



VICTORIA PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

MUSIC DIRECTOR | PETER BUTTERFIELD



The Creation

JOSEPH HAYDN

First Metropolitan United Church March 14, 2020

The Program



Music to Our Ears

Harmonizing self-interest with planetary well-being

Haydn's *The Creation* is a majestic ode to the glorious qualities of our planet Earth as a safe home for humanity. The story confirms why we should hold our Earth in awe as a special place in the cosmos where humanity can thrive in spirit and in well-being.

The power of the work reminds us of living within nature's limits. Unfortunately, carbon gas build-up in our atmosphere and the continuing loss of biodiversity through large-scale human activity has pushed us beyond Earth's natural limits.

In response, the United Nations continues to urge all nations to return to carbon neutrality by 2050. This means that the natural capacity of the Earth's ecosystems to absorb carbon will have to be increased to offset human carbon sources that cannot be completely eliminated.

Gail O'Riordan was passionate about the performing arts. The Gail O'Riordan Climate and the Arts Legacy Series is established to combine the emotional power of music and the performing arts with helping to inspire audiences to make personal pledges to change behaviour to contribute to a carbon-neutral future.

Simply put, Gail believed self-interest must be harmonized with the Earth's welfare.

The inspiration for the Legacy Series is the Flight of the Hummingbird parable

where the tiny hummingbird could pick up only a drop of water at a time to try to quench a raging forest fire. She pointed out that she was doing everything she could to save the forest. The challenge of the Legacy Series is to inspire all of us to do all we can to protect this precious Earth.

Our insert in this program invites you to attend two April events developed to share numerous climate crisis solutions while being inspired by wonderful music. The insert form invites you to tell us what changes you have already made and to make a pledge to learn about ways you can do more. Many solutions will be featured in upcoming Climate and the Arts events, and are included in 58 Ways to Lighter & Happier Living published by our project partner, Creatively United For the Planet.

The Victoria Philharmonic Choir has committed to partner with the Legacy Series for the balance of this year. In forthcoming concerts, there will be stories shared by people, communities and businesses who have found solutions to shifting towards carbon neutrality.

More information on how to make a pledge and a listing of practical solutions to reduce your carbon footprint can be found at:
climateandthearts.org
creativelyunited.org



THE CREATION

JOSEPH HAYDN (1732-1809)

The Program

PART THE FIRST

SCENE 1

Recitative & Chorus
(RAPHAEL, URIEL)
In the beginning
Aria & Chorus (URIEL)
Now vanish before the holy beams

SCENE 2

Recitative (RAPHAEL)
And God made the firmament
Solo & Chorus (GABRIEL)
The marv'ulous work

SCENE 3

Recitative (RAPHAEL)
And God said, Let the waters
Aria (RAPHAEL)
Rolling in foaming billows
Recitative (GABRIEL)
And God said, Let the earth
Aria (GABRIEL)
With verdure clad
Recitative (URIEL)
And the heavenly host
Chorus
Awake the harp

SCENE 4

Recitative (URIEL)
And God said, Let there be lights
Recitative (URIEL)
In splendour bright
Trio & Chorus
(GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL)
The heavens are telling

PART THE SECOND

SCENE 1

Recitative (GABRIEL)
And God said, Let the waters
Aria (GABRIEL)
On mighty pens
Recitative (RAPHAEL)
And God created great whales
Recitative (RAPHAEL)
And the angels
Trio & Chorus
(GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL)
Most beautiful appear
The Lord is great

SCENE 2

Recitative (RAPHAEL)
And God said, Let the earth bring forth
Recitative (RAPHAEL)
Straight opening her fertile womb
Aria (RAPHAEL)
Now heav'n in fullest glory shone
Recitative (URIEL)
And God created man
Aria (URIEL)
In native worth
Trio & Chorus
(GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL)
The Lord is great
Recitative (RAPHAEL)
And God saw every thing
that He had made
Chorus & Trio
(GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL)
Achievèd is the glorious work
Trio (GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL)
On Thee each living soul awaits
Chorus & Trio
(GABRIEL, URIEL, RAPHAEL)
Achievèd is the glorious work

PART THE THIRD

SCENE 1

Recitative (URIEL)
In rosy mantle appears

SCENE 2

Duet and Chorus (ADAM, EVE)
By thee with bliss

SCENE 3

Recitative (ADAM, EVE)
Our duty we have now perform'd
Duet (ADAM, EVE)
Graceful consort!

