



PROGRAM: LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S CHORUS

APRIL 19 / 2:30 PM
BING CONCERT HALL

ARTISTS

Los Angeles Children's Chorus
Anne Tomlinson, *artistic director*
Twyla Meyer, *pianist*
Stanford Chamber Chorale
Stephen M. Sano, *director*

The Plentiful Peach world premiere was commissioned by the Los Angeles Children's Chorus, with the generous support of Elizabeth and Stanislas Debreu.

PROGRAM

Celebrating American Song!

From the Transcendent

Sgwa ti'ni se sdi yi howa
Let Us Sing!
Spanish Ave Maria
L'dor vador

Pueri Hebraeorum

Sitivit anima mea
Sitivit anima mea
Sitivit anima mea
Beautiful River
Get Away Jordan

From the People

Shenandoah

Ching-a-Ring Chaw!
Summertime
I'm Gonna Wait on the Lord

The Newest Song...The Oldest Art

The Plentiful Peach (World premiere)

Cherokee hymn (ca. 1821)
Southern Harmony 74b, arr. Linda Tutas Haugen
Henry Mollicone (b. 1946)
Meir Finkelstein (b. 1951), arr. Rebecca Thompson
Madeleine Lew, soloist
Los Angeles Children's Chorus—Concert Choir

Randall Thompson (1899–1984)
Los Angeles Children's Chorus—Concert Choir
and Stanford Chamber Chorale

Gregorian chant
Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)
Richard Burchard (b. 1960)
Robert Lowry (1826–1899), arr. William Hawley
American spiritual, arr. Stacey V. Gibbs
Stanford Chamber Chorale

American folk song, arr. James Erb
Los Angeles Children's Chorus—Concert Choir
and Stanford Chamber Chorale
Minstrel song, arr. Aaron Copland
George Gershwin (1898–1937), arr. Mark Hayes
Spiritual, arr. Damon H. Dandridge

Mark Grey (b. 1967), text by Niloufar Talebi
Los Angeles Children's Chorus—Concert Choir

A program insert will be provided at the performance. Running time is 70 minutes.

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please be considerate of others and turn off all phones, pagers, and watch alarms, and unwrap all lozenges prior to the performance. Photography and recording of any kind are not permitted. Thank you.

The **Los Angeles Children's Chorus** (LACC)—lauded as “one of the world’s foremost children’s choirs” (*Pasadena Star-News*) and described as “hauntingly beautiful” (*Los Angeles Times*), “astonishingly polished” (*Performances Magazine*), “extraordinary in its abilities” (*Culture Spot LA*), and “one heck of a talented group of kids” (*LA Weekly*)—is recognized throughout the country for its exceptional artistic quality and technical ability. Founded in 1986 and led by artistic director Anne Tomlinson since 1996, the LACC performs with such leading organizations as the LA Opera, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Pasadena Symphony and Pops, Calder Quartet, Jacaranda, and MUSE/IQUE. The chorus serves more than 400 children from ages 6 to 18 from 50 communities across Los Angeles in six choirs—Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Young Men’s Ensemble, Intermediate Choir, Apprentice Choir, and Preparatory Choir—and a First Experiences in Singing program and First Experiences in Choral Singing Ensemble for 6- to 9-year-olds.

The LACC—recipient of Chorus America’s 2014 Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence, the nation’s highest choral honor—has toured North and South America, Africa, China, Australia, and Europe. It appears on the Los Angeles Master Chorale’s critically acclaimed Decca recording *A Good Understanding* and Plácido Domingo’s Deutsche Grammophon recording *Amore Infinito (Infinite Love)*. The subject of a trilogy of documentaries by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Freida Mock, the LACC is featured in the Academy Award-nominated *Sing!*, about a year in the life of the choir; *Sing Opera!*, which documents the production of the LACC-commissioned family opera *Keepers of the Night*; and *Sing China!*, which chronicles its groundbreaking tour to China just prior to the Beijing Olympics. The LACC has performed with John Mayer on NBC’s *The Tonight Show* and was featured on National Public Radio’s

nationally syndicated show *From the Top*, among other credits. For more information, please visit www.lachildrenschorus.org.

