

eVoco @10
Treble Ensemble

Roots & Branches



Saturday Nov 4th @ 8pm

Christ Episcopal Church
1351 Northern Blvd., Manhasset, NY

Sunday Nov 5th @ 4pm

St. Peter's by-the-Sea
500 S Country Rd., Bay Shore, NY

David Fryling, *conductor*
Brianna Brickman, *piano*



Roots & Branches

Please hold applause until the end of each section

Hoj, Hura, Hoy.....Otmar Macha
Leandra Wahlen, Mary Beth Finger & Jane Park, soloists



A Blessing of Cranes.....Abbie Betinis
*Kristin Howell, Danielle Post, Leandra Wahlen, Annie Rodriguez,
Sydney Hankins & Maria Rueda, small group*

Faith is the bird that sees the light.....Elizabeth Alexander
Andrea Galeno, soloist



Will There Really Be a "Morning".....Craig Hella Johnson
Kyla Surajbali & Kayla Sorensen, soloists

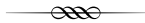
I Thank You God.....Gwyneth Walker



Look Down, Fair Moon.....Mari Valverde
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot.....Trad. Spiritual, arr. Stacey Gibbs

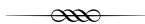


I Want to Die While You Love Me.....Rosephanye Powell
The White Birds.....Daniel Hall
Kyla Surajbali & Jane Park, soloists



Famine Song.....VIDA, arr Matthew Culloton
Andrea Galeno & Christina Russo, soloists

Bring Me Little Water Silvy.....Huddle W. Ledbetter, arr. Moira Smiley



One Voice.....Ruth Moody
Gabby Gibbs, Mary Beth Finger & Maria Rueda, soloists
Terry Bendel, guitar
2023 Young Artist Winner

Treble Ensemble joined by our Invited High School Voices

Ten years ago thirty-five people came together for the first time in the basement of Shapiro Family Hall on the campus of Hofstra University. This brave group shared a belief in the transformative power of music for both performer and listener. They were focused on finding common artistic ground where our shared human experiences evoked the universality of the human condition. Together they sought to strive in their own way to strengthen connections between people. Their medium was singing, together.

Through the pursuit of choral music excellence, the ensembles of eVoco continue to chase these lofty goals. The pieces we sing for you tonight represent our past and our future together; half are chosen from the repertoire of previous concerts, and each of these is paired with a piece – new to us – that stands in conversation with the old. And we welcome a new generation of artists to join us on our final piece, a treasured eVoco tradition that holds special resonance with us during this anniversary year.

Thank you for joining us, for helping us celebrate a decade of believing in the transformative power of music. Welcome to Roots & Branches.

-Dave Fryling

HOJ, HURA, HOJ

O, mountain, O
The children herding their dear cows
shoo them as always,
calling them out of the village:
O, mountain, O!
My dear cows are eating
all around me until
the evening bells ring, (then)
I will go home with you.
I will go behind the hills
as my sheep graze!
I will go to Maria, my dear friend.

-Moravian folk poetry

A BLESSING OF CRANES

How do we love you more than to shape you?
Turning so firmly in the shadows of fingers.
How do we love you more than to let you go?

Waves of earth's oceans, waves of our willing hands
Creasing and folding, creasing and folding, unfolding.
How do we love you more than to shape you?

Never a thought of thinking, only this weaving,
These thousands of wings we make to carry our longing;
How do we love you more than to let you go?

No trembling before the task, simply this sweetness,
Freedom from fear, receiving this heartbeat, receiving.

...continued

How do we love you more than to shape you?
Blossoms that shimmer and gather about their branches,
Returning to earth her peace, her original blessing;
How do we love you more than to let you go?

Deeper than dream to say, even than singing,
Releasing the wishes we have, the asking for healing;
How do we ever love you more than to shape you?
How do we love you more than to let you go?

-Michael Dennis Browne

FAITH IS THE BIRD THAT SEES THE LIGHT

Faith is the bird that feels the light And sings when the dawn is still dark.
Still I rise

-Rabindranath Tagore (1861 - 1941)

WILL THERE REALLY BE A "MORNING"

Will there really be a "Morning"?
Is there such a thing as "Day"?
Could I see it from the mountains
If I were as tall as they?

Has it feet like Water lilies?
Has it feathers like a Bird?
Is it brought from famous countries
Of which I have never heard?

Oh some Scholar! Oh some Sailor!
Oh some Wise Men from the skies!
Please to tell a little Pilgrim
Where the place called "Morning" lies!

