

The Choral Foundation in the Midwest Proudly Presents

The William Baker Festival Singers

Music of Timeless Beauty and Worth in Kansas City Since 1998

Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor

Christine M. Freeman, Associate Music Director & Senior Vocal Coach

Jamea Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director Ed Frazier Davis, Composer in Residence

20th ANNIVERSARY GALA

Sunday Afternoon, 6 May 2018

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Missouri



*When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.*

SOLI DEO GLORIA

What wondrous love is this, O my soul?

The William Baker Festival Singers

William O. Baker, DMA

Founder & WBCF Music Director

Jamea J. Sale, MME

WBCF Executive Associate Music Director
Acting Director, Institute for Healthy Singing

Lynn Swanson, MME

Director, Institute for Healthy Singing
Music Director, Baroque Summer Institute

Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM

Music Director, New South Festival Singers

Amy Thropp, MM

Music Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Christine M. Freeman, MME

Associate Music Director/Senior Vocal Coach

Scott C. Smith

Choral Associate & Administrator, Atlanta

Ed Frazier Davis, MM

Composer in Residence

Jennifer Berroth

Associate Music Director, Lee's Summit

Nicole Winney

Student Intern

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The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc.

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100

Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 913.403.9223

www.HealthySinging.org

www.SullivanChoralLibrary.org

www.FestivalSingers.org www.ChoralFoundation.org

Laura Rene Baker '99

Chris Barnard '09

**Jennifer Berroth '14*

Jocelyn Botkin '04

Joyce Braddock '07

William Brubaker '15

Sandra Buntin '15

William Cannon '17

Michael Carter '06

Kim Claxton '12

Malcolm Cook '04

Ed Frazier Davis '16

Laura Dickinson '04

Kent Dickinson '03

Eric Edman '12

Bethany Franklin '16

Christine M. Freeman '06

Vincent Gover '16

**Karen Kay Hall '12*

Marcia Higginson '02

Jill Holtkamp '07

Amy Imperato '17

Jim Jandt '01

**Gary Jarrett '02*

Jill Jarrett '12

Abby Judah '16

Kathleen Kennedy '11

Amanda Kimbrough '08

Ross Kimbrough '11

Stacey Knoell '08

Katie Lorand '16

**Brad Piroutek '01*

Julie Piroutek '07

Jamea Sale '02

Erica Seago '17

Susannah Seipel '15

Ethan Sherman '17

Cindy Sheets '09

Jennifer Schoenfeldt '06

Stephanie Sullivan '11

Sean Sweeden '16

Denice Trawicki '03

Ted Williams '18

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Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor



William O. Baker has earned a reputation as an entrepreneurial conductor and creator of choral organizations. He founded the DeKalb Choral Guild in 1978 at the age of 19. By the age of 21 he had conducted Brahms' *German Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, and Handel's *Messiah* with professional orchestras, launching a career of ambitious artistic leadership that now has extended over forty years. In the last few years he has conducted the *St. Matthew Passion* and the *Mass in B minor* of Bach, and the *Sacred Service* of Ernest Bloch, at the time of the performances the only Kansas City-based conductor to lead the works in over a quarter-century.

Baker created the Atlanta-based William Baker Festival Singers, originally called Gwinnett Festival Singers, in 1985, and established the William Baker Choral Foundation in 1990. In 1998 the conductor moved his home to the Kansas City area and created the Kansas City ensemble of the Festival Singers. The Choral Foundation has created over a dozen ensembles based in three states, involving hundreds of singers during the course of any year. His choirs have performed for numerous conventions of the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the American Guild of Organists, in addition to the 1982 World's Fair and music festivals in the United States and Great Britain, most notably appearances before capacity audiences at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival since 1989. He has led the Festival Singers in the production of 25 nationally released recordings and in television and radio appearances across the nation, including *The First Art*, *The Sounds of Majesty* and National Public Radio's *Performance Today*.

No stranger to the orchestral podium, William Baker created the Mountain Park Wind Symphony in 1994 and the Kansas City Wind Symphony in 1998. Recent orchestral performances have included Vivaldi: *The Seasons*, Sibelius: *Finlandia*, Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2*, Bizet: *Suite L'Arlesienne*, Haydn: *Symphony No. 59 "Fire,"* Mozart: *Symphony No. 41*, Beethoven: *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 9*. Choral collaborations have included projects with members of the Kansas City Symphony, the Kazanetti Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, the Baton Rouge Symphony, the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra, and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. He is Founder & Music Director of the Atlanta-based Orchestra of the American Heartland.



Dr. Baker served as Minister of Music for a number of significant Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Methodist congregations across the South and the Midwest. Major appointments have included the historic Grace United Methodist Church in Midtown Atlanta and The Village Church in suburban Kansas City, the nation's second largest Presbyterian congregation. From 2012-2017 he served as director of The Cathedral Chorale, the choir for Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City's 8:00 AM Eucharist. He is the author of *Hearts & Hands & Voices: Weekly Reflections on Music and the Church*, published by Amber Waves Music.

