; City of Dis by Louis Andriessen; Sang by Eve Beglarian; A Map of Los Angeles by David O; Spiral XII by Chinary Ung; Dream Variations by Andrea Clearfield; Music's Music by Steven Sametz; Voici le soir by Morten Lauridsen; Messages and Brief Eternity by Bobby McFerrin and Roger Treece; Broken Charms by Donald Crockett; Rezos (Prayers) by Tania León.

Other appearances:

LA Philharmonic, LA Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Santa Fe Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Minnesota Opera, Utah Opera, Juilliard Opera Theatre, Lincoln Center, Zankel Hall, Teatro Colón, Trinity Wall Street, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and music festivals in Edinburgh, Vienna, Helsinki, Ravinia, Rome, Madrid and Aspen; world premiere performances of The Grapes of Wrath by Ricky Ian Gordon and Ceiling/Sky by John Adams

Other current assignments:

Resident Conductor at LA Opera; made his Santa Fe Opera debut in 2011 conducting Peter Sellars' new production of Vivaldi's Griselda; led the world premiere performances of Daniel Catán's II Postino with LA Opera in September 2010 and on tour in Santiago, Chile in 2012; led LA Opera performances of La Traviata in 2009, Madama Butterfly in 2012, Carmen in 2013, Florencia en el Amazonas in 2014 and Gianni Schicchi in 2015; conducted Madama Butterly in 2015 and La Traviata in 2013 at Wolf Trap; conducted The Gospel According to the Other Mary with LAMC and the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra at the Ravinia Festival in 2013; conducted the world premiere of James Newton's St. Matthew Passion at the Torino Jazz Festival in 2015

Previous assignments:

Assistant Conductor for the LA Philharmonic, Berlin Staatsoper, Salzburg Festival, Festival Aix-en-Provence

Member of: USC Thornton School of Music Board of Councilors, Chorus America Board of Directors

On disc: Two Grammy Award®nominated recordings: Sweeney Todd (New York Philharmonic Special Editions) and Ligeti's Grand Macabre (Sony Classical); Festival of Carols (LAMC Live), Górecki: Miserere (Decca), A Good Understanding (Decca), Glass-Salonen (RCM), You Are (Variations) (Nonesuch) and Daniel Variations (Nonesuch) with the Master Chorale; The Grapes of Wrath (PS Classics)

Prepared choruses for:

Claudio Abbado, Pierre Boulez, Gustavo Dudamel, Lorin Maazel, Zubin Mehta, Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, James Conlon

On film/TV: PBS Great

Performances production and DVD of II Postino, released October 16, 2012; vocal soloist in The X-Files (I Want to Believe); conducted choral sessions for films I Am Legend, Charlie Wilson's War, Lady in the Water and License to Wed; accompanied Kiri Te Kanawa and José Carreras on The Toniaht Show



cathartic"

THE HUFFINGTON POST

A Founding Resident Company of The Music Center in 1964; now in its 52nd season!

Music Directors: Grant Gershon, since 2001; Paul Salamunovich, 1991-2001; John Currie, 1986-1991; Roger Wagner, 1964-1986

Accomplishments: 47 commissions; 94 premieres of new works, of which 64 are world premieres; winner of the prestigious 2012 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence from Chorus America; ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventurous Programming (1995, 2003 and 2010); Chorus America Education Outreach Award (2000 and 2008) for Voices Within

In the community: a 12-week residency program, Voices Within, that teaches songwriting and collaborative skills to

more than 300 students each year; an annual High School Choir Festival celebrating its 27th year in 2016; the LA Master Chorale Chamber Ensemble, an ensemble from the Chorale that sings at Voices Within culmination performances and the High School Choir Festival; master classes; invited dress rehearsals

On disc: with Artistic Director Grant Gershon includes Festival of Carols, 50th Season Celebration Concert, Górecki: Miserere, Nico Muhly's A Good Understanding (Decca); Philip Glass' Itaipú and Esa-Pekka Salonen's Two Songs to Poems of Ann Jäderlund (RCM); and Steve Reich's You Are (Variations) and Daniel Variations (both on Nonesuch); Shostakovich's Orango, Adams' The Gospel According to the Other Mary and DVD release of Verdi's