Anne Tomlinson (*artistic director*), now in her 19th season with the Los Angeles Children’s Chorus, oversees the educational and artistic development of the chorus and conducts the LACC’s Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. She is also the children’s chorus mistress for the Los Angeles Opera. During her tenure, she has prepared children for major operatic works including the world premiere of Tobias Picker’s children’s opera *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, based upon the story by Roald Dahl. In these productions, Ms. Tomlinson has worked with renowned conductors Plácido Domingo, James Conlon, and Julius Rudel, among many others. She also has prepared children’s choirs for Gustavo Dudamel, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Carlo Rizzi, and Marin Alsop for Los Angeles Philharmonic performances of Igor Stravinsky’s *Persephone*, John Adams’ *El Niño*, Gustav Mahler’s Symphony No. 3, Carl Orff’s *Carmina Burana*, and a fully staged production of Leonard Bernstein’s *Mass* at the Hollywood Bowl. Los Angeles Master Chorale performances include Orff’s *Carmina Burana* under the direction of Grant Gershon and Paul Salamunovich as well as the world premiere of Christopher Rouse’s *Requiem* under Grant Gershon.

Ms. Tomlinson’s film work includes the 2002 Academy Award-nominated documentary *Sing!*, which chronicles a year in the life of the LACC and appears frequently on public television in Los Angeles. Her live broadcast work includes the January 2005 LACC Chamber Singers performance on the radio program *From the Top*. Ms. Tomlinson is a frequent presenter at symposia, workshops, and festivals. She holds a bachelor of music degree from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and a master’s degree in conducting from Northwestern University where she studied with Margaret Hillis. Ms. Tomlinson is the 2000 recipient of the Gold Crown Award for Music Education awarded by the Pasadena Arts Council,

the 2001 Power of One Award given by the Facing History and Ourselves organization, and the 2006 Educator of the Year Award given by the Harvard-Radcliffe Club of Southern California.

Twyla Meyer (*pianist*), accompanist for the Concert Choir and Chamber Singers, holds a bachelor of fine arts degree in piano performance from the University of Minnesota and a master of music degree in accompanying from the University of Southern California. Ms. Meyer was a staff accompanist and vocal coach and an adjunct keyboard faculty member at California State University, Los Angeles, from 1980–2010 and held similar positions at Pasadena City College and Occidental College. A specialist in 20th-century chamber music, she is a founding member of the Matrix Chamber Ensemble, performing numerous concerts on the West Coast and in New York. Ms. Meyer has been on the faculty of the Idyllwild Arts Academy and was a featured performer with the Southern California Brahms Festival. She also served as the principal pianist for the annual Claremont Clarinet Festival. She has been on staff with the LACC for more than 15 years and has toured with the choir to Alaska, Brazil, the British Isles, Canada, Italy, China, Scandinavia, and South Africa. Ms. Meyer has recorded for Artel Records with Metropolitan Opera heldentenor Gary Lakes, with whom she also appeared on *The Tonight Show*. In August 2007, she toured Chile as a collaborative artist in art song recitals and workshops.

This past school year, Ms. Meyer has been working at the University of Redlands as an opera coach and continues to work on an as-needed basis for the choirs at All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena, California. She is currently pursuing an active freelance career, which includes work with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Los Angeles Opera Education and Community Programs Department, along with private vocal and instrumental coaching.