An Atlanta native, Dr. Baker studied voice and choral conducting at Mercer University and the University of Georgia before culminating his formal education at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting. His accomplishments have been recognized in his home states through proclamations by two Georgia Governors, Joe Frank Harris and Sonny Purdew, by Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer, by United States Congressman Phil Gingrey, and by a 2015 proclamation by the State of Georgia House of Representatives. In 2012 he was honored for his contributions to the cultural life of his hometown by the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta. In 2015 he was named Conductor Emeritus of The DeKalb Choral Guild.

The William Baker Festival Singers

Music of Timeless Beauty and Worth in Kansas City Since 1998



The William Baker Festival Singers has been hailed by *The Kansas City Star* as “The best of the several volunteer choirs in the city...” Though the membership of the 50-voice semi-professional chorale is comprised entirely of volunteers, a large majority of the singers hold music degrees and many are vocational musicians. It is the mission of the Festival Singers to bring the highest standards of musicianship and professionalism to the realm of community music. Now in its 20th anniversary concert season, the metro Kansas City-based ensemble has enjoyed numerous triumphs through a tradition of ambitious concerts, recording, touring and broadcasting.

Tours have taken the choir throughout the Midwest, South, and Northeast, including performances in New York, Chicago, St. Louis, San Antonio, Austin, New Orleans, Atlanta, Omaha, Des Moines and many other cities. Their richness of tone, diversity of programming and expressiveness has won praise from audiences and critics alike. On 11 April 2013 the Festival Singers presented their debut concert in Helzberg Hall, a performance that featured the *Requiem* of Maurice Durufle performed with members of the Kansas City Symphony. John Heuertz, in the *Kansas City Star* said, “It’s hard to know where to begin praising this chorus’ performance...What came across Thursday night above all was the great warmth in this chorus’ singing. It was almost like hearing a family.” The memorable season ended with performances before large and enthusiastic audiences in Miller Chapel at Princeton Theological Seminary and in the nave of the historic Trinity Wall Street Church in New York City. The Festival Singers are scheduled for performances in the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis this coming April, and in the National Cathedral in Washington, DC in October.

The signature repertoire of the William Baker Festival Singers is short-form sacred a cappella classics and spirituals from all eras and cultures. The chorus also performs a major choral/orchestral masterwork each spring. Recent concerts have included the *Requiems* of Faure, Durufle, Mozart, Brahms and Rutter, the *Dona Nobis Pacem* of Vaughan Williams, and the *Laudes Organi* of Kodaly. The Festival Singers own the distinction of being the first Kansas City-based ensemble to perform the *Mass in B minor* and the *St. Matthew Passion* of Bach, in addition to Ernest Bloch’s *Avodath Hakodesh (Sacred Service)* in a quarter century.

**Visit Us On: Facebook (William Baker Festival Singers)
Twitter (@WBFS_KC) YouTube (WBakerCF) Instagram (choralfoundation)**



The Festival Singers is an ensemble of **The William Baker Choral Foundation**, a national organization based in Roeland Park, Kansas, that presently sponsors choral ensembles based in three states involving hundreds of men, women and youth. The Foundation also sponsors **Amber Waves Music Publishing**, a creative company that offers more than 50 quality titles in worldwide distribution (www.AmberWavesPublishing.com). The Choral Foundation offers a year-round **Student Intern** program for conductors in masters-level study, and a **Choral Scholar** program for conductors studying at the doctoral level, and is the sponsoring organization for the **Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library** and the **Institute for Healthy**

Singing. The unique continuing education program enables aspiring conductors to gain practical experience in musical leadership and management of a major arts organization. The staff of the Choral Foundation also offers consulting services nationwide for church, community, and professional musical organizations. For additional information, please call the Home Office of the Choral Foundation at 913.403.9223, or email Mail@FestivalSingers.org.

JAMEA SALE, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director Acting Director for the Institute for Healthy Singing

Jamea Sale is a native of Colby, Kansas. She graduated from Kansas State University in Manhattan in 1987 with a Bachelor of Music in Voice and Instrumental Music Education, and in 2012 she completed the Master of Music in Vocal/Choral Pedagogy at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She met rigorous requirements for membership to the International Voice Care Network at St. John's University in 2010. Other memberships include ACDA, NAFME, NATS, and Olathe Music Teachers Association.

Jamea has been a member and soloist with the William Baker Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City since 2002, and served as Student Intern for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 concert seasons. She was appointed as Choral Assistant in Kansas City in August 2012, Education Director for the Institute for Healthy Singing in 2016, and Executive Associate Music Director of the William Baker Choral Foundation in 2017.



With a certification in Preschool Musikgarten Education, Jamea led experiential music programs for parents and toddlers for five years. She served as Assistant Choral Director and Vocal Coach at St. James Academy High School in Lenexa, Kansas, for 3 years and has taught Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade music in the Olathe School District. Presently she serves as the Vocal Coach and Choral Assistant for Allegro con Brio & Allegro con Moto. In her Olathe, KS studio (JameaSale.com) Ms. Sale works with singers of all ages, including persons in need of vocal recovery treatment.