Requiem with Gustavo Dudamel and the LA Philharmonic; with Music Director Emeritus Paul Salamunovich includes the Grammy Award®nominated Lauridsen - Lux Aeterna, Christmas and a recording of Dominick Argento's Te Deum and Maurice Duruflé's Messe "Cum Jubilo"

On film: motion picture soundtracks with Grant Gershon include Lady in the Water, Click and License to Wed; soundtracks with Paul Salamunovich include A.I. Artificial Intelligence, My Best Friend's Wedding, The Sum of All Fears, Bram Stoker's Dracula and Waterworld

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

LESLEY LEIGHTON

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR



Hometown: Los Angeles, California

Education: BA in choral conducting from Loyola Marymount University with Paul Salamunovich; studied conducting with William Hatcher at UCLA; MM in vocal performance from the University of Southern California with Judith Oas Natalucci; DMA in choral conducting from the University of Southern California with Don Brinegar and Jo-Michael Scheibe

Other conducting positions: Artistic Director of the Los Robles Master Chorale (LRMC), Music Director of the New West Symphony Chorus and Director of the UCLA Choral Union

As a conductor/clinician: prepped for Gustavo Dudamel and Diego Matheuz at the Hollywood Bowl, summer 2015; presented a reading session for ACDA, Sep 2015; appeared as a guest clinician for conducting seminar for LAUSD teachers, Oct 2015; appeared as guest speaker for the LA Philharmonic Business & Professional Committee, Nov 2015; prepped Judas Maccabeus for Neal Stulberg at UCLA, Dec 2015; conducted Messiah and the annual holiday concert with Los Robles Master Chorale, Dec 2015; served as co-producer with David Lang for LAMC's soon-to-be-released album of Lang's music, the national anthems, Jan 2016; conducted the off-stage chorus for The Planets for the LA Philharmonic education program, Feb 2016; conducted Carmina Burana with the UCLA Choral Union and Sinfonia Orchestra, Mar 2016; conducted Los Robles Master Chorale, Agoura High School Choirs and Los Robles Children's Chorus in a multi-media production at Agoura Performing Arts Center, Mar 2016; prepped Los Robles Master Chorale for John Adams at LA Phil's Green Umbrella series of contemporary music, Apr 2016; will prep LAMC this summer at the Hollywood Bowl for the LA Philharmonic

As a professional singer: has performed with many of the world's most eminent conductors, including Pierre Boulez, Zubin Mehta, the late Lorin Maazel, Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Leonard Slatkin, the late Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Roger Norrington, John Adams, Gustavo Dudamel and Grant Gershon; opera credits include principal appearances with New York City Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Köln Opera and Glyndebourne; has sung on more than 55 film soundtracks

As an educator: in addition to appearing as an adjudicator and guest clinician, has taught five years of chorus at the high school level, six years at the university level and inaugurated Los Robles Master Chorale's annual High School Choral Festival, High School Leadership Workshop and its Young Composers Competition; this year inaugurated LAMC's first annual Young Composers Contest at the High School Choir Festival; currently Director of the UCLA Choral Union

ERIC WHITACRE GUEST CONDUCTOR



Education: earned Master of Music Degree from Juilliard School, studying with John Corigliano

Awards and recognition: youngest musician ever to receive the Raymond C. Brock commission by the American Choral Directors Association; Barlow International Composition Competition, the ACDA and the American Composers Forum; ASCAP Harold Arlen Award for most promising musical theater composer and Richard Rodgers Award for Paradise Lost: Shadows and Wings; performed at the 2013 Templeton Prize Ceremony honoring Desmond Tutu

As a conductor: director of the Eric Whitacre Singers; has guest conducted choral and instrumental concerts around the globe, including sold-out concerts with the London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Minnesota Orchestra

As a composer: concert music has been performed throughout the world by millions of amateur and professional musicians alike, while his groundbreaking Virtual Choirs have united singers from over 110 different countries; was Composerin-Residence at Cambridge University for a five-year term, completed this year; notable compositions include Water Night; Cloudburst; Lux Aurumque, Sleep and original musical Paradise Lost; commissions include works for Chanticleer, Tallis Scholars, BBC Proms, the London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra, Julian Lloyd Webber and the Philharmonia Orchestra, The King's Singers, Conspirare

