

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®

School of Music

presents

The Very Best Time of Year

UCSA: University Chorus: Soprano/Alto Ensemble
Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy, *director*
Ziwei Zhou, *collaborative pianist*

UCTB: University Chorus: Tenor/Bass Ensemble
Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *director*
Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

TCC: Treble Chamber Choir
Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *director*
Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

Wednesday, December 7, 2022
8 pm
Concert Hall



There is a ten-minute intermission.

Program

UCSA: University Chorus: Soprano/Alto Ensemble

Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy, *director*

Ziwei Zhou, *collaborative pianist*

Non Nobis Domine

William Byrd

(1539-1623)

arr. Jean Ashworth Bartle

A Joyous Carol of the Bells

M. Leontovych, Peter J. Wilhousky

arr. V. Tucker Courtney

Amanda Aponte, *undergraduate conductor*

The Winter's Night

Nicholas Myers

Marian Woodington, *undergraduate conductor*

Auld Land Syne

Trad. Scottish Folksong

arr. M. Hanawalt and Justine Sansafar

UCTB: University Chorus: Tenor/Bass Ensemble

Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *director*

Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

Medieval Gloria

arr. Vijay Singh

Bye and Bye

Trad. African American Spiritual

arr. Rollo Dilworth

Judd Blake, *undergraduate conductor*

Weep No More

David Childs

Grayson Parker, *undergraduate conductor*

Sweet Caroline

Neil Diamond

arr. Cokeroft

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Martin & Blane

arr. Hayes

Jamison Jones, *soloist*

10-Minute Intermission

Program

TCC: Treble Chamber Choir
Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *director*
Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

Autumn Gives Her Hand to Winter
Kaitlyn Connolly, *undergraduate conductor* Keith Loftis

Les Berceaux
Samuel Peterson, *undergraduate conductor* Gabriel Fauré
arr. Snyder

There Is a Place
Rosephanye Powell
(b. 1962)

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy
Tchaikovsky
arr. Funk

Christmas Lullaby
Cy Coleman
arr. Hayes

UC: University Chorus
Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *director*
Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*
Ziwei Zhou, *collaborative pianist*

Candle in the Night
David Eddleman

The Very Best Time of Year
John Rutter

Patrons are reminded to turn off all pagers, cell phones,
personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

The unauthorized videotaping or any other recording
of this production is strictly prohibited
in adherence with Federal copyright laws.

Program Notes

Non nobis, Domine is a short Latin hymn used as a prayer of thanksgiving and expression of humility. The Latin text derives from Psalm 115:1. The canon used for this arrangement was probably written in the 16th century and is often mistakenly attributed to William Byrd. The canon is unique in that the main melody is in unison canon at 6 beats, and in canon at the fifth at 2 beats.

Non nobis, Domine, non nobis, Sed nomini tuo da gloriam.
“Not to us Lord, not to us, but to Your Name give the glory.”

Nick Myers’ **The Winter Night** is a haunting a cappella work that evokes, through both the music and lyrics, the sound and chill of a deep winter night, “quiet and still, while all the world’s asleep... dreams pure as white, white as the snow.” Composed in a straightforward, contemporary style, this work is a delight of ‘crunchy’ chords depicting an icy winter landscape.

“Carol of the Bells” is a popular Christmas carol composed by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych in 1914 with lyrics by Peter J. Wilhousky. The song is based on a Ukrainian folk chant called “Shchedryk,” which the then conductor of the Ukrainian Republic Choir, Oleksander Koshyts, commissioned Leontovych to create based on traditional Ukrainian folk chants. Based on a four-note minor ostinato (*do-ti-do-la*) and in $\frac{3}{4}$ time signature, **Carol of the Bells** has been covered in multiple genres, including classical, jazz, country, rock, and pop music, as well as used throughout popular culture. The original folk story related in the song was associated with the coming New Year, which, in pre-Christian Ukraine, was celebrated with the coming of spring in April. The original Ukrainian title translates to “the generous one” or is perhaps derived from the Ukrainian word for bountiful (*shchedryj*) and recounts the legend of a swallow flying into a household to proclaim the bountiful year that the family will have! Vicki Carter Tucker’s Courtney’s excellent arrangement adds original melodic and textual material in a clever imitative form that melds perfectly with the original popular holiday offering.

Robert Burns is credited with the codifying of the famous text of the renowned Scottish New Year’s air, **Auld Lang Syne** although there are some academic sources that conjecture he himself actually wrote the final verses himself. Arranged by FSU colleagues and friends Michael Hanawalt and Justine Sasanfar, this beautiful arrangement features Scottish dialect interspersed with English text, a macaronic approach to text setting. This touching and lush arrangement is a joy to sing, and with this closer of our Christmas set, the UCSA wishes you a most wonderful Holiday Season and a Blessed New Year!

Medieval Gloria utilizes the Ordinary of the Mass text, Gloria in excelsis Deo. The setting is reminiscent of chant, utilizing early polyphonic textures of canon, drone, and two-voice organum of early 13th and 14th century plainchant.