FINAL SCENE

Recitative (URIEL)
O happy pair
Quartet and Chorus
Sing the Lord, ye voices all!



Peter Butterfield

CONDUCTOR

Peter grew up in Victoria and studied Economics and Music at McGill University, Montreal. He made his professional debut as tenor soloist in Handel's Messiah with the Montreal Symphony in 1982, conducted by Christopher Hogwood. Peter moved to Europe in 1987 and continued his vocal studies and the building of his solo tenor career in Manchester, Florence and London. His professional choral experience includes membership in the Tudor Singers, Winchester Cathedral Choir, Bayreuth Festival Chorus and the Monteverdi Choir conducted by Sir John Eliot Gardiner. As a soloist, Peter has taken part in concerts and festivals throughout Europe and in Korea, the USA and Japan. In Canada, he has been a featured soloist with the Vancouver Symphony, the Toronto Symphony, Vancouver Opera, the Victoria

Symphony and Tafelmusik, among others.

Peter began conducting alongside his singing in 1995, and was associate conductor of I Solisti del Madrigale in Florence for several years. He has performed as a tenor soloist and led choral retreats and workshops on the West Coast since moving back to Canada from Europe in 2001 and was Music Director at St. Helen's Anglican Church, Vancouver, from 2002-2012.

Peter founded and directed VancouverVoices (2003-2012) and was appointed Music Director of the Victoria Philharmonic Choir in 2009. Highlights with these two choirs include performances of Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 and Bach's St. Matthew Passion and Mass in B Minor. Peter teaches Senior Choral Music at St. Michaels University School.

Jennifer Turner

SOPRANO - *Gabriel*

Jennifer is known for her powerful, versatile and expressive singing. She is passionate about concert music and has been fortunate to work as a soloist with musical organizations throughout Canada including Pacific Opera Victoria, Manitoba Underground Opera, the Linden Singers, the Victoria Civic Orchestra, the Sooke Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Okanagan Festival Singers. Concert repertoire includes Bach's Magnificat, Mozart's Requiem and Coronation Mass, Haydn's The Creation, Handel's Messiah and Judas Maccabeus, Vivaldi's Gloria

and Fauré's Requiem. Operatic highlights include a trio of Mozart roles: Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte*, the Countess in *Marriage of Figaro*, and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni*.

Jennifer performs regularly with Pacific Opera Victoria in recital and most recently in the role of Donna in their mainstage production of Handel's *Rinaldo* under the baton of Timothy Vernon. Other highlights include touring with well-known Canadian baritone Gino Quilico and collaborative pianist Robert Holliston for a concert of opera excerpts representing historical Canadian singers. Jennifer is currently living in Winnipeg for a M.Mus. under the tutelage of Tracy Dahl. Previously, she worked with Nancy Argenta and Ingrid Attrot at the Victoria Conservatory of Music. She is delighted to be performing *The Creation* – one of her personal favourites – with the Victoria Philharmonic Choir.

Anne van der Sloot

SOPRANO - *Eve*

Noted for her "serenity" (Heifetz, 2019) in performance, soprano Anne van der Sloot is fresh in her solo career as a post-secondary student under the instruction of Nancy Argenta. She ignited her career singing as soprano soloist in Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 with the Victoria Philharmonic Choir in 2017; she joined the Philharmonic choir again in 2019 as soloist in Mozart's Mass in C minor. Anne has been featured as Iphis in Handel's *Jephtha* with the Heifetz International Music Institute in 2019, Handel's *Solomon* and



Victoria Philharmonic Choir

Bach's Cantata 202 Weichet nur betrübte schatten at the 2018 VCM Baroque Oratorio program, and she continues to be featured in baroque selections with the Victoria Baroque Players, including solos in Bach's Cantata 62 Öffne Dich, Lotti's Missa Sapientiae, and Kuhnau's Weicht ihr Sorgen aus dem Herzen.