As a speaker: has given keynote addresses for many Fortune 500 companies and global institutions including Apple, Google, the World Economic Forum in Davos, the United Nations Speaker's Programme and two main stage TED talks

Recordings and media: first recording, *The Music of Eric Whitacre*, was named one of the top 10 classical albums of 1997 by the American Guide; first album as both composer and conductor with the Eric Whitacre Singers on Decca/Universal, *Light & Gold*, won a Grammy® Award in 2012

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE

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Matthew Brown **Daniel Chaney** Bradlev Chapman Adam Faruqi Jon Gathje Arnold Livingston Geis Jody Golightly Timothy Gonzales Steven Harms Todd Honeycutt Blake Howard Brandon Hynum Jon Lee Keenan Charlie Kim Shawn Kirchner Bryan Lane Charles Lane Michael Lichtenauer Sal Malaki Michael McDonough Matthew Miles Adam Noel George Sterne Todd Strange A.J. Teshin

Matthew Thomas

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Shuo Zhai

The singers of the Los Angeles Master Chorale are represented by the American Guild of Musical Artists, AFL-CIO; Dylan Gentile, AGMA Delegate.

THANK YOU!

Andrea Zomorodian

Each season we say farewell to distinguished members of LAMC who have enriched the ensemble with their artistry and commitment. Thank you, **Nicole Baker**, for spending 26 seasons with us!

THANK YOU, LESLEY LEIGHTON!



Lesley Leighton has served as the Associate Conductor for the LA Master Chorale for six incredible seasons, and will be stepping down in her role as Grant Gershon's right-hand maestra to continue her very successful career as a conductor and music educator.

In addition to the many, many hours of rehearsals, singer auditions, education outreach programs and performances, Ms. Leighton has commissioned and conducted six world premieres with the LA Master Chorale Chamber Ensemble as part of the annual High School Choir Festival, signifying her deep commitment to this organization as well as to the creation and performance of new music.

The LA Master Chorale Board of Directors, staff and singers

would like to thank Ms. Leighton for her incredibly successful and dedicated tenure as Associate Conductor as well as her impressive history throughout her *entire* career with this organization, which has spanned more than 25 years.

Brava, Lesley Leighton!



LA MASTER CHORALE AT THE RAVINIA FESTIVAL

June 10, 2016, Chicago

Tan Dun | Water Passion After St. Matthew

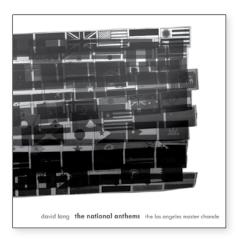
Los Angeles Master Chorale Grant Gershon, conductor

The LA Master Chorale makes its second Ravinia Festival appearance in four years with a performance of Tan Dun's transformative *Water Passion*. Water drips, flows, bubbles, gurgles, ripples, splashes, hisses and is stirred and struck, recalling the ancient Chinese water rituals from the village where Tan Dun grew up — a signature work for the LA Master Chorale.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION AT WWW.RAVINIA.ORG

JUNE

NEW LA MASTER CHORALE ALBUM TO BE RELEASED



the national anthems

The LA Master Chorale has teamed up with Pulitzer Prize-winning and Oscar-nominated composer David Lang to release the premiere album of the national anthems and the choral version of the little match girl passion — the seventh commercial album recorded under the baton of Artistic Director Grant Gershon. This album was recorded earlier this year in Zipper Concert Hall at the Colburn School. It will be released on June 24, 2016 by Cantaloupe Music.

Listen to album excerpts EXCLUSIVELY at LAMC.ORG and enter to win a copy of the pre-sale CD today!

The LA Master Chorale wishes to acknowledge the individuals whose generous support made this recording possible. Lead Donor: Lenore S. and Bernard A. Greenberg Fund. Donor Consortium: Jean Davidson and Kojiro Umezaki, Kathleen and James Drummy, Kiki and David Gindler, Alison and Scott Graff, Robert and Denise Hanisee, Dr. Stephen Kanter, Terry Knowles and Marshall Rutter, Carol Krause, Raulee Marcus, Steven Neiffer and Eric Lassiter, Sally and Robert Neely, and Sandy Owen.