Bye and Bye is a stylized gospel arrangement of the traditional spiritual by noted choral conductor and composer, Rollo Dilworth. This arrangement features a terrific layered bridge section with traditional gospel stacking. Rock-solid choral writing and a beautifully written piano part give this moving selection an authentic gospel sound.

The text of **Weep No More** uses the first stanza of the poem Fairy’s Song, by John Keats’ (1795-1821). Keats was an English Romantic poet from London, whose poems were popularized after his death. With its flowing arpeggios in the accompaniment and frequent changing meters, Weep No More, gives a sense of hope that the flowers will bloom again.

Program Notes – *continued*

Neil Diamond's **Sweet Caroline** is a popular favorite at sports games and piano bars. We invite you to join us in singing the crowd part of the refrain in this fun barbershop style arrangement!

Sung by the likes of Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland, **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas** is a classic Christmas song composed and written by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane. Originally released in the 1940 movie *Meet Me in St. Louis*, Judy Garland made the song a household Christmas requirement with the tune now considered one of the most recognizable songs in American Cinema. Arranged by Mark Hayes, the Baylor University alum takes his roots of piano performance and transforms the classic piece into a choral arrangement that has become a tradition for The JMU University Men's Chorus to sing in December.

Keith Loftis wrote both the words and music for **Autumn Gives Her Hand to Winter**. This plaintive tune illustrates the move from the fall to the winter season with a flowing piano accompaniment.

Originally written as a solo chanson for voice and piano, Gabriel Fauré's **Les Berceaux** compares the rocking of a cradle to a boat being rocked by the ocean:

*Along the quay the great ships, Listing silently with the surge,
Pay no heed to the cradles Rocked by women's hands.
But the day of parting will come, For it is decreed that women shall weep,
And that men with questing spirits Shall seek enticing horizons.
And on that day the great ships, Leaving the dwindling harbour behind,
Shall feel their hulls held back By the soul of the distant cradles.*

Rosephanye Powell's newly published **There is a Place** is a beautiful setting of Psalm 85:10. Commissioned by MUSE, Cincinnati's Women's Choir, this beautiful *a cappella* setting features the rich harmonic palate of the treble choir with the enduring message to, "...make us ambassadors of Just-peace."

Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy is a popular movement from the Tchaikovsky ballet, *The Nutcracker*. Set as a vocalise without text, this fun arrangement is a joy to sing!

Cy Coleman's simple little carol, **Christmas Lullaby**, written for Peggy Lee, has become an annual tradition piece for TCC to perform. Verse one of the text is original (written by both Coleman and Peggy Lee), verse two was put together by the combined efforts of all the students in 2018's Treble Chamber Choir!

David Eddleman's setting of **Candle in the Night** features shifting tempos, dynamic surprises and exciting lyrics. All these add up to a Hanukkah number that is guaranteed to get everyone's blood circulating!

English choral conductor and composer John Rutter has become a "must" on holiday programs. His setting of **The Very Best Time of Year** warms the heart with its images of "Christmas trees and boughs of holly, yuletide logs and mistletoe." The setting is perfect for the combined University Chorus as the melody is passed between the Soprano/Alto and the Tenor/Bass.

We wish you a joy-filled and peaceful holiday season and look forward to seeing you back at the Forbes Center in 2023!

Biography

2022 College of Visual and Performing Arts Outstanding Student Mentor and *2016 JMU Woman of Distinction*, **Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy** brings to JMU a rich and diverse career in international performance and teaching. As JMU Director of Choral Activities, Dr. van der Vat-Chromy directs *The Madison Singers*, the *JMU Chorale*, the *UCSA: University Chorus Soprano/Alto Ensemble*, and coordinates the *VMRC (Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community) Generations Choir*, an intergenerational choral practicum here in Harrisonburg. A certified Kodály music educator, Dr. V. is a proud faculty member of Kodály Institute at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX. The 2012-2014 Interim Music Director for the Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir, currently Dr. V. is the JMU Vocal Arts Summer Camp director and currently serves as JMU Voice Area Coordinator. An active adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor, Dr. V's research interests include the kinesthetic connections in conducting pedagogy, the integration of Kodály methodology into collegiate choral performance, and the sociological impact of choral cultures on student learning and the experience of flow. Recently dubbed 'our collective fairy-godmother' by the renowned choral ensemble, The King's Singers, Dr. van der Vat-Chromy is the recipient of the *JMU 2021-2022 Shirley Hanson Roberts '56 and Richard D. Roberts Endowment for Faculty Excellence*, a university-wide endowed award for excellence in student engagement, collaborative learning, growth, and self-discovery.

Recently honored as Distinguished Teacher of the year by The College of Visual and Performing Arts, **Dr. W. Bryce Hayes** maintains an active career as a conductor, teacher, church musician, pianist, accompanist, and singer. As choral conductor, Bryce is currently Associate Professor of Choral Music at James Madison University where he conducts The University Chorus: Tenor/Bass Ensemble and Treble Chamber Choir. In addition to his choral conducting responsibilities at JMU, Bryce teaches graduate choral literature, undergraduate conducting, and music education classes. He is an active adjudicator and clinician, recent and upcoming appearances include conducting honors choirs and workshops. Bryce also serves as the director of civic choir, Winchester Musica Viva. A New Jersey native, Dr. Hayes completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting from The University of Minnesota. Prior to his time in Minnesota, Dr. Hayes received a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Temple University. His career began with a Bachelor of Music degree in music education from Westminster Choir College following which he taught high school choir at Princeton Day School.