In cooperation with the Institute for Healthy Singing and Allegro Choirs of KC, and in collaboration with the Zhuhai Classical Children's Chorus and the University of Kansas' Dr. Melissa Grady, Ms. Sale is conducting a Longitudinal Examination of the Progression of Voice Change in Adolescent Females. The study in process is documenting 100 young female singers' vocal development over the course of 9 months. Ms. Sale is available for group workshops and private consultation through the Institute for Healthy Singing.

CHRISTINE M. FREEMAN, Associate Music Director & Senior Vocal Coach

Christine M. Freeman was appointed Associate Music Director of Kansas City ensembles and Senior Vocal Coach for the William Baker Choral Foundation in August 2011. She is a native of Topeka, Kansas. Mrs. Freeman holds a Bachelor of Music Education, emphasis Voice, and a Master of Music Education in Choral Pedagogy from the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She was appointed to membership in The William Baker Festival Singers in 2006, and served as Student Intern for the Choral Foundation in the 2007-2008 season, where she conducted Foundation ensembles in Kansas City, Atlanta, and at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston. Christine Freeman has conducted the Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City, along with members of the Kansas City Symphony, in performances of Vivaldi *Beatus Vir*, Haydn *Te Deum*, and Mozart *Regina Coeli*. She appears as conductor on two Festival Singers recordings: *A Festival for Christmas* and *Promised Land*.

Mrs. Freeman has been a clinician for honor choirs in Kansas and Missouri. In addition to her work with the Choral Foundation, Mrs. Freeman is a Music Educator and is beginning her fifth year in the Blue Valley School District instructing middle school choral music. She previously taught elementary and middle school music for eight years in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas. Mrs. Freeman was recently nominated by her colleagues for the (NEKMEA) North East Kansas Music Educators Association "Middle School Teacher of the Year" Award, and was previously nominated for the Kansas Choral Directors Association "Prelude" Award. She was the KCDA Repertoire and Standards Chair for Children's Choirs where she organized the Statewide Treble Honor Choir from 2012-2015. With her husband Daniel, and their two-year-old daughter, she makes her home in Olathe, Kansas.



ED FRAZIER DAVIS, Composer-in-Residence

Ed Frazier Davis (b. 1989) is an English-American composer, baritone, and conductor living and working in Kansas City, Missouri. He was appointed Composer-in-Residence for the William Baker Choral Foundation in August 2016.



Lauded for its "compelling, [...] colourful orchestration" (Musical Toronto), Ed's music is poly-stylistic and draws from many eclectic influences, from Medieval song to post-minimalism and practically everything in between. He has composed music for a wide variety of media, but as an experienced singer he has a particularly strong affinity for writing choral music. His music has been commissioned and performed throughout the world by many renowned performers and organizations, including Access Contemporary Music, the Aspen Music Festival, Bella Voce, The Crossing, soprano Erin Wall, the Lincoln Trio, PLEXUS, and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Ultimately, he seeks to write music that breaks established artistic binaries—e.g. traditional vs. modern, accessible vs. unfamiliar—to create art that is fulfilling to as wide an audience as possible.

Ed's career has developed considerable momentum in the past few years. From 2012 to 2016, he served as Composer-in-Residence for the Chicago Chamber Choir, the last season of which was under renowned conductor and educator Doreen Rao. In 2014, he was named second place winner of the American Prize in Choral Composition (Student Division), as well as a finalist in Chanticleer's annual student composer competition. In 2015, he received the premiere of his first international commission from the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Children's Chorus (conducted by Sir Andrew Davis), and was selected as one of four

composition fellows at the very first Big Sky Choral Initiative. In 2016, he made his Southern Hemisphere debut with an acclaimed commission from Melbourne-based chamber ensemble PLEXUS.

The William Baker Festival Singers

20 Years of Leadership

Dr. William O. Baker, Founder & Music Director

Janis M. Lane, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director, 1985-2008
Melissa Ann Shallberg, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director, 2008-2011
Lynn Swanson, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director, 2011-2017
Jamea J. Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director, 2017-Present

Leadership of the William Baker Festival Singers in Kansas City

Brendan Gibson, Associate Music Director, 1998-1999
Mary Morgan Puetz, Associate Music Director & Vocal Coach, 1999-2001
Mary Cohen, Associate Music Director, 2001-2002
Roz Royster, Vocal Coach, 2001-2002
Melissa Ann Shallberg, Associate Music Director & Vocal Coach, 2002-2011
Christine M. Freeman, Associate Music Director & Vocal Coach, 2011-Present

R. Douglas Helzering, Composer in Residence, 2002-2007
Ed Frazier Davis, Composer in Residence, 2016-Present

William Breytspraak, Student Intern, 1998-1999
Audrey Williams, Student Intern 2006-2007
Christine M. Freeman, Student Intern 2007-2008
Maria Hanzy, Student Intern, 2008-2009
Jamea J. Sale, Student Intern, 2010-2012
Scott Harvey, Student Intern, 2013-2014
Jennifer Berroth, Student Intern, 2015-2016
Eric Newlin, Student Intern, 2016-2017
Nicole Winney, Student Intern, 2018-2019