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Eric Whitacre

Swan Family Artist-In-Residence

Eric Whitacre, Grammy® Award-winning composer/conductor/creative force and one of the leading musicians of his generation, has been appointed the LA Master Chorale's first Artist-in-Residence.

Whitacre's concert music has been performed throughout the world by millions of musicians, both amateur and professional, while his groundbreaking Virtual Choirs have united singers from over 110 different countries through technology.

Among other projects with the LA Master Chorale, Whitacre will guest conduct Christmas with Eric Whitacre next season, featuring a cappella Renaissance and Baroque madrigals, modern-day motets and several other works selected by Whitacre himself. He will also focus on audience and artistic engagement for the Chorale's 28th Annual High School Choir Festival, one of the nation's largest choral festivals, which draws 1,000 choir students from across the Southland, and the Chorus America Conference, the nation's most prominent choral gathering, which will be hosted by the LA Master Chorale in June 2017.

This residency is made possible through the generous underwriting from LA Master Chorale board member Philip A. Swan and the Swan Family — longtime supporters who also underwrote Shawn Kirchner's three year term as Composer-in-Residence. Thank you, Swan Family!

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

Crucifixus

by Antonio Lotti

Crucifixus, etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato, passus et sepultus est. Crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, he suffered and was buried.

Miserere

by Gregorio Allegri

Miserere mei Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam.

Et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum dele iniquitatem meam.

Amplius lava me ab iniquitate mea: et a peccato meo munda me:

Quoniam iniquitatem meam ego cognosco: et peccatum meum contra me est semper.

Tibi soli peccavi, et malum coram te feci: ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis,

et vincas cum judicaris.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your great loving kindness.

And according to the multitude of your mercies, blot out my iniquity.

Wash me yet more from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I acknowledge my transgression;

and my sin is ever before me.

To you only have I sinned, and done evil in your sight: that you may be justified in your words, and be vindicated when you are judged. Ecce enim in iniquitatibus conceptus sum: et in peccatis concepit me mater mea.

Ecce enim veritatem dilexisti: incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manifestasti mihi.

Asperges me, hyssopo, et mundabor: lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor.

Auditui meo dabis gaudium et laetitiam: et exsultabunt ossa humiliata.

Averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis: et omnes iniquitates meas dele.

Cor mundum crea in me Deus: et spiritum rectum innova in visceribus meis.

Ne projicias me a facie tua: et spiritum sanctum tuum ne auferas a me

Redde mihi laetitiam salutaris tui: et spiritu principali confirma me.

Docebo iniquos vias tuas: et impii ad te convertentur.

For behold, I was conceived in iniquities; and in sins my mother conceived me.

For behold, you have loved the truth; the obscure and hidden elements of your wisdom you have made known to me.

You will sprinkle me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed; You will wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.

To my hearing you will give gladness and joy; and my humbled bones shall rejoice.

Turn your face away from all my sins; and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your countenance, and take not your holy spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation; and uphold me with a steadfast spirit.

I will teach transgressors your ways: and the wicked shall be converted unto you.

continued on next page...

Miserere continued

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus, salutis meae: et exsultabit lingua mea justitiam tuam.

Domine labia mea aperies: et os meum annuntiabit laudem tuam.

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium, dedissem utique: holocaustis non delectaberis.

Sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus: cor contritum et humiliatum, Deus, non despicies.

Benigne fac, Domine, in bona voluntate tua Sion: ut aedificentur muri Jerusalem.

Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae, oblationes et holocausta:

tunc imponent super

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, god of my salvation; and my tongue shall extol your justice.

O Lord, you will open my lips: and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

For if you had desired sacrifice, I would indeed have given it: you will not delight in burnt offerings.

A sacrifice to God is a broken spirit:

a humble and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Grant kindness to Zion, O Lord, according to your good pleasure: that the walls of Jerusalem may be built up.

Then you will accept the sacrifice of righteousness, the oblations and the whole-burnt offerings; then they will lay bullocks upon your altar.

