



**BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**College of Fine Arts
School of Music**

**UNIVERSITY
CHORAL UNION**

Mark Statler, *conductor*

Pedro Medeiros, *piano*

CARDINAL CHORUS

Andrew Crow, *conductor*

Austin Frohmader, *piano*

**Sunday March 19, 2023 | 3:00 PM
SURSA PERFORMANCE HALL**

UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

Mark Statler, *conductor*

Pedro Medeiros, *pianist*

Weathers

Florence Price
(1887-1953)

Wander-Thirst

Florence Price

Study War No More

arr. Florence Price

Kaitlyn Herrenbruck, Jenny Donnelly, Lawson Chrisman, Logan Buck, Laura Wertz, Halle Hartmann, Gabe Knochel, soloists

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

arr. Florence Price

Kaylyn Johnson, Shelby Crouse, Tristan Graham, soloists

Sakura, Sakura

arr. Jester Hairston

Song of the Cherry Blossoms

(1901-2000)

Andy Schroetter, graduate assistant conductor*

A Red, Red Rose

James Mulholland

from Four Robert Burns Ballads

(b. 1935)

Andy Schroetter, graduate assistant conductor*

O Whistle and I'll Come to ye

arr. Mack Wilberg

from Three Scottish Folk Songs

(b. 1955)

Rina Uchida, piano

Andy Schroetter, graduate assistant conductor*

CARDINAL CHORUS

Andrew Crow, *conductor*

Austin Frohmader, *pianist*

Sing in Unity

Anton Bruckner

(1824-1896)

Giving

Uzee Brown, Jr.

(b. 1950)

Mis on inimene?

Pärt Uusberg

What is human?

(b. 1986)

Andy Schroetter, graduate assistant conductor*

The Green and Salty Days

Kathleen Allan

(b. 1989)

Loch Lomond

arr. Jonathan Quick

Scottish Folk Song

(b. 1970)

Grant Overmyer, soloist

Andy Schroetter is a choral conducting student of Andrew Crow and Kerry Glann. Andy Schroetter's appearance on tonight's concert is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Doctor of Arts in Music (Primary emphasis: Conducting).

PROGRAM NOTES

University Choral Union begins their set with the choral music of Florence Price. Price is known for her orchestral music, keyboard compositions, and solo art songs, but she has some beautiful choral music that is just starting to be performed and studied that deserves to be known! **Weathers** is a cheerful piece that depicts the seasons of spring and fall in a buoyant and uplifting way. We move directly into **Wander-Thirst**, a partsong showing the draw of adventure and exploring new places. The choir then turns to two of Florence Price's spiritual arrangements, which are newly discovered and have no record of performance. **Study War No More** and **Swing Low, Sweet Chariot** show a glimpse into the early style of spiritual arrangers. These spirituals had been sung for generations, but black composers from the early 1900s such as Florence Price, Harry T. Burleigh, and William Grant Still worked to show the historical importance of this music by using the melodies as a basis for their concert arrangements.

The following three pieces all have their roots in folk traditions. **Sakura, Sakura** is a Japanese folk song about the annual blossoming of cherry trees. In this Jester Hairston arrangement, the melody is in the upper voices, with the lower voices simulating the traditional Japanese plucked instrument, the koto. **A Red, Red Rose** takes us to Scotland and the poetry of Robert Burns. While this poem has many settings, this original composition is one of the most well-known. Mulholland does a beautiful job expressing what our love is like and how long it lasts. Our final selection is **O whistle and I'll come to ye**, another Robert Burns poem, in an upbeat setting by Mack Wilberg with four-hand piano. The sopranos present the tune first, followed by the lower voices.

Then listen closely as two counter melodies are added, leading to the last verse with all three ideas happening simultaneously.

The Cardinal Chorus begins with a Romantic-era hymn by Austrian composer Anton Bruckner. However, the English words we sing are not a translation of the original. Rather, using a technique known as *contrafactum*, a former student of the ensemble, Christopher Ellis, wrote these words to describe the joy and power of singing together. Dr. Uzee Brown, Jr. has served as president of Morehouse College in Atlanta. For the text of **Giving**, Brown drew upon a speech by one of the college's renowned alumni, Martin Luther King, Jr. **Mis on inimene?** sung in Estonian, asks the question, "What is human?" With a poignant reminder to "take care, then you are cared for." The opening chant-like melody and close harmonies build to a peak on *hoia* or "take care" and then closes with the opening question and a yearning for a union of souls. In **The Green and Salty Days**, Canadian composer Kathleen Allan slowly reveals a picturesque scene where the speaker explores an architectural ruin, of sorts, and imagines what some fishers just offshore must be thinking of scene they witness. Do they remember this place from its former use? The Scottish folksong, **Loch Lomond**, gets a picturesque musical setting from Jonathan Quick, who initially supports the well-known melody with lush harmonies before turning the chorus into a rousing fife and drum corps.