Concert Tours & Masterworks Performances

1998-1999: Wichita, Kansas

1999-2000: Hiawatha, Kansas; Omaha, Nebraska; Des Moines, Iowa

J. S. Bach: Cantata No. 4 "CHRIST LAG IN TODESBANDEN"

Benjamin Britten: CEREMONY OF CAROLS

2000-2001: Topeka, Kansas; Oak Park, Illinois; St. James Cathedral in Chicago

Johannes Brahms: SCHAFFE IN MIR, GOTT; John Rutter: REQUIEM

2001-2002: Mandeville, Louisiana; Basilica at St. Joseph Abbey, Covington, Louisiana;

St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans

Gabriel Faure: REQUIEM

2002-2003: Antonio Vivaldi: GLORIA; Zoltan Kodaly: LAUDES ORGANI

R. Douglas Helvering: TE DEUM (World Premier)

2003-2004: Hiawatha, Kansas; Lincoln, Nebraska; Omaha, Nebraska

Antonio Vivaldi: BEATUS VIR;

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: VESPERAE SOLENNES DE CONFESSORE

2004-2005: Convocation 2005: Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Atlanta, Georgia

Igor Stravinsky: SYMPHONY OF PSALMS; Leonard Bernstein: CHICHESTER PSALMS

2005-2006: Columbia, Missouri;

2006 SW Division Convention of the American Choral Directors Association in St. Louis, Missouri

Leonard Bernstein: MISSA BREVIS (Kansas City Premier);

Ralph Vaughan Williams: DONA NOBIS PACEM

2006-2007: Amite, Louisiana; New Orleans, Louisiana

J. S. Bach: THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW (Shaw Translation)

2007-2008: Topeka, Kansas; Hiawatha, Kansas; Manhattan, Kansas

Antonio Vivaldi: BEATUS VIR; Franz Joseph Haydn: TE DEUM;

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: REQUIEM

2008-2009: St. Joseph, Missouri; Mason City, Iowa; Ames, Iowa

J. S. Bach: MASS IN B MINOR; William W. Dreyfoos: SONGS OF THE HOLOCAUST

2009-2010: Convocation 2010: Marietta, Georgia; Atlanta, Georgia

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS; MISSA BREVIS IN D; REGINA COELI

2010-2011: San Antonio, Texas; Austin, Texas
Benjamin Britten: FESTIVAL TE DEUM & REJOICE IN THE LAMB;
Zoltan Kodaly: LAUDES ORGANI

2011-2012: Mason City, Iowa
Ernest Bloch: AHAVATH HAKODESH (Sacred Service) Broadcast on NPR "Performance Today"

2012-2013: Miller Chapel, Princeton, New Jersey;
Trinity Wall Street Church, New York City, New York
Maurice Durufle: REQUIEM; Adolphus Hailstork: I WILL LIFT UP MINE EYES

2013-2014: Benefit Tour for Kansas Public Radio, Lawrence, Topeka, Emporia & Manhattan
Johannes Brahms: A GERMAN REQUIEM (Shaw Translation/London Scoring)

2014-2015: Convocation 2015: Smyrna, Georgia; Atlanta, Georgia
Johannes Brahms: EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM (German); Mozart: CORONATION MASS
William W. Dreyfoos: SONGS OF THE HOLOCAUST

2015-2016: Emporia, Kansas; Stillwater, Oklahoma
J. S. Bach: THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW (Shaw Translation)

2016-2017: Excelsior Springs, Missouri; Basehor, Kansas
Ed Frazier Davis: SWEETEST FRUIT BEYOND HUMAN SENSE (World Premier);
Leonard Bernstein: CHICHESTER PSALMS; Norman Dello Joio: TO ST. CECILIA

2017-2018: Cathedral Basilica & Third Baptist Church, St. Louis, Missouri
Ed Frazier Davis: SEVEN LAST WORDS FROM THE CROSS (World Premier);
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: GREAT MASS IN C MINOR

Appreciation for Our Festival Singers Rehearsal Homes

1998-2001 The Village Church, Prairie Village, Kansas
2001 Leawood United Methodist Church, Leawood, Kansas
2001-2004 Countryside Christian Church, Mission, Kansas
2004-2012 Faith Lutheran Church, Prairie Village, Kansas
2012-Present Countryside Christian Church, Mission, Kansas

THE WILLIAM BAKER
FESTIVAL SINGERS

MY SONG IS
LOVE
UNKNOWN

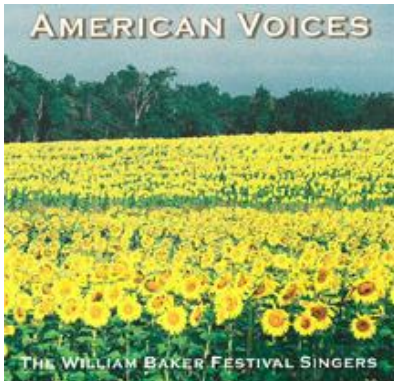
Recordings of the
**The CHORAL
FOUNDATION**
Music for the Human Grace

