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Master Singers of Milwaukee

Zack Durlam, Artistic Director

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## **Saying Our Peace**

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**Saturday May 13, 2023 ♦ 7:30 PM**

Oak Creek Performing Arts Center  
340 E. Puetz Road ♦ Oak Creek, WI

## ~ Saying Our Peace ~

### Master Singers of Milwaukee

Zack Durlam, Artistic Director ♦ Jayne Latva, Pianist

#### Ave Maris Stella

Trond Kverno (b. 1945)

Hail ocean's star,  
God's mother dear,  
Likewise ever a virgin,  
Blest heavenly gate.

Receiving that Ave  
From Gabriel's lips  
Settle us in peace,  
Reversing Eva's name.

Loose their chains for the guilty,  
Bring forth Light for the blind:  
Woes of ours dispel,  
Good in all things ask for us.

Show thyself to be a Mother;  
May He receive through thee our prayers,

Who for us was born and  
Designed to be Thy Son.

Virgin all excelling,  
Among all most meek,  
Us from sin set free,  
Meek make thou and chaste.

Life on us bestow that is pure,  
A way prepare that is safe  
In order that seeing Jesus,  
Always we may rejoice.

Be praise to God the Father,  
To Most High Christ be praise,  
And to the Spirit Holy,  
To the Three be honor equally. Amen.

#### Verleih uns Frieden

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Mercifully grant us peace, Lord God, during our times.  
Indeed, there is no other who could fight for us than you alone, our God.

#### Zikr—An Islamic Chant

A. R. Rahman (b. 1967), arr. Ethan Sperry

*Isaac Zimmerman, soloist • Nicole McCarty, Lauren Heinen, and Jayne Latva, percussion*

*This piece was written for the sound track of a documentary film. The text is religious, but the piece was not intended for a worship ceremony. It is based on the music of the whirling dervishes, Sufi Muslim musicians, who perform this style of music from Egypt across the Silk Road to Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Thailand, and Malaysia.*

*The musicians pick a chant and elaborate upon it while the dancers spin in a circle. As the tempo increases, the dancers spin faster and faster hoping to achieve a trance-like state in which they can commune with the divine.*

**Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah. Allah is one.**

O, those of you who are thirsting, come, the Oneness of Allah calls you! There is no action superior to Zikr, is the saying of the prophet of Allah! Zikr is Peace, Zikr is Victory, Zikr is Healing, Zikr is the Cure. Allah is the only Eternal and Immortal—all else perishes and is returned to Him.

**Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah.**

In every flower, in every soul, in every creation is the Light of Allah. May Allah's Zikr stay in every single heart and every single moment. Zikr is better than hatred. Zikr is better than ignorance. Zikr is better than desires. Zikr is better than back-biting.

## ~ Saying Our Peace ~

**Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah.**

O you the Amazing, O you the Eternal, O you the Beginning, O you the End. O you the Forebearing, O you the Gracious, O you the Greatest, O you the Merciful.

O you the Beneficent, O you the Great.  
O you who teaches us to read.

**Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah.**

### **Sonata Prima per Trombetta Sola, II & III**

Giovanni Buonaventura Viviani (1638–1693)

*Vicki Beck, trumpet • Zack Durlam, piano*

### **TeenTaal— 16 beat rhythm**

Gurus Hari and Chetana

*Cyenthia Vijayakumar*

### **O Vos Omnes**

Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548–1611)

O all you who pass along the way  
Behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.

### **Indodana**

arr. Michael Barrett & Ralf Schmitt

*A traditional South African song that is sung in isiXhosa —one of the official languages of South Africa. It is spoken by approximately eighteen percent of the South African population.*

The Lord has taken his son who lived among us.  
The son of the Lord God was crucified. Father Jehovah.

### **Great God Almighty**

Traditional spiritual, arr. Stacey V. Gibbs

God, great God, a'migh'y, migh'y God.  
Ridin' in a hurry, ridin', ridin' cap'ain  
Ridin' like he angry, bullwhip in one han',  
Ridin' ridin', cap'ain, cowhide in de othuh,  
Cap'ain went to yel'un,  
Did you hear the cap'ain shout?  
Hear de cap'ain comin', ridin'  
Won' be no mo' runnin' and hidin'.

O hear my cry, O Lawd, please hear my plea.  
Bully went to pleadin', O Lawd have mercy.  
Please don' kill me, cap'ain don' you kill me!  
Please don' you kill me!  
No, stop! I'm figh'in till my death.  
I'm gonna keep on a-runnin' till my ver' las' breath.  
Shoutin' great God a'migh'y God!

# ~ Saying Our Peace ~

## Intermission

### The Music of Stillness

Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)

There will be rest, and sure stars shining  
Over the rooftops crowned with snow,  
A reign of rest, serene forgetting.  
The music of stillness, holy, low.  
I will make this world of my devising.  
I will make this world out of a dream,

A dream in my lonely mind.  
Above me, I shall find above me,  
I shall find the crystal of peace,  
And stars I shall find above me.  
I shall find the music of stillness, holy and low.

### El-Helwa Di

Sayyid Darwish, arr. Edward Torikian

*Sayyid Darwish is an Egyptian composer and this piece is written in Egyptian Arabic. Although Islam is the state religion of Egypt, there is a large minority of Coptic Christians. Choral music is particularly strong as a chant and responsorial tradition in the Coptic Church.*

This beautiful one woke up to knead dough early in the morning, and the rooster crows: "ku ku ku" at early dawn. Let us go on and make our living by the name of God, oh, workers! May your morning be a good one, oh, Master Ateyya.