-Emily Dickinson (1830 - 1886)

I THANK YOU GOD

i thank You God for most this amazing
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and of love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any—lifted from the no
of all nothing—human merely being

doubt unimaginable You?
(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

-E.E. Cummings (1894 - 1962)

LOOK DOWN, FAIR MOON

Look down, fair moon and bathe this scene,
Pour softly down night's nimbus floods, on faces ghastly, swollen, purple;
On the dead, on their backs, with their arms toss'd wide,
Pour down your unstinted nimbus, sacred moon.

-Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892)

SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT

Lord, I'm comin' home,
Comin' for to carry me home,
Swing low, sweet chariot,
Comin' for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan and what did I see
Comin' for to carry me home?
A band of angels comin' after me,
Comin' for to carry me home.

Workin' for the kingdom, yes, good Lord.
If you get there before I do,
(Comin' for to carry me home).
Tell all my friends I'm comin' too,
(Comin' for to carry me home).

Swing low, sweet chariot,
Comin' for to carry me home,
Swing low, sweet chariot,
Comin' for to carry me home.

-Traditional Spiritual

I WANT TO DIE WHILE YOU LOVE ME

I want to die while you love me,
While yet you hold me fair,
While laughter lies upon my lips
And lights are in my hair.

I want to die while you love me,
And bear to that still bed,
Your kisses turbulent, unspent
To warm me when I'm dead.

...continued

I want to die while you love me
Oh, who would care to live
Till love has nothing more to ask
And nothing more to give?

I want to die while you love me
And never, never see
The glory of this perfect day
Grow dim or cease to be!

-Georgia Douglas Johnson (1880 - 1966)

THE WHITE BIRDS

I would that we were, my beloved, white birds on the foam of the sea:
We tire of the flame of the meteor, before it can pass by and flee;
And the flame of the blue star of twilight, hung low on the rim of the sky, Has awaked in
our hearts, my beloved, a sadness that never may die.

A weariness comes from those dreamers, dew-dabbled, the lily and rose,
Ah, dream not of them, my beloved, the flame of the meteor that goes,
Or the flame of the blue star that lingers hung low in the fall of the dew:
For I would we were changed to white birds on the wandering foam—I and you.

I am haunted by numberless islands, and many a Danaan shore,
Where Time would surely forget us, and Sorrow come near us no more: Soon far from
the rose and the lily, the fret of the flames, would we be, Were we only white birds, my
beloved, buoyed out on the foam of the sea.

-William Butler Yeats (1865 - 1939)

FAMINE SONG

Ease my spirit, ease my soul
Please free my hands from this barren soil
Ease my mother, ease my child
Earth and sky be reconciled

Ease my spirit, ease my soul
Please free my hands from this barren soil
Ease my mother, ease my child
Earth and sky be reconciled

Rain...

Weave, my mother, weave, my child
Weave your baskets of rushes wild

Out of heat, under sun
Comes the hunger to everyone
Famine's teeth, famine's claw
On the sands of Africa

Rain...

Weave, my mother, weave, my child
Weave your baskets of rushes wild

Rain...

-VIDA

BRING ME LITTLE WATER SILVY

Bring me little water, Silvy
Bring me little water now
Bring me little water, Silvy
Ev'ry little once in a while

Bring it in a bucket, Silvy
Bring it in a bucket now
Bring it in a bucket, Silvy
Ev'ry little once in a while

Silvy come a runnin'
Bucket in my hand
I will bring a little water
Fast as I can

Can't you see me comin'
Can't you see me now
I will bring a little water
Ev'ry little once in a while

-Huddie W. Ledbetter (1888 - 1949)

ONE VOICE

This is the sound of one voice
One spirit, one voice
The sound of one who makes a choice
This is the sound of one voice

This is the sound of voices two
The sound of me singing with you
Helping each other to make it through
This is the sound of voices two

This is the sound of voices three
Singing together in harmony
Surrendering to the mystery
This is the sound of voices three

This is the sound of all of us
Singing with love and the will to trust
Leave the rest behind, it will turn to dust
This is the sound of all of us

-Ruth Moody

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



eVoco* Voice Collective is an award winning collection of singers of the highest musical, technical, and expressive abilities whose shared mission is to invite listeners into the extraordinary experience of singing, together. We are passionate advocates for excellence in the choral & vocal art, presenting evocative concerts and recitals of the highest caliber, summoning the power of the human voice to remind us all of our shared human experiences. Our current projects include the Mixed Ensemble, the Treble Ensemble, and our Voice Recitals featuring the Young Vocal Artist Award winners. In 2017, the eVoco Mixed Ensemble received the second place award in the national American Prize for Choral Performance—Community Chorus division.

eVoco firmly believes in the transformative and educational power of music, and we welcome everyone to observe our work together. All of our Mixed and Treble Ensemble rehearsals are open to the public. Teachers and students of music, especially, are encouraged to join us throughout the process. Our hope is that our weekly work together will not only prepare us for each concert series, but also—and just as importantly—will serve as a continual learning space for students, educators, and music enthusiasts alike.