Sakura

Cherry blossoms, cherry blossoms,
In fields, mountains, and villages
As far as the eye can see.
Is it mist, or clouds?
Fragrant in the rising sun.
Cherry blossoms, cherry blossoms,
Flowers in full bloom.

Cherry blossoms, cherry blossoms,
Across the spring sky,
As far as the eye can see.
Is it mist, or clouds?
Fragrant in the air.
Come now, come now,
Let's go and see them.

Mis on inimene?

What is human?
The shadow of an angel?
Or a cry of yearning
towards a union of souls?

Each of us a pipe
For God's wind to whistle:
take care, then you are cared for.

UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

Ethan Atterson	Megan Duncan	Jacob Murphy
Soph Barnes	Taylor Fitzpatrick	Reganne O'Connor
Anna Bauer	Graye Gosser	Sierra Olson
Natalie Beck	Tristan Graham	Aleaha Patton
Cas Blanchard	Emmy Hale	Brody Roth
Deja Bradshaw	Halle Hartmann	Kaydee Shepherd
Owen Brown	Raegan Helmolz	Sara Shuffitt
Logan Buck	Kaitlyn Herrenbruck	Ian Snoeberger
Grace Cavanagh	Kaylyn Johnson	Jovi Taylor
Julian Cain	Morgan Keller	Cameron Tyo
Lawson Chrisman	Gabe Knochel	Elliot Ulery
Fran Church	Joseph Lowry	Sarah Wahl
Shelby Crouse	Brigs McNiff	Laura Wertz
James DeRango	Grace Miller	Anna Wuertley
Jenny Donnelly		

CARDINAL CHORUS

Parker Abrell	Ethan Johnson	Samuel Pace
James Bailey	Zachariah Jones	Elias Richards
Nathan Bales	Pierre Joseph	Brody Roth
Jaylen Bockelman	Gabe Knochel	Elijah Schooley
Owen Brown	Joe Koby	Tyler Semple
Dylan Burger	Dante Kynion	Narasimha
Austin Carter	Gavin Litchfield	Sinkfield
Lawson Chrisman	Charles Livengood	Trey Smith
Witzillin Escamilla- Sauceda	Sean Malloy	Devin Swafford
Tyler Frazier	Connor Martin	Josh Totten
Nicholas Greene	Tristen Martinez	Cameron Tyo
Noah Halterman	Dylan Meyer	Max Vale
Gavin Harmon	Jacob Murphy	Devin Van Lue
Jonah Herrmann	Joseph Novosel	William Weissert
	Grant Overmyer	

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Kerry Glann, *associate director of choral activities*
Jodi Cotton, *director of University Singers*

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Cara Chowning, *vocal coach*
Kevin Gwinn, *tenor* Jillian Nicholson-Dicks, *mezzo-soprano and vocal teacher*
Yoko Shimazaki-Kilburn, *soprano* Cynthia Smith, *mezzo-soprano*
Elizabeth Truitt, *soprano* Jon Truitt, *baritone and director of opera*
Mei Zhong, *soprano*

SUPPORT THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC CHORAL PROGRAM

- You can participate in the continued growth and success of the Ball State University School of Music Choral Program by contributing to the Ball State University Foundation (Account 5705). Your support will help fund tours and other choral outreach activities.
- Encourage college-bound students to sing in the choirs.
- Attend and encourage your friends and neighbors to attend concerts of the School of Music Choral Program.

School of Music
UPCOMING EVENTS

Women of Song, Vox Anima

Tuesday, March 21 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia – American Music Recital

Wednesday, March 22 | 5:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall

Faculty Artist Series: Gene Berger, horn

Wednesday, March 22 | 7:30 p.m. | Sursa Hall

**Upcoming events are subject to change. Please visit bsu.edu/music/events to view up-to-date event information.*

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