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Alexandria
CHORAL
SOCIETY

CELEBRATES

A Mother's Love

MAY 9, 2015 AT 8 P.M.
CONVERGENCE • 1801 NORTH QUAKER LANE

45th
Season

A Mother's Love

Alexandria Choral Society
Brian Gendron, *conductor*
Robin Beckman, *piano and organ*

Cradle Me	Deborah Dougherty-Harris
The Gartan Mother's Lullaby	Irish folk song <i>arr.</i> Neil Ginsberg
A Welsh Lullaby	Traditional Welsh <i>arr.</i> K. Lee Scott
Here take this lovely flower	Frank Ticheli
The Seal Lullaby	Eric Whitacre
Ave Maria (Opus 2, No. 2)	Sir Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
Bogoroditse Devo	Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
To the Mothers in Brazil: Salve Regina	Lars Jansson, <i>arr.</i> Gunnar Eriksson
Kate Campbell Deglans, <i>djembe</i>	
Magnificat	Thomas Weelkes (c. 1576-1623)
Chelsea Crane and Kyle Jennings, <i>sopranos</i>	
Emily Goodell and Kristina Meacham, <i>altos</i>	
Michael Gale, <i>tenor</i>	
Russell Moll, <i>bass</i>	
Wanting Memories	Ysaye M. Barnwell

Please silence all electronic devices.

You are invited to join us in the gallery for a reception following the concert.

THE ALEXANDRIA CHORAL SOCIETY'S 45TH CONCERT SEASON
IS MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROUS GRANTS FROM



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The Alexandria Choral Society appreciates the support that makes this concert season possible. As always, the financial resources needed for concert productions go far beyond the amount raised by the prices of tickets. We encourage you to consider making a contribution to the Alexandria Choral Society. Your gift will help to ensure that the splendid works of traditional and contemporary composers continue to come to life in our community. Your contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Contributors will be listed in our program (unless you specify otherwise). Write to P.O. Box 406, Alexandria, VA 22313, call 703-951-7849, or visit www.alexandriachoralsociety.org.

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In Memoriam

Marcela Ayerle Burson

1938 – 2015



wife, mom, abuelita
ACS supporter

TEXTS with TRANSLATIONS

CRADLE ME

Deborah Dougherty-Harris

Cradle me, cradle me, Oh dear Mother, cradle me.
Earth and breath and sky and sea All rise up and cradle me.

In the morning when I rise, wipe the night-time from my eyes,
Plant my feet down on the floor, move myself through daily chores,
Giving thanks while breaking bread, and for kind words that are said,
Spirit, move me through my deeds, Cradling me with all my needs,
Cradle me, cradle me, Oh dear Mother, cradle me.
Earth and breath and sky and sea All rise up and cradle me.

When Death knocks at my front door, taking a loved one to her shore,
And I bend to grief's old ways, I am cradled in my haze
And those tears are oft relieved by giving back what I've received,
Stretching out with arms and heart, cradling them that death did part,
Cradle me, cradle me, Oh dear Mother, cradle me.
Earth and breath and sky and sea All rise up and cradle me.

Circling through this life on earth, Tears for death and tears for birth,
Blessings quilted with the pain, All are woven through the grain.
Plant my feet down on the floor, move myself through daily chores,
Giving back what I've received, Simple acts are sacred deeds.
Cradle me, cradle me, Oh dear Mother, cradle me.
Earth and breath and sky and sea All rise up and cradle me.

THE GARTAN MOTHER'S LULLABY

Irish folk song

Sleep, my child, for the red bee hums
The silent twilight falls.
The Banshee from the grey rock comes,
To wrap the world in thrall.

A lyanvan, O my child, my joy,
My love, my heart's desire,
The cricket sings you a lullaby,
Beside the dyin' fire.

Dusk is drawn and the Green Man's thorn
Is wreathed in rings of fog.
Sheevra sails his boat 'til morn
Upon the starry bog.

A lyanvan, O the pale half-moon
Hath brimmed her cup in dew,
And weeps to hear this sad, sleep tune,
I sing, my love, to you.

lyanvan = child

A WELSH LULLABY

Hush, my dear one, sleep serenely;
Now, my lovely, slumber deep.
Mother rocks you, humming lowly;
Close your eyes, now go to sleep.