PROGRAM: LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S CHORUS

The **Stanford Chamber Chorale** is the Stanford Department of Music's most select choir, comprising 24 students drawn from both graduate and undergraduate populations at Stanford University. Hailing from across the United States and around the world, these singers represent a broad diversity of academic disciplines and degree programs. As members of the Chamber Chorale, these Stanford students meet a demanding schedule of performing, touring, and recording while maintaining their rigorous academic programs. Over the years, the chorale has toured in the United States, Canada, Japan, China, Great Britain, Austria, Germany, Israel, Italy, and France. On tour, the ensemble has appeared in a notable list of venues, including the National Gallery of Art; the Smithsonian American Art Museum; the great British cathedrals in Ely, Exeter, Lincoln, Newport, Salisbury, Wells, and York; Llandaff Cathedral (Cardiff); St. James's Church, Piccadilly (London); the chapels of St. John's College and Trinity College (Cambridge); the chapels of New College, Magdalen College, and Jesus College (Oxford); the Berlin Philharmonie; Rikkyo University Chapel, Hakodate Geijutsu Hall, and Kitahiroshima-shi Geijutsu Bunka Hall in Japan; the Great Hall of the People (Beijing); Shanghai Concert Hall and Oriental Art Center; and Benaroya Music Center (Seattle). The Chamber Chorale also has been featured on broadcasts from BBC Radio, Austrian national television, and the American Forces Network.

The chorale has performed collaboratively with some of the most renowned performing organizations in the world, including the Tallis Scholars; the Joyful Company of Singers; the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge; the Choir of Royal Holloway, University of London; the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra; the St. Hedwig Cathedral Choir (Berlin); the Chamber Choir of the Berlin University of the Arts; the Kronos Quartet; the specialist period-instrument ensembles Chatham Baroque and the National Gallery of Art Chamber Players; and master flamenco guitarist Paco Peña. Dedicated to the performance of literature best suited

to the small choral ensemble, the Chamber Chorale has had the honor of receiving works from renowned composers Randall Thompson, Kirke Mechem, Christopher Tin, Howard Helvey, Giancarlo Aquilanti, Takeo Kudo, Jiri Laburda, and Paul Crabtree.

Through its recordings and tours, the chorale continues to gain recognition in the international choral community. The ensemble's most recent CD, *Illumine: Christmas at Stanford*, qualified in five categories for the 2013 Grammy Award preliminary ballot, including for the category of Best Choral Performance. The chorale's extensive touring activities continue to heighten the visibility of both the ensemble and Stanford University's commitment to music performance and the arts.

Stephen M. Sano is a professor and the chair of the Department of Music at Stanford University, the Rachford and Carlota A. Harris University Fellow in Undergraduate Education, and the inaugural chair holder of the Professor Harold C. Schmidt Directorship of Choral Studies at Stanford University, where he directs the Stanford Chamber Chorale and Symphonic Chorus. He holds master's and doctoral degrees in both orchestral and choral conducting from Stanford and a bachelor's degree in piano performance and theory from San Jose State University. Professor Sano has appeared as guest conductor with many of the world's leading choral organizations, including the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge; the Joyful Company of Singers (London); the Choir of Royal Holloway, University of London; the Kammerchor der Universität der Künste Berlin; and the Kammerchor der Universität Wien (Vienna). He has served on the conducting faculty of the Wilkes University Encore Music Festival of Pennsylvania and frequently appears as guest conductor of the Peninsula Symphony Orchestra in its collaborative concerts with the Stanford Symphonic Chorus. A dedicated teacher at Stanford, Professor Sano was recipient of the 2005 Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching.

He has studied at the Tanglewood Music Center and is in frequent demand as a master class teacher, conductor, and adjudicator in choral music. To date, he has taught master classes in and conducted festival, honor, municipal, and collegiate choirs from more than 20 U.S. states as well as England, Austria, Germany, Canada, Australia, and Japan.