**From the Latin *evocare* [ex- (“out”) *vocare* (“to call”)]: to lure, to summon; to evoke*

eVoco Treble Ensemble

Soprano 1

Kathleen Conklin	Jen Gillen-Goldstein
Korey Coppola	Elizabeth Owens
Mary Beth Finger	Katherine Rigano
Christina Finkenzeller	Kyla Surajbali
Doreen Fryling	Leandra Wahlen
Andrea Galeno	

Alto 1

Dory Agazarian	Diana Minerva
Amanda Branson	Antonia Nargentino
Kimberly Corona	Deborah Peltz
Christine Fena	Annie Rodriguez
Sydney Hankins-Wright	Maria Rueda
Meg Messina	Amy Russo
Anna Miller	

Soprano 2

Haley Califano	Beth Hsu
Lauren Cherson	Louise O’Hanlon
Margo Cohen	Danielle Post
Julianna Curran	Melissa Senator
Catherine Goldenbaum	Kayla Sorensen
Kristin Howell	

Alto 2

Natalia Antkowiak	Jessica Mischke
Terry Bendel	Jane Park
Sadie Friedman	Maria Pignataro Nielsen
Nicole Graziano	Joanna Rocco
Lauren Lamonsoff	Christina Russo
Jayne Matzelle	

Piano

Brianna Brickman



David Fryling (www.DavidFryling.org) is director of choral activities at Hofstra University, where he conducts the Hofstra Chorale and Hofstra Chamber Choir, teaches beginning and advanced studies in choral conducting, and supervises choral music education student teachers during their field placements. In fall 2014, David was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame as the “Educator of Note,” and in spring 2017, he was awarded The American Prize in Conducting in both the community division and the college and university division.

An energetic and engaging conductor, clinician, and adjudicator of professional, community, and high school choirs, David’s recent invitations include various all-state

and regional honor choirs, master classes, workshops, and adjudications throughout New York and in Alaska, Arizona, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia.

From 2007 to 2013, David spent his summers as coordinator of the Vocal Artists program at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan, where he was conductor and music director of the World Youth Honors Choir and Festival Choir & Orchestra. He has since been a frequent guest artist on the conducting faculty of the New York State Summer School of the Arts (NYSSSA) School of Choral Studies and has served on the faculty at the Sitka Fine Arts Camp in Sitka, AK.

Before coming to Long Island, David served as music director and conductor of the University of Michigan Arts Chorale and assistant conductor of the Michigan Chamber Singers, University Choir, and the internationally acclaimed Michigan Men’s Glee Club. While in Ann Arbor, he was also the music director and conductor of the Michigan Youth Women’s Chorus, a year-round all-state honors choir composed of select high school sopranos and altos from across Michigan. In addition to his professional teaching and conducting responsibilities, David is a past president of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Eastern Region, and currently serves as ACDA National President.



Brianna Brickman is a music educator, conductor, and collaborative pianist on Long Island. She is the High School Choral Director and Theatre Music Director in the Locust Valley Central School District. Brianna is also an Adjunct Professor at Hofstra University, where she serves as the director of the Hofstra University Chorus. Whether she is standing among the voices or sitting at the piano, she is deeply honored to be part of the dance.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mixed Ensemble: Janus

Saturday, January 20th @ 8pm

Christ Episcopal Church

1351 Northern Boulevard in Manhasset, NY

Sunday, January 21st @ 4pm

St. Peter's by-the-Sea

500 S Country Road in Bay Shore, NY

Treble Ensemble: Liminal

Saturday, March 16th @ 8pm

Christ Episcopal Church

1351 Northern Boulevard in Manhasset, NY

Sunday, March 17th @ 4pm

St. Peter's by-the-Sea

500 S Country Road in Bay Shore, NY

Mixed Ensemble: Considering Matthew Shepard

Saturday, June 8th @ 8pm

Malverne High School Auditorium

80 Ocean Avenue in Malverne, NY

Sunday, June 9th @ 4pm

Malverne High School Auditorium

80 Ocean Avenue in Malverne, NY

For tickets and concert information visit www.evoco.vc

Young Artist Awards

2024 auditions to be announced soon.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to Top Shelf Design Studio and Bill Stefanowicz for their graphic design, to our friends who assisted at this concert by helping with tickets and ushering, to the staff at Christ Church Manhasset, and to Mark Engelhardt at St. Peter's by-the-Sea. A special thanks to the Hofstra University Department of Music, Dr. Chandler Carter, Interim Chair, for your continued support.

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