

Voices of Hope: The Power of Music

PORTARA ENSEMBLE
NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S CHORUS
NASHVILLE CONCERTO ORCHESTRA
Introductions: Dr. Joy H. Calico

Wednesday, May 2, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Christ Church Cathedral 900 Broadway, Nashville, Tennessee 37203 christcathedral.org

VOICES OF HOPE: The Power of Music

We are pleased to be part of a community-wide series of events around the **Violins of Hope** exhibit at the Nashville Public Library.

The Violins of Hope are a collection of restored instruments played by Jewish musicians during The Holocaust. These instruments have survived concentration camps, pogroms and many long journeys to tell remarkable stories of injustice, suffering, resilience and survival. The Nashville Symphony is bringing the Violins of Hope to Nashville to facilitate a citywide dialogue about music, art, social justice and free expression.

The Nashville Symphony has partnered with more than two-dozen local groups and organizations on a community-wide series of events around these instruments, highlighted by an exhibition at the Nashville Public Library. The sound, presence and stories of these instruments will drive the creation of music, visual art, theater, public conversation, interfaith dialogue, readings and educational activities throughout Middle Tennessee.

We are grateful to Dr. Joy H. Calico, Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Musicology, The Blair School of Music, and the members of Portara Ensemble, Nashville Children's Choir, and the Nashville Concerto Orchestra for giving their time to participate in this arm of the Violins of Hope project. Special thanks to Roger Wiesmeyer of mozartinnashville.org, Madeline Bridges, and Jason Shelton for going above and beyond in making this concert and lecture series a reality.



ViolinsofHopeNSH.com

PROGRAM

PART 1

Brich dem Hungrigen dein Brot, BWV 39

I. S. Bach

Chorus:

Break your bread with the hungry, and those who are in misery, take into your house!
If you see someone naked, then clothe him, and do not recoil from your own flesh.
And then your light will burst forth as the red dawn of morning, and your betterment will quickly grow, and your righteousness go before you, and the glory of the Lord will embrace you.

Recitative:

The bountiful God casts his abundance on us, who without him do not even have breath. What we are is his; he gives us only the use (of what we have), but not so that we alone should feast on his treasures. They are the touchstone by which he makes known that he dispenses aid to the poor as

he, with a gentle hand, abundantly bestows on us what is needed by them. For the good he has lent us, we should not repay interest into his storehouse;

repay interest into his storehouse; mercy that is shown to one's neighbors can reach his heart more surely than any gift.

Aria:

While yet on earth, to be like the Creator, even in shadow, is to be blessed in foretaste. To imitate His mercy scatters here the seeds of blessedness that we will reap in heaven.

Aria:

Do not forget to do good and to share, for such offerings please God well.

Aria:

Highest, what I have is only your gift. When I, with my gift, would thankfully appear before your face, you desire no offering.

Recitative:

How shall I then, O Lord, satisfactorily repay you for the good you have done for my body and soul? Yea, what I still so often receive, since at every hour I can still praise you? I have nothing but my spirit itself to offer to you; to my neighbor, the wish to be of service to him; to the poor, what you have given me in this life; and when it pleases you, my weak body to the earth. I bring what I can, Lord; let it be pleasing to you, so that what you promise I might one day receive.

Chorale:

Blessed are those who, out of mercy, take on themselves the needs of others, are compassionate with the poor, plead faithfully for them to God.

Those who are helpful with counsel, and, where possible, with deed, will receive help in return and obtain mercy.

Even When God Is Silent

Michael Horvit

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining;
I believe in love even when feeling it not;
I believe in God even when God is silent.

Portara Ensemble

Artistic Director: Jason Shelton Conductor: Patrick Dunnevant Soloists: Greg Gunther, bass Mary Scheib, alto Jane Burton, soprano Emily Packard, alto

Nashville Concerto Orchestra

Recorders: Jessica Dunnavant, Yvonne Kendall Oboes: Keith Sorrells, Larry Allen Violins: Christina McGann, Laura Epling

> Viola: Darrell Merryman Cello: Larissa Maestro Bass: Mickey Rybiski

PART 2

Songs of Survival

arr. Margaret Dryburgh and Norah Chambers

Minuet Londonderry Air Ludwig van Beethoven Irish Melody

Molly Volker, soloist

Amani (A Song of Peace)

Jim Papoulis and Jacques Sebisaho

Sing strongly for peace; sing for peace throughout the world.

With one voice, we all sing together.

Come and Sing

Wallace Hornady, arr. Krehbiel

People who make music together cannot be enemies, at least while the music lasts. We are friends forever when we sing together; the whole world is better when we sing. So let's sing together, join our hands together; the whole world is better when we sing. So let's sing forever, hold our hands together; make the whole world better. Come and sing!

Nashville Children's Choir

Madeline Bridges and Josh Wright, Directors Carlos Duran, percussion

INTERMISSION

Symphony No. 3, Op. 36 (Symphony of Sorrowful Songs)

Henryk Górecki

Lento e largo—Tranquillissimo

No, Mother, do not weep, Most chaste Queen of Heaven Support me always.

Lento—Cantabile-semplice

Where has he gone
My dearest son?
Perhaps during the uprising
The cruel enemy killed him.

Ah, you bad people In the name of God, the most Holy, Tell me, why did you kill My son?

Never again
Will I have his support
Even if I cry
My old eyes out.