An accomplished pianist, Professor Sano has won numerous piano competitions and has served as accompanist to many leading artists visiting the Bay Area and as harpsichordist with the International Chamber Orchestra of Rome. He is also active in his ancillary fields of interest: Hawaiian choral music, the music of Queen Lili'uokalani, *ki hō'alu* (Hawaiian slack-key guitar), and North American *taiko* (Japanese American drumming). As a slack-key artist, his recordings have been nominated as finalists for the prestigious Nā Hōkū Hanohano Award and the Hawaiian Music Award. His most recent release, *Songs from the Taro Patch*, was on the preliminary ballot for the 2008 Grammy Award. Professor Sano's choral recordings can be heard on the Arsis Audio, Pictoria, and Daniel Ho Creations labels. His slack-key guitar recordings can be heard on the Daniel Ho Creations and Ward Records labels.

Mark Grey, who was raised in Palo Alto, California, made his Carnegie Hall debut as a composer with the Kronos Quartet in 2003 and has since been commissioned by such prestigious artists and organizations as the Los Angeles Philharmonic; the Atlanta, Berkeley, Green Bay, and California Symphonies; Carnegie Hall; the Los Angeles Master Chorale; violinist Leila Josefowicz; Meet the Composer; the Los Angeles Children's Chorus; and the Salt Lake Choral Artists. His substantial body of work ranges from solo, chamber, and orchestra pieces to staged opera and choral works and has been performed worldwide in venues such as the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall, Théâtre de la Ville (Paris), Barbican Centre (London), Het Muziektheater (Amsterdam), Carnegie Hall (New York City), Walt Disney Hall (Los Angeles), and Atlanta Symphony Hall as

well as at the Ravinia, Cabrillo, Other Minds, Perth International, and Spoleto festivals.

In June 2016, La Monnaie in Brussels will give the world premiere of a new evening-length grand opera it commissioned from Mr. Grey, directed by Alex Olle, which is based on Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* in commemoration of the 200-year anniversary of the novel.

In addition to his work as a composer, Mr. Grey was the first sound designer in history to design for the New York Philharmonic, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Walt Disney Concert Hall, and Metropolitan Opera. His designs have been heard for more than two decades throughout most major concert halls, theaters, opera houses, and HD simulcast locations worldwide. He continues his 25-year tenure as sound designer and close collaborator with John Adams and was resident sound designer with the Kronos Quartet for more than a decade. Recent projects also include critically acclaimed presentations by the Berlin Philharmonic and Houston Grand Opera both at the Park Avenue Armory, New York City, in 2014 along with several productions for the Lyric Opera of Chicago and Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

Niloufar Talebi is a writer and librettist, award-winning translator, and multidisciplinary artist. Ms. Talebi is the editor and translator of *Belonging: New Poetry by Iranians Around the World* (North Atlantic Books, 2008); the translator of *Vis & I* by Farideh Razi (Pustebly Books, 2015); and the creator/performer of the multimedia works *Four Springs* (2004), *Midnight Approaches* (2006), *ICARUS/RISE* (2007), *The Persian Rite of Spring* (2010), and *everyonedies* (2012).

Ms. Talebi holds opera residencies with the American Lyric Theater in New York City and the Washington National Opera in Washington, DC, where her operas have premiered. She is the librettist for *Atash Soroushan (Fire Angels)* (2011), *The Disinherited* (2014), *The Investment* (2014), and *Epiphany, A Requiem* (2015). She teaches at Plymouth State University.

Her work has been published by *Catamaran Literary Reader*, *World Literature Today*, PBS's *Frontline*, *ArteEast*, *Poetry International*, *Rattapallax*, *Mother Jones*, *Harvard Divinity Bulletin*, and *Two Lines*.

Ms. Talebi is the recipient of numerous grants and awards, including a National Endowment

for the Arts fellowship. Her work has been commissioned and presented by Carnegie Hall, Cal Performances, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Riverside Theatre, Farhang Foundation, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Kennedy Center, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Visit her at www.niloufartalebi.com. ❁



Botticelli to Braque

MASTERPIECES FROM THE
NATIONAL GALLERIES OF SCOTLAND

MARCH 7–MAY 31, 2015

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Rembrandt van Rijn, *A Woman in Bed* (detail), ca. 1645–1646.
Oil on canvas. Scottish National Gallery

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