AVAILABLE AT THE INFORMATION
TABLE AT TODAY'S CONCERT

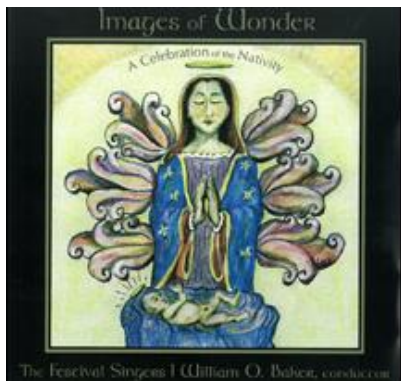
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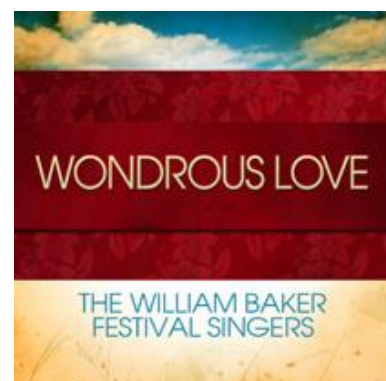
WORKS FROM BARBER,
THOMPSON & OTHER
AMERICAN COMPOSERS



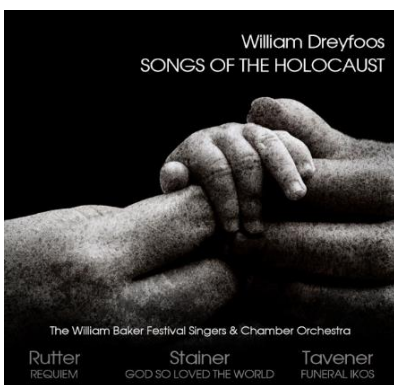
*A CELEBRATION
OF THE
NATIVITY*



A CELEBRATION OF THE
HOLIDAYS WITH CHOIRS,
BRASS & ORGAN



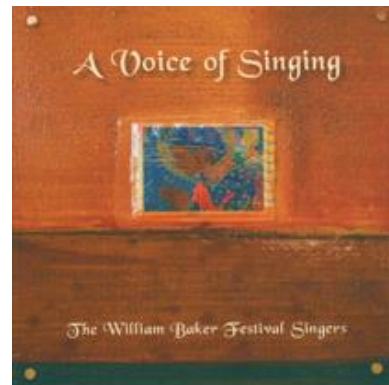
RECORDED FROM
1998-2008



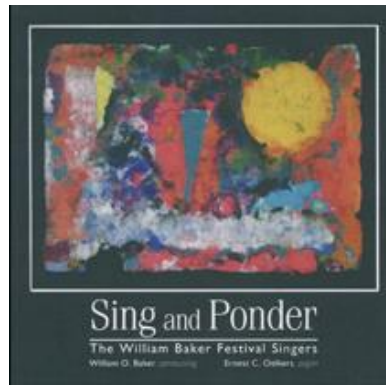
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CLASSIC
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& SPIRITUALS



TRADITIONAL CLASSICS
WITH ORGANIST
ERNEST C. OELKERS

The 20th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday Afternoon, 6 May 2018, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Missouri
The William Baker Festival Singers, Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director

Jamea Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director

Christine M. Freeman, Associate Director Ed Frazier Davis, Composer in Residence

With Our Special Guests, Allegro Con Vivo, Gretchen Harrison, Music Director

I

EVEN WHEN HE IS SILENT

Kim André ARNESEN, Born 1980
Norsk Musikforlag

I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining.
I believe in love, even when I feel it not.
I believe in God, even when He is silent.

-Anonymous, 20th century

TENEBRAE FACTAE SUNT

Geoffrey WILCKEN, Born 1972
Melchizadek Music CH016030

Sung in Latin

Darkness was made when Jesus was crucified.
At around the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a great voice:
My God, why have You forsaken Me?
And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.
Jesus cried out in a great voice, saying:
Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit.

Truly He has born our sufferings,
And our sorrow He has carried away.

-The Gospels of Matthew 27:45-46, John 19:30 & Luke 23:46

Amy Imperato, Erica Seago, Will Brubaker & Vince Gover, soloists

CHRISTUS FACTUS EST PRO NOBIS

Anton BRUCKNER, 1824-1896
Edition Peters 6316

Christ became obedient for us unto death,
Even the death of the cross.
Wherefore God also hath exalted Him,
And hath given Him a Name which is above every Name.

-Phillippians 2:8-9

II

MY BELOVED SPOKE

Ed Frazier DAVIS, Born 1989
Composer Manuscript

Composer in Residence, Ed Frazier Davis, composed this work in 2014. It was premiered by the Festival Singers in January 2018. Sung in Hebrew & English

My beloved spoke, and said unto me:
"Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.
For, lo, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing is come;
And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land.
The fig-tree putteth forth her green figs,
And the vines in blossom give forth their fragrance;
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away."