Were my bitter tears to create another River Oder They would not restore to life My son. He lies in his grave and I know not where Though I keep asking people Everywhere.

Perhaps the poor child Lies in a rough ditch and instead he could have been lying in his warm bed.

> Oh, sing for him God's little song-birds Since his mother Cannot find him.

And you, God's little flowers May you blossom all around So that my son May sleep happily.

Nashville Concerto Orchestra

Woosug Kang, Conductor Rebekah Alexander, soprano soloist



ARTISTS

Dr. Joy H. Calico is Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Musicology at Blair School of Music. She is known for interdisciplinary work on Cold War cultural politics and on opera. Author of two monographs, *Arnold Schoenberg's 'A Survivor from Warsaw' in Postwar Europe* (California, 6458) and *Brecht at the Opera* (California, 2008), as well as numerous articles and book chapters. The Schoenberg book received the 2015 Award for an Exceptional Book in Jewish Studies and Music as well as Honorable Mention for the 2016 Laura Shannon Prize in Contemporary European Studies. Calico's research has been supported by fellowships and grants from German and American foundations including the Sacher Stiftung, the American Council of Learned Societies, the American Academy in Berlin, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 2015 she received the Blair Faculty Excellence Award. She has served as Director of Vanderbilt's Max Kade Center for European and German Studies and is currently Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the American Musicological Society.

Portara Ensemble has quickly become a creative force in the music scene of Middle Tennessee. Their innovative programming and artist collaborations have crossed the boundaries of visual and performing arts and brought exciting new music to their audiences. Led by Artistic Director **Jason Shelton**, Portara Ensemble's thought-provoking thematic choral programs explore a wide variety of music from around the globe sung by professional, semi-professional, and amateur volunteer singers. For more information visit **portaraensemble.com**.

Patrick Dunnevant is a composer, conductor, and baritone. In addition to serving as Portara Ensemble's Assistant Director, Patrick serves as a Coordinator with the Nashville Chamber Music Series, a collective dedicated to creating intimate performances of contemporary classical music in unconventional settings.

A regional children's choir program for boys, girls, and youth, the **Nashville Children's Choir** is committed to the rehearsal and performance of quality choral music in a positive and affirming setting. The organization consists of four choirs—the Preparatory Choir, Concert Choir, Touring Choir (the choir performing today), and Youth Choir—leveled to meet the musical development of each singer. The choir is an ensemble of Belmont University and is a part of the Belmont Academy. Dr. **Madeline Bridges**, Professor of Music at Belmont University, serves as Program Director of the Nashville Children's Choir Program. **Josh Wright**, Touring Choir Assistant Conductor, teaches elementary music at McGavock Elementary School.

Nashville Concerto Orchestra is a volunteer-based community orchestra that provides soloists, conductors, and orchestra members the opportunity to perform from the vast concerto repertoire. The NCO's free (donations accepted) quarterly concerts allow members of the Nashville community a chance to enjoy performances from members of the Nashville Symphony, local professors and students from Nashville's many colleges and universities, and session musicians from many of the hit albums recorded in Nashville, as well as providing amateur musicians with a comfortable place to perform as a part of an orchestra. For more information, visit mozartinnashville.org.

Dr. **Woosug Kang** has a strong reputation as a concert organist, a church musician and a choral conductor. He is the Director of Music Ministries at St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville, where he conducts and plays the organ for various liturgical services and special events. Before arriving in Nashville in 2016, he was the director of music at St. Philip's In The Hills Episcopal Church in Tucson, Arizona where he oversaw one of the largest music programs in the region including monthly choral masses with the orchestra. He has given organ recitals in various venues in USA, Australia, UK and New Zealand. **www.woosugkang.com**

As a principal performer with the alternative contemporary classical ensemble Chatterbird in Nashville, **Rebekah Alexander** recently premiered the commissioned composition "Eclipse" by composer Robbie Lynn Hunsinger. She will also be performing works for soprano and piano by composer-in-residence Wu Fei in January 2018. Over the course of her career, Rebekah has performed works by contemporary composers Jake Heggie, George Crumb, Gyorgy Kurtag, among others, as well as the premieres of several new compositions with Guerilla Opera, Time's Arrow Ensemble, the Studio for New Music Ensemble, ALEA III. **www.rebekahalexander.com**.



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As a Cathedral, we are a *Sacred Space for the City* in the center of Nashville reaching out to embrace the entire city. We believe that the Cathedral should be a place where all citizens of Nashville, along with visitors to our city, can deepen their faith through the experience of music, drama, special liturgies, and other presentations.

Friends of Christ Church Cathedral was conceived for anyone who would like to support these events with a financial contribution. We hope you will join us by becoming a Friend so the entire city may continue to see the glorious beauty of God in artistic expression at the Cathedral.

Contribution cards can be obtained in the reception area of the church. You may also visit our website, christcathedral.org, to make a contribution.

EASTERTIDE SOLEMN CHORAL EVENSONG

MAY 6 3:30 p.m.

Sung by the Cathedral Choir under the direction of Dr. Michael Velting, Canon for Music Michael Gebhart, Assistant Organist and Choirmaster, organ

> Preceded by an organ concert by Nick Quardokus, Organ Scholar Trinity Episcopal Church on the Green New Haven, Connecticut

Free and open to the public. Childcare provided. Reception following Evensong.

Program Notes