Personnel

UCSA: University Chorus: Soprano/Alto Ensemble

Ziwei Zhou, *collaborative pianist*

Amanda Aponte and Marian Woodington, *UCSA undergraduate manager/conductors*

Helen Albiston	Dylan Gregory	Sydney Parow
Amanda Aponte	Katie Hayes	Christine Peter
Chloe Babick	Rebecca Imbasciani	Melanie Pishner
Betel Bereket	Kaitlin Kim	Olive (Madison) Poole
Parker Bigley	Katy Lange	Megan Richmond
Alison Brown	Izzy Faye Layman	Christina Santiago
Natalie Carter	Cambira Layton	Tatianna Schlienger
Emma Clampett	Kendra Liverman	Lauren Schmidt
Claire Davis	Erin Malloy	Shukrana Shukrullah
Olivia Dillon	Sarah Moulden	Rachel Smalley
Kelly Donlan	Nicole Murphy	Emily Stevens
Nicole Dudley	Lauren Naples	Ciara Theisz
Mariah Eakin	Caitlyn Newlin	Elizabeth Tyler
Ella Gallagher	Elena Ogbe	Nancy Walker
Caroline Gravely	Sophie Osmani	Marian Woodington

UCTB: University Chorus: Tenor/Bass Ensemble

Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

Judd Blake, Grayson Parker, *UCTB undergraduate manager/conductors*

Judd Blake	Riley Jefferson	William Palesestrant
Phillip Bolick	Jamison Jones	Johnny Park
Michael Bromley	Elijah Keyes	Grayson Parker
Bala Challa	Reuben Leonard	Noah Sharp
Logan Davis	Riley Millward	Chayse Tucker
Drew Dodson	Kieran Morales	Grayson Walsh
AJ Gossett	Kian Mostaghim	Jeff Ware
Luke Harrell	Kris Neou	Jasper Wilson
Eli Harris	Joshua Nieves-Arbaiza	Theo Young
Spencer Herron	Patrick O'Brien	

TCC: Treble Chamber Choir

Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

Kaitlyn Connolly, Sam Peterson *TCC undergraduate manager/conductors*

<u>Soprano 1</u>	<u>Soprano 2</u>	<u>Alto</u>
Helen Albiston	Abbie Blair	Sophie Castro
Kylo Babcock	Leah Brown	Nicole Dudley
Sophia Loadholtz	Isabella Cerullo	Mara McBane
Sophie Osmani	Emma Clampett	Hallie Strelsky
Christina Santiago	Jaisyn Holland	Erica Taylor
Abby Wilson	Katy Lange	Emma Ullrich
	Annie Kate Walsh	

Special Thanks to:

DeJuan Woods, Jr. *poster design*

Shawn, Chloe W., Chloe S., Trusten, Puck, and Tom, *Forbes Center Production Team*

FA '22 JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY CHORAL AREA

Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy
Director of Choral Activities, Voice Area Coordinator
Associate Professor of Choirs, Conducting, Choral Music Education

Dr. W. Bryce Hayes
Associate Director of Choral Activities
Associate Professor of Choirs, Choral Music Education

Nikos Myrogiannis-Koukos, *DMA Choral Conducting Graduate Student*
Addison Walton, *DMA Choral Conducting Graduate Student*
DeJuan Woods, *Choral Librarian and Poster Design*

JMU COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS

Amy Robertson, *The Madison Singers and The JMU Chorale*
Ziwei Zhou, *UCSA*
Linlin Uta, *TCC and UCTB*

UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE MANAGERS/CONDUCTING ASSISTANTS

Sam Peterson, Marian Woodington, Brendon O'Donnell, Brayden Paitsel, *TMS*
Cara Ainge, Luca Morianu, *JMU Chorale*
Kaitlyn Connolly, Sam Peterson, *Treble Chamber Choir*
Amanda Aponte, Marian Woodington, *UCSA*
Judd Blake, Grayson Parker, *UCTB*

EXECUTIVE BOARD: JMU CHAPTER OF THE ACDA

Kaitlyn Connolly, *president*; Grace Templeton, *vice-president*;
Marian Woodington, *secretary*; Carter Johnson, *treasurer*;
Syd Havemann *historian*; DeJuan Woods Jr., *public relations*

CHECK OUT THE JMU CHORAL AREA YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

JMU VOICE AREA

Dr. Sonya Baker, *soprano*
Dr. Melissa Sumner-Swisher, *soprano*
Professor Brenda Witmer, *soprano*
Dr. Carrie Stevens, *mezzo-soprano*
Dr. Jamison Walker, *tenor, Interim Director of Opera*
Professor Kevin McMillan, *baritone*
Professor David Newman, *baritone*
Dr. J. van der Vat-Chromy, *Director of Choral Activities, Voice Area Coordinator*
Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *Associate Director of Choral Activities*