— Translation by Ron Jeffers

Envoi

by Abbie Betinis Text by Algernon Charles Swinburne

Fly, white butterflies, out to sea, Frail, pale wings for the winds to try, Small white wings that we scarce can see, Fly!

Some fly light as a laugh of glee, Some fly soft as a long, low sigh; All to the haven where each would be. Fly!

Lux Aeterna

by György Ligeti

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,

cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es.

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord,

with your saints forever, for you are merciful.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Three New Motets

by Steven Stucky

O Admirabile Commercium

O admirabile commercium: Creator generis humani, animatum corpus sumens, de Virgine nasci dignatus est; et procedens homo sine semine, largitus est nobis suam Deitatem.

O Sacrum Convivium

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

O Vos Omnes

O vos omnes qui transitis per viam, attendite et videte si est dolor similes, sicut dolor meus.

O Wondrous Exchange

O wondrous exchange: the Creator of the human race, assuming a living body, has deigned to be born of a virgin; and issuing forth unbegotten, has bestowed on us his divinity.

O Sacred Banquet

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 given to us

O All You

O all you who pass along this way, behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow.

Enjoy the Silence

Words and music by Martin Gore (Depeche Mode) arr. Eric Whitacre

Words like violence, break the silence, come crashing in, into my little world.

Painful to me, pierce right through me can't you understand, oh my little girl?

All I ever wanted, all I ever needed is here in my arms, words are very unnecessary, they can only do harm.

Vows are spoken to be broken feelings are intense, words are trivial.

Pleasures remain, so does the pain words are meaningless, and forgettable.

All I ever wanted, all I ever needed is here in my arms, words are very unnecessary, they can only do harm. Enjoy the silence.

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Mouyayoum

by Anders Hillborg

Mouyayoum

Au-Delà Du Chagrin

by Sydney Guillaume Text by Gabriel T. Guillaume

La nuit de la douleur a pris place en nos coeurs; La langueur de nos chants emprisonna nos heurs. Nous sommes les enfants du soleil endormi; Notre douce lumière s'est éteinte sans bruit.

Elle était rayonnante de joie et d'allégresse, Celle qui fut pour nous un bouquet de tendresse.

Du berceau à la tombe, elle a su bien porter Les multiples chapeaux dont la vie l'a coiffée. Du bonnet nourrisson et jusqu'à la couronne,

Nous pleurons son départ autant que son absence, Mais nos vies sont encore remplies de sa présence.

Nous partageons sans fin son brillant héritage, Qui nous inspirera bien au-delà des âges.

Elle fit don de son coeur,

de toute sa personne.

Nous chantons sa lumière au-delà du chagrin; Nous bénissons le Ciel d'un éternel refrain:

"Well done, good and faithful servant... Welcome home." The night of grief has taken place in our hearts; The languor of our songs imprisoned

our hours.

We are the children of the sun asleep;

Our soft light was extinguished without a sound.

She was radiant with joy and buoyancy, A bouquet of tenderness she was to us.

From the cradle to the grave, she wore with pride The many hats that life made her.

From the baby bonnet to the crown,

She made gifts of her heart and of her entire being.

We mourn her passing as much as her absence,
But our lives remain filled
with her presence.
We endlessly share her
brilliant legacy,
Which will inspire us well
beyond the ages.

We sing of her light beyond the sorrow; We thank Heaven with an eternal refrain:

"Well done, good and faithful servant... Welcome Home."

Mi lumía

Mi lu

by Javier Zentner Text by Oliverio Girondo

mi lubidulia mi golocidalove mi lu tan luz tan tu que me enlucielahisma v descentratelura. v venusafrodea y me nirvana el suyo la cruces los desalmes con sus melimeleos sus eropsiquisedas sus decúbitos lianas y dermiferios limbos y gormullos mi lu mi luar mi mito demonoave dea rosa mi pez hada mi luvisita nimia mu lubísnea mi lu más lar más lampo mi pulpa lu de vértigo de galaxias de semen de misterio mi lubella lusola mi total lu plevida mi toda lu lumía

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and venaphrodite
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bliss of her own crux of the unsoully
with her honeymelody
her eropsychises her resting
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semen of mystery
my libeautious sun
my complete li fullife
my whole li
lightling

— Translation by Pablo Corá

Elijah Rock

arr. Moses Hogan

Elijah rock Come on sister help me to pray, tell me my Lord done pass this way.