Anne has sung in VCM's Opera Studio as Erste Dame in Mozart's Die Zauberflöte and chorus roles in Purcell's Fairy Queen and Mozart's Così fan Tutte; she is currently preparing the role of Romilda in Handel's Xerxes for Opera Studio's 2020 production. Her voice led her win first place in the 2018 BC intermediate provincials, as well as numerous awards at VCM song competitions. She is currently a McCrae Choral Scholar at the church of St. John the Divine. At 19, Anne's drive to perform is fresh and without end in sight.

Jan van der Hooff TENOR - *Uriel*

Canadian lyric tenor Jan van der Hooff has been described as "a rare breed, comfortable with high tessitura, and showing an exciting lyricism in the sound."* Current season highlights include debuts with several west coast organizations including Pacific Opera Victoria (Il Trittico and Missing) and Vancouver Opera (Flight of the Hummingbird), as well as local groups such as the Victoria Civic Orchestra (Messiah) and the Sooke Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus. Prior to the 2019/2020 season, Jan spent two years as a resident artist with the Calgary

Young Artist program where his performing credits included his company debut as Tybalt in Gounod's Romeo et Juliette (2018) and The Nephew, in the world premiere of Veronika Krause's Ghost Opera (2019). This is Jan's first engagement with the Victoria Philharmonic Choir.

* Jenna Simeonov - schmopera.com

William Constable BASS - *Raphael*

William is in the second and final year of his Master's degree at the University of British Columbia, and is set to graduate later this spring. He's also relatively new to the world of vocal music: although originally a clarinetist attending UVic, William began studying voice in 2016 at the behest of Benjamin Butterfield. He trained under bass soloist Gary Relyea for two-and-a-half years, at which point he was contacted by UBC and offered a spot in their Master's program in Opera Performance. His stage debut came in January 2019, in the role of the high priest Sarastro from Mozart's Die Zauberflöte, followed by Don Giovanni's Commendatore in June and a reprise of Sarastro one month later, in Czechia. In UBC Opera's current season, he has performed the roles of Luther and Schlemil in Offenbach's Les Contes d'Hoffmann and SS Mann 2 in Пассажирка (The Passenger) by Mieczysław Weinberg.

(Also, he's 6'10" and couldn't play basketball to save his life - just in case you were wondering!)

Louis Dillon BASS - *Adam*

Born and raised in Halfmoon Bay, BC, bass-baritone Louis Dillon owes his love of singing to his mother, a voice teacher. He currently studies with Ingrid Attrot and Nancy Argenta and is completing a diploma in Vocal Performance at the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

Recent roles include Guccio in Gianni Schicchi, Papageno in The Magic Flute, the 2nd Prisoner in Fidelio, Customs Sergeant in La Bohème Guglielmo in Così Fan Tutte, Al in City Workers in Love, and Bartolo in Le Nozze di Figaro. Louis has performed with many groups around the island and lower mainland, including Pacific Opera Victoria, East Van Opera, Bach on the Rock, the VCM orchestra, Sooke Philharmonic, and the Victoria Baroque Players, and placed 1st at the 2017 Performing Arts BC Provincials.