-Song of Solomon 2:10-13

Amy Imperato, Erica Seago, Sean Sweeden & Vince Gover, soloists

COME TO ME, MY LOVE

Norman DELLO JOIO, 1913-2008
Edward B. Marks Music 7541

Come to me in the night,
Come, come to me in the silence of the darkening night.
Come to me in the speaking silence of a dream;
With soft and rounded cheeks and eyes as bright
As sunlight on a stream.

O, come back in tears, my love of finished years,
In dreams too sweet, too bitter sweet,
Of Paradise where souls of love abide and meet,
Come back my love, come back to me.

Yet come to me in dreams that I may live my life again;
A memory of those thirsty longing eyes, those eyes so bright;
Come back to me, my love, that I may give
Pulse for pulse, breath for breath.

O, come in silent dreams, my love,
And whisper low as long ago.

-Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894

Karen Kay Hall, piano

DIRAIT-ON

Morten LAURIDSEN, Born 1943
Southern Music Publishing

Sung in French

Abandon surrounding abandon,
Tenderness touching tenderness...
Your oneness endlessly caresses itself, so they say:
Self caressing through its own clear reflection.
Thus you invent the theme of Narcissus fulfilled.

Rainer Maria Rilke, 1875-1926

Karen Kay Hall, piano

III

Allegro Con Vivo
Allegro Choirs of Kansas City
Gretchen Harrison, Conducting
Geri Allcorn, Piano

ART THOU TROUBLED

Georg Frideric HANDEL, 1685-1759
Hinshaw Music Publishing

WILL YOU WALK A LITTLE FASTER

John CARTER, Born 1930
Alfred Music Publishing

OLD JOE CLARK

Judy Herrington & Sara Glick
Pavanne Publishing

SAILOR AND THE SINNER MAN

Traditional, arranged by Randall Johnson
Santa Barbara Music Publishing

IV

Allegro Con Vivo
The William Baker Festival Singers
Jamea J. Sale, Conducting
Geri Allcorn, Piano

LET EVERYTHING THAT HATH BREATH

Jeffrey L. AMES, Born 1969
earthsongs

Stacey Knoell, soloist

V

*The selection of American Folk Hymns is given by
Lynn Swanson in honor of Dr. William Baker and the 20th
Anniversary Season of The William Baker Festival Singers*

COOL OF THE DAY

Origin Disputed, Attributed Folk Song
Arranged by John Ratledge
Alliance Music Publications AMP-0176

Oh my Lord, He said to me,
“Do you like My garden so fair?
If you live in My garden, you must keep My pastures green,
And I’ll return in the cool of the day.”

Now is the cool of the day.
Oh the earth is a garden, the garden of my Lord,
And He walks in His garden in the cool of the day.

And my Lord, He said to me,
“Do you like My garden so fair?
If you live in My garden you must keep My people free
And I’ll return in the cool of the day.”

Denice Trawick, soloist
Associate Music Director Christine M. Freeman, conducting

*Recorded by the William Baker Festival Singers
on the album “Jubilate”*

WONDROUS LOVE

American Folk Hymn arranged by Alice Parker
Lawson Gould Music 907

What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
That caused the Lord of Bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down beneath God’s righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on,
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity, I’ll sing on.

Associate Music Director Christine M. Freeman, conducting

SHOUT ON

American Folk Hymn arranged by Alice Parker
Lawson Gould Music 51332

I know that my Redeemer lives, Glory Hallelujah!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives, Glory Hallelujah!

Shout on, pray on, wh're gaining ground, Glory Hallelujah!
The dead's alive, and the lost is found, Glory Hallelujah!

He lives, triumphant from the grave, Glory Hallelujah!
He lives, eternally to save, Glory Hallelujah!

He lives, and while He lives I'll sing, Glory Hallelujah!
He lives, my Prophet, Priest and King, Glory Hallelujah!

Michael Carter, soloist
Associate Music Director Christine M. Freeman, conducting

VI

DEEP RIVER

Spiritual arranged by Alice Parker
Lawson Gould Music 813

Deep river, my home is over Jordan,
Deep river, I want to cross over into campground.

Oh, don't you want to go to that Gospel Feast,
That Promised Land, where all is peace.

THE BATTLE OF JERICHO

Spiritual arranged by Moses Hogan
Hal Leonard Music 08703139

Joshua fit the battle of Jericho,
And the walls come tumbling down.

Talk about your kings of Gideon,
Talk about your men of Saul,
But there's none like good old Joshua
And the battle of Jericho.

Right up to the walls of Jericho,
He marched with spear in hand.
"Go blow that ram horn", Joshua cried,
"Cause the battle am in my hand".

God Almighty, then the lamb, ram,
Sheep horns begin to blow,
And the trumpet begin to sound.
Joshua commanded the children to shout,
And the walls come a-tumblin' down.

Amy Imperato, soloist

*Recorded by the William Baker Festival Singers
on the albums "A Voice of Singing" and "Wondrous Love"*

YOU MUST HAVE THAT TRUE RELIGION

American Spiritual arranged by Roland Carter
Lawson-Gould Music 52159

Oh, you must have that true religion,
You must have your soul converted,
You must have that true religion or you can't cross there.