Elijah rock Shout, shout Elijah rock, comin' up Lordy.

Satan ain't nothin' but a snake in the grass.

He's a conjurer, He's a liar.

Elijah rock Shout, shout Elijah rock, comin' up Lordy.

If I could I surely would stand on the rock where Moses stood.

Hallelujah, Jesus Oh Elijah rock, Comin' up Lord.

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Thank You to Our Newest Artistic Director's Circle Members!

The Los Angeles Master Chorale's Artistic Director's Circle continues to grow thanks to the generosity of four longtime supporters. In March, Marian and John Niles joined the Circle with a significant multiyear commitment to support one of Artistic Director Grant Gershon's new artistic initiatives: music in resonant spaces. Marian, a board member for 15 years, feels strongly about this initiative, which is still in its early development stage.

desire to expand the LA Master Chorale's reach beyond Walt Disney Concert Hall. My hope is that it will inspire innovative programming and expose this beautiful art form to new audiences and communities."



Marian and John Niles

In April, the Circle welcomed 14-year board veteran Bob Hanisee and his wife Denise, who increased their support this year with a pledge of vital long-term resources to support Grant's vision of artistic innovation, especially in the areas of fostering emerging talent and ensuring the longevity of choral music through new recordings. "I share Grant's belief that the



Denise and Bob Hanisee

LA Master Chorale should play a leadership role, both nationally and internationally, in supporting the next generation of choral composers and continuing to expand the choral repertoire."

We are grateful to the Nileses and Hanisees for their commitment to Grant's creative vision for the future of this organization. For more information about the Artistic Director's Circle, please contact Patrick Morrow, Director of Development, at 213-972-3114 or pmorrow@lamc.org.

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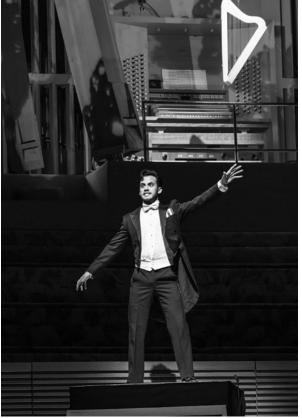
On Wednesday, April 13, donors to the LA Master Chorale enjoyed a lovely evening with Artistic Director Grant Gershon and Stage Director Trevore Ross for our annual Working Rehearsal event.

The evening was focused on our recent production of Handel's Alexander's Feast. Guests arrived at First United Methodist Church, Glendale for a pre-rehearsal reception and conversation. They were hosted by members of the LAMC staff, including President & CEO Jean Davidson and General Manager Andy Brown.

During the conversation and rehearsal, donors learned the behind-the-scenes aspects of Trevore and Grant's vision for the staging of the Handel oratorio. Our guests enjoyed watching the inner workings of our chorus in action!

For more information on how to get involved as a supporter of the LA Master Chorale, visit our website at LAMC.ORG, email us at friends@lamc.org, or call us 213-972-4355. Thank you for your support.





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The Los Angeles Master Chorale established the Roger Wagner Society to honor and recognize individuals who have expressed their commitment to the art of choral music by making a gift to the Master Chorale's endowment or a planned gift benefitting LAMC. Through this support, Society members ensure the long-term fiscal stability of the Master Chorale by creating a lasting legacy that will help preserve a vital cultural resource for future generations. The Society is named for the late Roger Wagner who founded the Master Chorale in 1964 and served as its Music Director until 1986.

