

BLAIR
CON
CERT
SERIES
FALL 2019

Blair School of Music

PRESENTS

**Vanderbilt Chorale
and Vanderbilt Symphonic Choir**

Tucker Biddlecombe, *conductor*

with Vocal Arts Nashville

Matthew Phelps, *conductor*

Many Voices, One Spirit

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall



VANDERBILT
BLAIR SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Many Voices, One Spirit

Friday, September 27, 2019

8:00 p.m.

Ingram Hall

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis
(1505 – 1585)

Combined choirs

Missa Brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo;
“Kleine Orgelmesse” (Little Organ Mass)

Joseph Haydn
(1732 – 1809)

Kyrie
Gloria
Credo
Sanctus
Benedictus

Olivia Troyer, soprano

Agnus Dei

Polly Brecht, organ

Ben Ellenbogen, Kaela Scheidmantle, violins
Olivia Hunt, cello, Ben Sposet, double bass

Hard Times

Stephen Foster, arr. Nick Johnson
(1826 – 1864)

Nick Gehring, Joe McInvale,
Julius Tabery, Billy Pickus, soloists
Kaela Scheidmantle, fiddle

Si mes vers avaient des ailes

Reynaldo Hahn
(1874 – 1947)

Sarah Bronchetti, conductor

Ouvre ton Coeur

Georges Bizet
(1838 – 1875)

Abbey Fitzgerald, conductor

Ndikhokhele Bawo

arr. Michael Barrett

**Sophie Heinz, Anna Zhang,
Matt Tuggle, Jason Brower, soloists
Vanderbilt Symphonic Choir**

Son of God Mass

James Whitbourn
(b. 1963)

Introit
Kyrie
Kyrie Meditation
Gloria
Lava Me
Sanctus and Benedictus
Pax Domini
Agnus Dei
Amen

**Brian Utley, soprano saxophone
Vocal Arts Nashville**

Blow Ye the Trumpet

Kirke Mechem
(b. 1925)

Crucem tuam adoramus Domine

Paweł Łukaszewski
(b. 1968)

Saul

Egil Hovland
(1924 – 2013)

Katie Gillett, narrator

When You Are Old

Scott Perkins
(b. 1980)

Anighya Crocker, conductor

Beati Quorum Via, Op. 38 No. 3

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852 – 1924)

Vanderbilt Chorale

Spem in alium

Tallis

**Vocal Arts Nashville
Vanderbilt Chorale**

VANDERBILT *Chorale*

Soprano

Ava Anderson
Laurel Baldwin-White
Sarah Clements
Katherine Deegan
Arielle Kasnetz
Blair Lipham
Marguerite Manning
Sophia Meyer
Georgia Peake
Puxin Xuanyuan

Tenor

Carlos Ahrens
Davis Crews
Anighya Crocker
Christopher Elliott
Sammy Mangin
Matthew Shorten
Tristan Tournaud
Matthew Youngblood

Alto

Rachael Bell
Grace Brega
Camilia Dillard
Bethany DiSantis
Callie Emery
Katie Gillett
Reilly McNamara
Lila Meretzky
Elyza Wylder

Bass

Jacob Beranek
Adam Conway
Dillon Davey
Michael Fung
Matt Leon
Taylor Lomax
Max Randal
Joshua Sheppard
Daniel Williamson



Soprano

Mary LaCasse Biddlecombe
Sarah Dunnevant
Emma Jackson
Lesley Mann

Alto

Mary Hewlett Elder
Colleen Phelps
Mary Scheib

Tenor

Tucker Biddlecombe
Scott Brons
Anighya Crocker

Bass

Ethan Bennett
Patrick Dunnevant
Daniel Elder

Vanderbilt Symphonic Choir

Soprano

Sophie Ashley
Amelia Donoghue
Margaret Gonzalez
Anna Hunley
Christine Kim
Tara Mack
Hannah Mikita
Ellie Repp
Natalie Thomas
Olivia Troyer

Alto

Carmen Canedo
Grace Chen
Calendula Cheng
Crystal Cheng
Maddy Dethloff
Emma Flores
Sophie Heinz
Chinenye Iroajanma
Megan Kriscovich
Carys Li
Maggie Mershon
Mary Allen Murray
Anna Zhang
Dora Zhang

Tenor

Andy Du
Jacob Friedmann
Nick Gehring
Owen Ladd
Ayden Lee
Joe McInvale
Raphael McKerley-Geier
J.P. Romero
Matt Tuggle

Bass

Kelvin Agyenim-Boateng
Navin Ahire
Jason Brauer
Yiting Chen
Dominic Liu
Samuel Liu
Gianluca Maffei
Noah Mond
Criag Murray
Evan Oates
Billy Pickus
Ruben Roy
Toren Stafford
Julius Tabery
Charlie Tucker
James Yang
Sean Yang
Manny Zagorianos

Matthew Phelps is Minister of Music at West End United Methodist Church and the founder and artistic director of Vocal Arts Nashville. In his third season with Vocal Arts Nashville, Phelps has established the group as one of the premier choral ensembles in Middle Tennessee. Committed to new and engaging programs, he has led the chorus in performances of all six of Bach's motets and the *Actus Tragicus*, Pizzetti's *Requiem*, and a repertoire of small works ranging from renaissance music to premieres of local composers.