Angels hover ever nearer,
Looking on your smiling face.
I will hold you, close enfold you;
Close your eyes, now go to sleep.

Lovely darling, I will guard you,
keep you from all woe and harm
Softly, gently I will rock you.
resting sweetly on my arm.

May you slumber e'er so softly;
Dream of visions wondrous fair,
I will hold you, close enfold you;
Close your eyes, now go to sleep.

HERE TAKE THIS LOVELY FLOWER

Traditional Shaker Lullaby

Here take this lovely flower
Thy mother sent to thee,
Cull'd from her lovely bower
Of sweet simplicity.

O place it near thy bosom
And keep it pure and bright,
For in such lovely flowers
The angels take delight.

THE SEAL LULLABY

Rudyard Kipling

Oh! hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us,
And black are the waters that spaerkled so green.
The moon, o'er the combers, looks downward to find us
At rest in the hollows that rustle between.

Where billow meets billow, then soft be thy pillow;
Ah, weary we flipperling, curl at thy ease!
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark overtake thee,
Asleep in the arms of the slow-swinging seas.

AVE MARIA

Ave, Maria, gratia plena;
Dominus tecum;
benedicta tu in mulieribus,

*Hail, Mary, full of grace
The Lord is with thee.
blessed art thou among women,*

K. Lee Scott

Alexandria Choral Society

Brian Gendron, *Artistic Director*
Robin Beckman, *Accompanist*

Sopranos

Sara Alipanah
Erin Barnett
Sharon Collins
Sarah Coster
Chelsea Crane
Kate Campbell Deglans
Marfê Ferguson Delano
Monique Kerber Doussard
Elizabeth Edwards
Diane Erbland
Mary Gaskins
Katie Grainey
Rasneek Gujral
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Marianne Stonefield
Grace Van Der Veer

Tenors

Cameron Farley
Elliot Findley
Michael Gale
Howard Jaffe
Alan Morris
Farshad Negarestan
Ben Reigner
Kevin Sapp
Brent Schultheis
Jeff Simmons

Altos

Trudy Beddow
Anne Buckborough
Patricia Burson
Heather Cruz
Alison Fitzgerald
Emily Goodell
Rebecca Grisso
Ally Manno
Kristina Meacham
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Basses

Benjamin Bryan
Rocky Ebener
Clifford Gay
Thomas Giannetti
Greg Gloor
Joshua Heit
Jeff Kline
Terry Langendoen
Russell Moll
Donald Pape
David Pritzker
Vell Rives



*while we follow the baton,
you can follow us on facebook*

*find us on twitter and hear
what we have to sing about!*



team for Charpentier's *David et Jonathas*, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Blow's *Venus and Adonis*, and a staged production of Handel's *Messiah*. Gendron conducted the world premiere of Sean Pflueger's *Children in the Mist* for Riverbend Opera and was Music Director for Michael Gordon's *Lightning at Our Feet*, which was co-produced by Virginia Tech Theater Arts and New York City's Ridge Theater.

Gendron earned degrees from Central Michigan University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has presented interest sessions and conducted invitational performances for the American Choral Directors Association, Virginia Music Educators Association, and Virginia Music Teachers Association. Gendron currently leads the choirs at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church, Virginia.



Robin Beckman enjoys a versatile career as a pianist and singer working as a soloist, chamber ensemble singer, piano teacher and accompanist. With a voice that "gently glides into heaven" (*Washington Examiner*), she has performed with the Bach Consort, the Boston Early Music Fringe Festival, Washington Master Chorale, at the National Cathedral, and in the quartet Third Practice, which got rave reviews in both the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* for its performance of Andriessen's *La Commedia* with the Great Noise Ensemble. You can also hear her on the

Dorian Sono Luminus label singing the Bach Motets and Carissimi's *Jephthe*, in which she is a soloist. As a pianist, she also accompanies Six Degree Singers, a choir based in Silver Spring, MD. She studied at Shenandoah University where she accompanied several ensembles, master classes and recitals.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Alexandria Choral Society wishes to express its appreciation to the following persons and organizations:

Artisan2
George Washington Middle School
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Hard Times Café – Alexandria
Heather Harris Roehmer
Mimi Stevens

et benedictus fructus ventris tui,
Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae,
Amen.