ROGER WAGNER SOCIETY

Michael Breitner Abbott Brown Raun and Jerry Burnham Colburn Foundation William Davis in honor of Ted McAniff Ann Graham Ehringer, Ph.D. Claudia and Mark Foster Kathie and Alan Freeman Kiki and David Gindler Denise and Robert Hanisee Geraldine Healy* Violet Jabara Jacobs* Stephen A. Kanter Joyce* and Kent Kresa Marjorie and Roger* Lindbeck Lesley Leighton Los Angeles Master Chorale Associates Patricia A. MacLaren Drs. Marguerite and Robert* Marsh Jane and Edward J. McAniff

Raymond R. Neevel* Joyce and Donald J. Nores Cheryl Petersen and Roger Anne Shaw and Harrison Price* Elizabeth and Hugh Ralston Susan and George Reardon Elizabeth Redmond* Penelope C. Roeder, Ph.D. Phyllis and Larry* Rothrock Marshall Rutter and Terry Knowles Carolyn and Scott Sanford Martha Ellen Scott* Barbara and Charles Schneider* Dona* and David Schultz Nancy and Ralph Shapiro, in honor of Peter Mullin Nancy and Richard Spelke George Sterne and Nicole Baker Francine and Dal Alan Swain Philip A. Swan Laney and Tom Techentin Madge van Adelsberg* Robert Wood*

* deceased



Los Angeles Master Chorale 135 North Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90012 213-972-3110 tel. 213-972-3136 fax

lamc@lamc.org boxoffice@lamc.org

ADMINISTRATION

Artistic Staff

Grant Gershon, Kiki & David Gindler Artistic Director Lesley Leighton, Associate Conductor Lisa Edwards, Pianist/Musical Assistant

Administrative Staff

Lesili Beard, Education Programs Manager
George Brietigam, Marketing Associate
Andrew Brown, General Manager
Patrick Brown, Director of Marketing
Jean Davidson, President & CEO
Hayden Eberhart, Program Book Coordinator
Allie Fukushima, Accounting and Compensation Specialist
Julie Gaeta, Institutional Giving Manager
Desirée Gagnon, Special Events Planner
Kevin Koelbl, Artistic Personnel & Production Manager
Lindsey Lansburgh, Annual Fund Manager
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Lee Stickler, Accounting and Compensation Assistant

Consultants

Ad Lib Communications, Libby Huebner, Publicist King Design Office, Print & Web

Walt Disney Concert Hall

Greg Flusty, House Manager Jeff Wallace, Stage Manager Ronald Galbraith, Master Carpenter John Phillips, Property Master Terry Klein, Master Electrician Kevin F. Wapner, Master Audio/Video

The Los Angeles Master Chorale is supported, in part, through grants from the California Arts Council, the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.









FOR TICKETS

Phone: 213-972-7282 (MON-SAT, 10-6)

Online: LAMC.ORG

Nancy and Robert Miller

Patrick Morrow

JUNE 2016





LA PHIL

02Thru 6/5

WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL Dudamel Conducts Bartók 8:00 PM

REDCAT

1 Thru 6/4

ROY AND EDNA DISNEY CALARTS THEATER

Rosanna Gamson/ World Wide: Still/Restless

8:30 PM
THE MUSIC

THE MUSIC CENTER

CENTER PLAZA
Dance DTLA: D
Downtown/Boll

Dance DTLA: Dance
Downtown/Bollywood
7:00 PM

LA OPERA **05**Thru 6/12

DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION
La Boheme
2:00 PM



LA MASTER CHORALE WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL SONIC MASTERWORKS 7:00 PM CENTER THEATRE GROUP

08Thru 7/17

MARK TAPER FORUM
Disgraced
8:00 PM

THE MUSIC CENTER

THE MUSIC
CENTER PLAZA
Dance DTLA:
DJ Night, curated
by Garth Trinidad
7:00 PM



REDCAT

16Thru 6/19

DISNEY CALARTS
THEATER
David Lang and
Mark Dion:
Anatomy Theater
8:30 PM

ROY AND EDNA

GRAND PARK 16

GRAND PARK
Ain't No Half Steppin':
Dance From Soul
Train to B-Boys
6:00 PM

#hiphop4days

THE MUSIC CENTER 17

WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL Sleepless: The Music Center After Hours 11:30 PM

#hiphop4days

THE MUSIC CENTER

1 7 Thru 6/19 DOROTHY CHANDLER PAVILION
Compagnie Käfig
7:30 PM

Thru 6/19 #hiphop4days

GRAND PARK 19

GRAND PARKBeat Swap Meet **NOON**

#hiphop4days

THE MUSIC CENTER 24

THE MUSIC
CENTER PLAZA
Dance DTLA:
Dance Downtown/
Line Dancing
7:00 PM



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