Where have you been poor sinner?
Where have you been, I say?
I've been way down to the River of Jordan.
No, you can't cross there.

Where have you been poor mourner?
Where have you been, I say?
I've been way down to the River of Jordan.
No, you can't cross there.

Where have you been good Christian?
Where have you been so long?
I've been way down in the valley for to pray,
And I ain't done praying yet.
O give me that old time religion, it's good enough for me.

Christine Freeman, soloist

*Recorded by the William Baker Festival Singers
on the album "A Voice of Singing"*

*The Board of Trustees of the William Baker Choral Foundation
& the Members of The William Baker Festival Singers
invite you to join us for a wine and cookie reception following today's concert.*



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www.ChoralFoundation.org

Allegro Con Vivo

Gretchen Harrison, Director

Geri Allcorn, Accompanist



Gretchen Harrison, Director of Vivo Allegro and Assistant Director for Moto and Brio.

Gretchen is in her 30th year of teaching choral music and is currently the choir director at Frontier Middle School in Olathe, KS. Harrison earned a Bachelor's in Music Education from Wichita State University and a Master's in Music Education from University of Missouri-Kansas City. She has completed her Level III endorsement in CME (Choral Music Experience) along with other post-grad education experiences. Leadership positions include National Chairperson for Junior High and Middle School Repertoire and Standards for ACDA (2009-2015). She currently holds the position of National ACDA Repertoire and Resources Chair of Youth Services. Honors include NEKSMEA Outstanding Middle Level Choral Music Teacher (2003, 2009, 2015, 2016). She is active in ACDA, KCDA, KMEA

and is an active clinician and presenter. Harrison is married to a retired high school band director & mom to Spirito alum, Cole, & Poco director, Kellyn.

Geri Allcorn, Accompanist - Allegro Con Brio and Vivo Allegro. Geri has been honored to serve as accompanist with Allegro since its inception in 2000. She studied piano and organ at Wichita State University. Allcorn served as organist with several congregations from age 15 until 2007 and continues to accompany soloists and ensembles throughout the Kansas City metro. Her appreciation for children of all ages is reflected in Pioneer Preschool, which she has owned and operated in Overland Park since 1981. Miss Geri and her husband, Barry, are busy with 13 grandchildren.



Lia Adams
Paisley Bartholomew
Savannah Beaman
Lucy Brandmeyer
Makena Campbell
Katalina Chan
Abigail Clegg
Allison Clegg
Maggie Condon
Jessica Dickey
Ashley Dixon
Danielle Droessler
Maizie Ferguson
Emily Free
Maizie Hicks
Oliver Hodges
Gracyn Jones
Laikyn Large
Keely Loney
Braden Magistro
Aidan McDonald
Lucy Menzies
Stephanie Molina
Sydney Morgan
Macy Morsman

Jacob Muntzel
Olivia Norris
Jimmy O'Connell
Daniel Palacio
Ella Penegar
Julia Quigley
Sophia Ramos
Sara Scarbrough
Alyiah Shirley
Colin Sims
Gracie Smith
Katie Stegeman
Brianna Stoddard
Bella Stowe
Molly Townsend
Mac Henry Unruh
Sophia Walcott
Abigail Warren
Avery Weaver
Hailey Wray
Ella Zysk

THE CHORAL FOUNDATION BY THE NUMBERS

673 ...men, women and youth have participated in Choral Foundation ensembles since June 1, 2016

17% ...the percentage of operational funds received from concert tickets in a typical year.

30 ...the average number of Choral Foundation concerts nation-wide in a typical year

10,000 ...the average number of total listeners enjoying those concerts

25 ...the number of nationally-released recordings by Festival Singers choirs since 1986

19 ...states where Festival Singers choirs have performed music in **22** languages

\$261,847 ...the operational budget of the Choral Foundation in 2018

\$15,000 ...our goal for the 2018 Magic Envelope Challenge - All Gifts Matched Dollar-for-Dollar

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FOR THOUSANDS TO EXPERIENCE LIFE-CHANGING MUSIC**

**THE CHORAL FOUNDATION HAS A THREE-DECADE
HERITAGE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT & FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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TO ENSURE THAT CONCERTS LIKE THE ONE YOU ENJOY TODAY WILL CONTINUE**



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Just activate the QR Reader on your smart phone.

You may visit www.ChoralFoundation.org/Make-a-Gift

Or, you may send your tax deductible gift (check to WBCF) in support of the Festival Singers directly to our office.

**The William Baker Choral Foundation
5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205**

www.ChoralFoundation.org



THE WILLIAM BAKER FESTIVAL SINGERS

Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor
Christine Freeman, Associate Music Director & Vocal Coach
Jamea J. Sale, WBCF Executive Associate Music Director
Ed Frazier Davis, Composer in Residence Niccole Winney, Student Intern

AUDITIONS



The William Baker Festival Singers has delighted audiences from Chicago to Atlanta and from New York to Texas since coming to Kansas City in 1998.