*and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners
now and in the hour of our death.
Amen.*

BOGORODITSE DEVO

Bogoroditse Devo, raduysya,
Blagodatnaya Marie,
Gospod s Toboyu.
Blagoslovenna Te v zhenah,
I blagosloven plod chreva Tvoyego,
yako Spasa rodilayesi dush nashih.

*Virgin Mother of God, rejoice,
Holy Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb,
For Thou hast given birth to the Savior
of our souls.*

TO THE MOTHERS IN BRAZIL: SALVE REGINA

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae
Ad te clamamus exules filii Hevae

*Hail holy Queen, Mother of mercy,
To thee do we cry, poor banished
Children of Eve.*

Regina coeli laetare, alleluia.
O clemens, O pia,
O dulcis virgo Maria
Et Jesum, benedictum fructum
ventris tui.

*Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
O kind, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.
And Jesus the blessed fruit
of thy womb.*

MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
And holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him, throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm,
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the might from their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He rememb'ring his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel
As he promised to our father Abraham and to his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

WANTING MEMORIES

Ysaye M. Barnwell

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
You used to rock me in the cradle of your arms,
you said you'd hold me till the pains of life were gone.
You said you'd comfort me in times like these and now I need you,
and you are gone.
So I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty of the world through my own eyes.
Since you've gone and left me, there's been so little beauty,
but I know I saw it clearly through your eyes.
Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place,
here inside I have few things that will console,
and when I try to hear your voice above the storms of life
then I remember that I was told.
Yes, I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty of the world through my own eyes.
Yes, I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty of the world through my own eyes..
I think on the things that made me laugh, made me dance, made me sing,
I think on the things that made me grow into a being full of pride,
think on these things, for they are truth.
And I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
I thought that you were gone, but now I know you're with me;
you are the voice that whispers all I need to hear.
I know a "please", a "thank you", and a smile will take me far,
I know tht I am you and you are me and we are one,
I know that who I am is numbered in each grain of sand,
I know that I've been blessed again and over again
and again and again.
Yes, I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.
Yes, I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.



Alexandria Choral Society
P.O. Box 406
Alexandria, VA 22313
703-951-7849
www.alexandriachoralsociety.org

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Founded in 1970, the **Alexandria Choral Society** aspires to enhance the cultural life of the city of Alexandria and surrounding communities by presenting engaging musical programs at the highest artistic level. ACS ensembles consistently offer meaningful and exciting musical experiences to both singers and audiences through diverse repertoire, education, community outreach, and performance excellence.



Brian Gendron serves as Artistic Director of the Alexandria Choral Society (ACS). Since joining the organization in 2009, the choir has shared the stage with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra for Mozart's *Requiem*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*, Holst's *The Planets*, and the world premiere of Kim Allen Kluge's *River Poem*. They have presented Bach's *Komm, Jesu, komm*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, Brahms' *Schicksalslied*, and Pärt's *Berliner Messe*, and have led Handel's *Messiah* at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Pro Coro Alexandria, a chamber choir founded in 2012 and selected from the ACS roster, premiered Truman Harris and David Teie's *...again and ever again* with Eclipse Chamber Orchestra and performed at the National Gallery of Art. Both ensembles will appear with the Virginia Chamber Orchestra this season.

With a great passion for choral-orchestral repertoire, Gendron was on the podium for Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Beethoven's *Mass in C*, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*, and Mozart's *Coronation Mass*. He prepared Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* for the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra and Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* for the New River Valley Symphony. Gendron conducted the Kansas City Baroque Consortium in a performance of Handel's *Dixit Dominus*, and led a series of concerts featuring the cantatas of J.S. Bach, as well as his *Mass in B minor*.

Previously, Gendron served as Artistic Director of the Grammy Award winning Maryland Boy Choir, who appeared at the Music Center at Strathmore and Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, as well as in concert performances of Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov* with Mariinsky Opera and Puccini's *La Bohème* with Baltimore Concert Opera. His previous teaching appointments include Conductor-in-Residence at Hollins University and Director of Choral Activities at Virginia Tech. His university ensembles appeared in Carnegie Hall, Brooklyn Academy of Music's Howard Gilman Opera Theater, and the Washington National Cathedral.

Gendron served as Chorus Master for Opera Roanoke productions of Handel's *Acis and Galatea*, Britten's *Noye's Fludde*, Verdi's *Macbeth* and *Otello*, and Beethoven's *Fidelio*. He also joined the American Opera Theater