VICTORIA PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

SOPRANOS

Sarah Ashton
Juliet Beckwith
Hanna Bendtsen
Barbara Duffield
Jennifer Earle
Carol Elder
Flori Ens
Maribel Flores
Muna Hamlin
Mary Healing
Susie Henderson
Mary Kenderdine
Mary Ann Laing
Alison McCallum
Hannah Murphy
Judith Swanston
Kathryn Tate
Irene Timms
Maureen Van Wyck
Annette Wetherly

ALTOS

Margaret Argue
Andrea Ashton
Jennifer Bertsch
Eva Bild
Sue Clough
Lois Dimoff
Alexandra Gardner
Rosalie Hargrove
Mary Healing
Barbara Hoffman
Shelley Hordiyuk
Daphne Hughes
Sherry Lepage
Ruth McGhee
Helen Oneson
Leslie Painter
Kathleen Ramage
Ann Schau
Kathleen Sheffield
Maggie Wood

TENORS

David Ashton
Monty Clements
David Crampton
Paul Delorme
Charles Douglas
Randy Enkin
Pierre MacKenzie
Jon O'Riordan

BASSES

Felix Butterfield
Ron Crabtree
Adrian Dolling
Don Fetherston
David Healing
Robin Hine
Douglas Jackson
John Kaye
Russ Linney
Ian MacDonald
Colin Millard
Peter Orme
Shaun Peck
David Pimm
Keefer Pollard
Michael Poole
Mikkel Schau
Peter Savage
John Sease
Alf Wiebe

REHEARSAL PIANIST

Julian Greenwood

ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN 1

Simon MacDonald
(Concertmaster)
Tyson Doknjas
Hanna Crudele

VIOLIN 2

Barb Gilroy *
Elyssa Lefurgey-Smith
Heather Bowness

VIOLA

David Visentin *
Guyonne Le Louarn

CELLO

Martin Bonham *
Laura Backstrom

BASS

Alex Olson *

FLUTE

Soile Stratkauskas *

OBOE

Jackie Kereluk *

CLARINET

Liam Hockley *

BASSOON

Katrina Russell *

BASSOON 2 / CONTRABASSOON

Robyn Jutras *

FRENCH HORN

Darnell Linwood *

TRUMPET

Marianne Ing *

TIMPANI

Masako Hockey *

**DON'T MISS
OUR NEXT CONCERT:**

GIOACCINO ROSSINI'S
Petite Messe Solennelle

an exuberant, operatic setting of the Mass

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2020 7.30PM

St. Mary the Virgin Church, Oak Bay

Ticket info: vpchoir.ca

Other performances we recommend:

**THE PASSION
OF JOAN OF ARC**

*A 1928 silent film by Carl Dreyer,
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Voices of Light soundtrack
by Richard Einhorn, and
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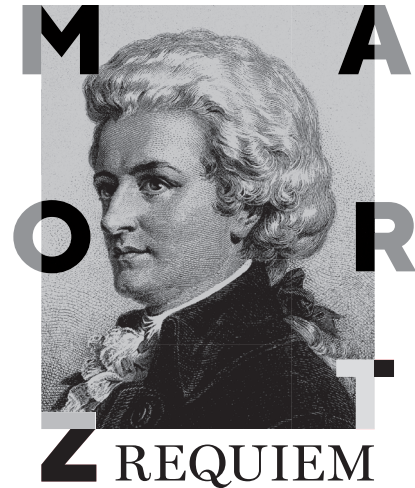
March 29th, 7:30 PM
Farquhar Auditorium, UVIC
Tickets: \$40/\$25
voxhumanachoir.ca



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CHAMBER CHOIR
Brian Wismath, Conductor



VICTORIA CHORAL SOCIETY | BRIAN WISMATH, MUSIC DIRECTOR



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victoria
baroque



2019/2020
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Ivy's Bookshop, Munro's Books, McPherson Box Office and at the door

victoria-baroque.com victoria-baroque@shaw.ca 250.590.9770

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Soloist Circle (\$250-\$499):

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Accompanist Circle (Up to \$249):

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Special thanks to:

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Hold this thought.

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online through the Canada Helps link:
<https://vpchoir.ca/donate>

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If you are considering a donation of securities, or remembering the VPC with a legacy gift, please contact Board Chair John Kaye through our secure webmail: vpchoir.ca/contact