

FROM
DARKNESS
INTO **LIGHT**

FRIDAY MARCH 2, 7:30 PM
SHALOM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, RICHLAND

SATURDAY MARCH 3, 7:30 PM
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, WALLA WALLA

SUNDAY MARCH 4, 3:00 PM
SHALOM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, RICHLAND



MID-COLUMBIA
MASTERSINGERS
JUSTIN RAFFA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

2011-2012
25TH ANNIVERSARY



A NOTE
FROM THE
ARTISTIC
DIRECTOR



Dear friends,

Today's performance is a departure from the norm. With the visual imagery implied by our concert title, "From Darkness into Light," we have attempted to create a concert experience that reflects the nature of the music and mirrors the natural daily progression of sunset to sunrise. To achieve this, several lighting changes will take place throughout the concert. We invite you to be taken in by this combination of visual and musical stimuli so that you may experience our mission: to be transformed by the power of choral music.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of MCM friends and patrons Boyce Burdick and Betsy Vance for their role in helping sponsor this concert cycle. Both were live auction item winners at our Friendraiser last April and were awarded two very unique opportunities: Boyce in choosing music for us to perform, and Betsy in conducting the choir. It is through Boyce's selections of Heinrich Schütz's Seven Last Words and Randall Thompson's Alleluia that the concert title came to be, into which was added Samuel Barber's *Sure on This Shining Night* as an appropriate work for Betsy's conducting debut. We celebrate their patronage and all those who endeavor to support the arts in our community.

If you are enticed by these auction outcomes, we hope you will be our guest at this year's Masquerade Friendraiser on Friday evening April 27 at the beautiful Tri-City Country Club. Under the capable leadership of committee chair and faithful MCM patron Jo Brodzinski, you too can have the opportunity to bid on choosing music for the choir, the chance to conduct them in live performance, and much more. Please join us for a magical evening of exceptional food, wine, entertainment, and fun.

Thank you for supporting live choral performance, and enjoy the show!

Justin Raffa
Artistic Director

PROGRAM

Please silence cell phones. Please no flash photography.

Ejzšaka (Night) Györgi Ligeti (1923-2006)

Sure on this Shining Night Samuel Barber (1910-1981)

Nunc dimittis Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

Lullabies and Nightsongs Set I Alec Wilder (1907-1980)

1. Minnie and Winnie
2. The Elephant Present
3. The Starlighter
4. The Answers

Lullabies and Nightsongs Set II Alec Wilder

1. Star Wish
2. Wee Willie Winkie
3. The Night Will Never Stay
4. The Huntsmen
5. Good Night!

Die Sieben Worte Jesu Christi am Kreuz Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)
Soloists: Molly Holleran, Tara Swanson,
Karl Hedlund, Reginald Unterseher, Joe Haws

INTERMISSION

Reggel (Morning) Györgi Ligeti

Lux Aeterna Z. Randall Stroepe (b. 1953)

Pilgrim Spring Reginald Unterseher (b. 1956)

Hymn to the Mother of Light Reginald Unterseher

Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come William Mathias (1934-1992)

The Steady Light Reginald Unterseher

Tread Softly Judith Herrington (b. 1949)

Alleluia Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

This program is sponsored in part by Boyce Burdick and Betsy Vance, and by a grant from the Washington State Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts

PERFORMERS

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Justin Raffa

COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE
Reginald Unterseher

CONDUCTING INTERN
Michael Blackwood

REHEARSAL ACCOMPANIST
Sheila Gephart

SOPRANO

Nitza Brooks
Mary Dann
Molly Holleran*
Mitzi Lundberg
Jillian McLarnin
Kristin Swisher
Ashley Walters

VIOLIN I

May K French

VIOLIN II

Lisa Sorenson

VIOLA

Lucia Orr

ALTO

Dana Dupont
Terri Geluso
Heidi Nelson
Kathy Payne
Katy Pfaff
Elizabeth Roddy
Tara Swanson*
Ashley Wheatcroft

CELLO

Grant Bierschbach

OBOE

Marilyn Law

ORGAN

Ken Graham

TENOR

Paul Dann
Paul Davis
Patrick Faulk*
Ron Johnson
Ted Miller
Matthew Monroe
Sam Purvine
Bob Watrous

PIANO

Jeremy Mims (Fri/Sat)
Sheila Gephart (Sun)

CHIEF JOSEPH TREBLE CHOIR

Mary Dann, Director
Victoria Aguilar
Celestial Alves
Amanda Andersen
Isabel Bartholomew

BASS

Mark Barton
Michael Blackwood
Joseph Haws
Scott Rodgers
Greg Rose
Will Shaw
Will Talbot
Reginald Unterseher*
Tyrell Wilde

Haily Bryant
Alexandra Chnyrenkova

Arina Clements
Katie Collins
Dina Gebretatios
Gillian Gormley
Hayley Houtrouw

Kate Juergens
Elizabeth Kelly
Mariah Kelly
Amber McNabb
Jessica Meier

*section leaders

TENOR SOLOIST

Karl Hedlund

Kaylie Murphy
Maisi Ranard
Iris Rasmussen
Elizabeth Reed
Cara Segó
Morgan Smith
Ashleigh Szatkowski
Diana Wang
Emma Wegeng
Kayla Wilke
Keara York
Breanna Zambetti

PRODUCTION MANAGER

John Tuttle

MCM GUEST COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE

REGINALD UNTERSEHER

CONNECT WITH THE COMPOSER

Free community forums to explore musical topics

Sundays at 2 PM: March 25 & April 22

Mid-Columbia Library - Kennewick Branch

March 25: E-Publishing



Join composer Reginald Unterseher for a forum on one of his favorite topics: the music e-publishing industry. He will discuss how technology is changing the way new music is getting to audiences, and the influence this technology has on the music that is performed and heard.

Reginald Unterseher is Music Director and Composer-in-Residence at Shalom United Church of Christ, Richland, Washington. His works are published by Oxford University Press, Walton Music, and at www.reginaldunterseher.com. Mr. Unterseher's compositions are regularly performed throughout the world and have been featured at ACDA and MENC conventions in the US and at Carnegie Hall in New York. Choruses presenting his work include The Princeton Singers, Concora, Opus 7, Seattle Pro Musica, The St. Mary's College Madrigal Singers, The Lawrence Children's Chorus, Brigham Young University Singers, and The Santa Fe Chorale.

He maintains a private voice studio, and is in demand as a choral and vocal adjudicator and clinician. In addition, he sings with Male Ensemble Northwest (MEN), presenting concerts and workshops all over the United States.

Mr. Unterseher was born in 1956 in Walla Walla, Washington. He holds music degrees from Walla Walla College and the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and has performed with such organizations as Opera Theater of St. Louis, Texas Opera Theater, and Starlight Theater of Kansas City. He has been a snow ski instructor, an opera singer, a nursery school teacher, a truck driver, an actor, a singing waiter, and a stay-at-home dad to three children. He has been married since 1976 to Sheila Dunlop, who has written the words for many of his choral works.

He co-founded Washington East Opera in 1997 and served as Chorus Master and Artistic Advisor for nine years. From 1996 until 2004, he was Artistic Director of Consort Columbia Vocal Ensemble (now called Mid-Columbia Mastersingers) where he conducted ensembles of children and adults.

www.reginaldunterseher.com