*The Festival Singers' 21st Concert Season signature programming includes short-form sacred a cappella classics and spirituals in addition to Buxtehude's **Membre Jesu Nostri** with soloists and orchestra, and an October 2018 performance the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.*

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Openings for Our 2018-2019 21st Concert Season

REHEARSALS TUESDAY EVENINGS, 7:00-9:30

COUNTRYSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

6101 Nall Avenue, Mission, Kansas

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The William Baker Festival Singers

2018-2019 21st Concert Season Appearances

Washington, DC Concert Tour

Saturday, October 13 National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC
Sunday, October 14 Christ Church, Alexandria, Virginia
Sunday, October 14 National Cathedral, Washington, DC

Sunday, November 4 St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Missouri
21st Season Opening Concert

Friday, November 16 Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City, Missouri
Annual Thanksgiving Benefit Concert for Human Need

Sunday, December 16 Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City, Missouri
Friday, December 21 Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kansas City, Missouri
21st Annual Candlelight, Carols & Cathedral

Sunday, January 27 St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Missouri
Celebration of Civil Rights & Inclusivity

Sunday, February 10 Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina, Kansas
Kansas Regional Performance

Sunday, April 7 Grace & Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City, Missouri
Kenneth Babcock Memorial Masterworks Concert
Dietrich Buxtehude: MEMBRE JESU NOSTRI

Sunday, April 28 Holy Angels Catholic Church, Basehor, Kansas
Kansas Regional Concert

Tuesday, April 30 St. Agnes Catholic Church, Roeland Park, Kansas
benefit Concert for the Music Ministry of St. Agnes Church

Sunday, May 5 St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Kansas City, Missouri
Missouri Home Concert 2019

Concerts will be posted and single concert tickets will be available June 1, 2018.
Programs and venues subject to change without notice.

www.FestivalSingers.org

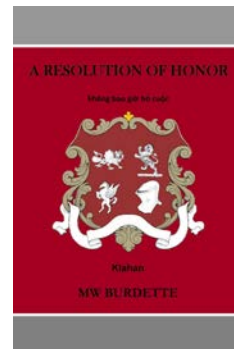
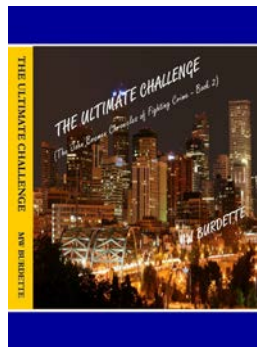




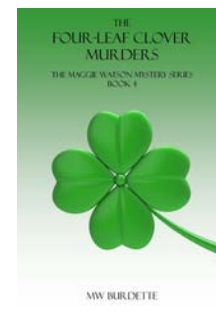
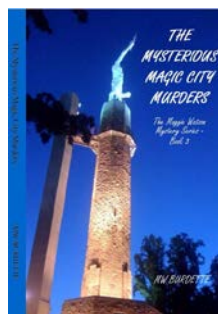
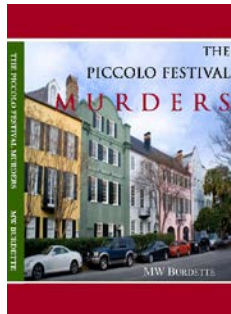
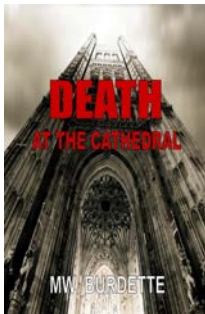
MW BURDETTE'S BOOKS

Author of *The John Bremen Chronicles* and the *LT Maggie Watson Murder Mysteries Series*

Burdette's fiction falls into two genres—crime and mystery novels. His first three works—*In Search of an Identity*, *The Ultimate Challenge*, and *A Resolution of Honor* are three novels in his trilogy about John Bremen, the super sleuth, and his sidekick and Vietnamese friend Klahan. Together they track down a dangerous U.S. Army traitor, Danny Briggs, who is smuggling arms into the United States. His last book in the John Bremen Chronicles is *Murdering the Peacekeepers*, and it will be available for purchase online in the spring of 2018.



His mysteries revolve around LT Maggie Watson, a hard hitting detective who solves murders for a small city in Illinois. *Death at the Cathedral* and *The Piccolo Festival Murders*, *The Mysterious Magic City Murders*, and *The Four-Leaf Clover Murders* are the first of his stories about this detective.



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The William Baker Choral Foundation

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The William Baker Festival Singers, Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998

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William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Baroque Summer Institute, Marietta, Georgia, 2017
Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, 2018 Guest Conductor

The New South Festival Singers, Atlanta, Georgia, 1985
Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998 William Baker Festival Singers Atlanta, 1998-2015 Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, 2015-2017
Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director & Conductor

Zimria Festivale Atlanta, Dunwoody, Georgia, 2014
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The Summer Singers of Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999
William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014
William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Institute for Healthy Singing, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2015

The Kansas City Honors Choral Institute, Bonner Springs, Kansas, 2016

The Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2016

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