At West End, Phelps directs the 70-voice Chancel Choir in worship and performances. This season, Phelps conducts Saint-Saens' *Christmas Oratorio* and Haydn's "Little Organ Mass." The Chancel Choir will also perform at the Southeast Regional Convention of the American Choral Directors Association.

An active pianist and organist, Phelps plays recitals throughout the nation as both a soloist and as a member of the Elliston Trio. He has the distinction of winning awards in three different disciplines, including the 2015 American Prize in Choral Conducting, third place in the 2015 Rogers Classical Organ performance competition, and numerous awards as a pianist and chamber musician. He has guest conducted, lectured, and has given clinics throughout the nation. He received his doctorate in choral conducting from the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, where he studied with Earl Rivers, Mark Gibson, and Stephen Coker.

Tucker Biddlecombe is Associate Professor of Choral Studies at Vanderbilt University's Blair School of Music, where he serves as conductor of the Vanderbilt Chorale and Symphonic Choir. He also directs the Blair-to-Peabody teacher education program, teaching courses in choral conducting and music education. In addition, Biddlecombe is entering his fourth season as Director of the Nashville Symphony Chorus, the vocal arm of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra.

Performance highlights at Vanderbilt have included Mozart's *Requiem*, Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, Haydn's *Creation*, Bernstein's *MASS*, and a collaborative concert with the cutting-edge vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth. His work with the Nashville Symphony has included chorus preparation for the world-premiere recording of Harbison's *Requiem* (Naxos), and other choral-orchestral masterworks by Bernstein, Stravinsky, Ravel, Haydn, Verdi, Handel and Mahler. Under his direction, the Nashville Symphony Chorus recently toured Prague, Czech Republic, performing Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Projects this season

include the world-premiere recording of Gabriela Lena-Frank's *Conquest Requiem* (Naxos) with the Nashville Symphony and Menotti's *Unicorn, The Gorgon and the Manticore* with the Vanderbilt Chorale.

Biddlecombe is a passionate advocate of music education and a veteran public school music teacher. In 2019 he completed a residency with the Central Conservatory in Beijing, China, where he was honored to work with student and professional choral educators. He is in-demand as a conductor and clinician, having served as a clinician to choirs in 25 states, and has conducted numerous all-state choruses and honor choirs. Biddlecombe is a graduate of SUNY Potsdam and Florida State University, where he completed doctoral studies in choral conducting and music education with André Thomas. He resides in Nashville with his wife Mary Biddlecombe, Artistic Director of the Blair Children's Chorus.

Polly Brecht is organist/music associate at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville, university organist for Vanderbilt, and faculty member of the Blair School. She holds degrees in piano and organ performance as well as the Performer's Certificate from Indiana University and the Doctorate in Organ Performance and Harpsichord Certificate from Florida State University. She has also studied at the Baroque Performance Institute at Oberlin and the Eastman School.

Prior to moving to Nashville, Brecht was associate professor at MTSU, heading the theory department and teaching organ and harpsichord for 10 years. She has held several church positions, won several competitions, and is an active solo and collaborative performer on piano, harpsichord, and organ.

With the presentation of the 2019-2020 Concert Series, the Blair School of Music gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their generous support.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Vanderbilt Chorale and Symphonic Choir

Tucker Biddlecombe, *conductor*

with Vocal Arts Nashville

Matthew Phelps, *conductor*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**4:00 p.m., West End United Methodist Church
(2200 West End Ave.)**

Vanderbilt's choirs present a concert built around the 40-part motet *Spem in alium* by Thomas Tallis, a work that has been called the crowning achievement of English Renaissance music. This exceptional piece for eight five-part choirs was arranged to create unforgettable spatial as well as textural effects. For this tour de force of choral complexity and compositional ingenuity, the Vanderbilt Chorale will be joined by Vocal Arts Nashville, Music City's professional chamber choir.

Calypso Celebration

with J. Hunter Moore, *lecturer* and

Mat Britain, *steel drums*

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30

6 p.m., Ingram Hall

J. Hunter Moore, Fulbright Scholar and long-time Nashville resident will discuss his research and interviews with Trinidad and Tobago musicians and Mat Britain, Blair instructor of Steel Drumming, will perform on steel pans. The Calypso Celebration includes a light reception of Caribbean food.

blair.vanderbilt.edu

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