This morning came, oh dear Lord, and there is not a penny in the pocket, but the mood is calm and peaceful among the mistreated workers.

Patience has gone on for too long due to the constant bad situation. You, who have a lot of money, the poor people also have a generous God.

Hands together, Abu Salah, because you will live happily trusting in God. Rely upon the Lord. Come on, time is passing.

The sun is rising, and everything belongs to God! Go seek your living, count on God. Go carry your shovel and tools and let us go.

Hold yourself strong, Abu Salah, fight hard and you will live quietly! Rely upon the Lord. Come on, the time is passing.

# ~ Saying Our Peace ~

## Kasar Mie La Gaji

Alberto Grau (b. 1937)

*For an international mobilization to save the Earth and a conscientious effort regarding the problems of the environment, the inhabitants of the African Sahel say:*

"Kasar mie la gaji.—The Earth is tired."

## The Peace of Wild Things

Joan Szymko (b. 1957)

When despair for the world grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the least sound  
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,  
I go and lie down where the wood drake rests  
in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.  
I come into the peace of wild things

who do not tax their lives with forethought  
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.  
And I feel above me the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light. For a time  
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

—Wendell Berry

## Smile

Charlie Chaplin (1889–1977), arr. Ben Bram

Smile, though your heart is aching.  
Smile even though it's breaking.  
When there are clouds in the sky  
You'll get by.  
If you smile through your fear and sorrow.  
Smile, and maybe tomorrow,  
You'll see the sun come shining through  
For you.

Light up your face with gladness.  
Hide every trace of sadness.  
Although a tear may be ever so near.  
That's the time you must keep on tryin'.  
Smile, what's the use in cryin'.  
You'll find that life is still worthwhile  
If you just smile.

## TaReKiTa

Reena Esmail (b. 1983)

### *Aarambh Kathak Dance School*

*TaReKiTa is a vibrant joyful piece in a raga (an Indian classical melodic framework) called Jog, which incorporates both major and minor modalities into a single scale. The text syllables are onomatopoeic vocalizations of the sounds produced by Indian instruments.*

## Dona nobis pacem

from B Minor Mass, J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

*Vicki Beck, trumpet*

Grant us peace.

## ~ Cyenthia Vijayakumar ~



Cyenthia Vijayakumar is a Kathak performer, teacher, and choreographer from Milwaukee. She has undergone her training in Lucknow Gharana from Guru Murari Sharan Gupta and Guru Hari and Chetna from Bangalore, India. She is currently undergoing her ISTD (Imperial Society for Teachers of Dance) training under MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) Guru Sujata Banerjee from London. She is the Artistic Director of Aarambh Kathak Dance School which she founded in 2019. Aarambh Kathak Dance School is the only school in Wisconsin that is at the forefront of promoting Kathak, which is a north Indian classical dance form.

## ~ Vicki Beck ~



Hailing from the powerfully pragmatic city of Chicago, Vicki Beck is a trumpet player, and aspiring music educator and conductor. Prior to coming to UW–Milwaukee to pursue an MM in trumpet performance and a post-baccalaureate in music education, Vicki completed two bachelor's degrees from the University of Illinois–Chicago. While at UIC, she studied trumpet with Dave Inmon, and conducting with Nicholas Carlson and José Riojas. Here at UWM, Vicki is currently studying trumpet performance with Don Sipe and Kevin Hartman. In addition to working on classical repertoire, Vicki has an extensive background as a freelance jazz trumpet player throughout the Chicagoland area. She has played with several professional big bands, including a performance at the 2019 Chicago Jazz Festival. From a conducting standpoint, Vicki is currently the teaching assistant for the Youth Wind Ensemble and Percussion Program (UWAY). She is also a member of the Graduate Brass Quintet and works on the UWM Graduate Band Staff.

# LACRIMAE NOSTRAE: Music for our tears

An evening to honor crying as part of our stress cycle and how it provides a healthy release for our mind, body, and soul.

Featuring works by:  
William Byrd,  
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and Orlande de Lassus

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# The Master Singers of Milwaukee

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Wendy Lambert  
Beth Lambrecht  
Emma Lehker  
Devan Lenz-Fisher  
Cynthia Matchette  
Lisa Maxfield  
Nicole MCarty  
Krista Parran  
Theresa Peters  
Catherine Purdy  
Maggie Seer  
Rachel Szurek  
Wendy Traeger  
Sarah Wanek  
Hope Zimmermann

## Alto

Rhonda Anderson  
Danielle Bridges  
Jillian Bruss  
Sue Burwell  
Jenna DeVries  
Suzanne Freshley  
Margaret Stetka Girdzius  
Micaela Haggenjos  
Lauren Heinen  
Marilyn Henning  
S. Nelda Hernandez SDS  
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Danielle Jaeger  
Kadee Jankowski  
Ellen Latorraca  
Sarah Melcher  
Hannah Petersen  
Katy Radiske  
Katelynn Rutter  
Lauren Schell  
Marna Tess-Mattner

## Tenor

Dave Bate  
Graham Hartlaub  
Lee Henning  
Sandy Lange  
Bill Lieven  
Trevor McDonald  
Charis Mitchell  
Ed Richards  
Bruce Soto  
Isaac Zimmerman

## Bass

Larsen Birdsong  
Bill Busch  
Joe Hanson  
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- ◆ First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, Jill Bruss and Jim Harris for rehearsal space
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- ◆ Dave Bate for graphic design
- ◆ Marj Cohen for graphic artwork
- ◆ Nicole Chartier for marketing support and guidance

## Zack Durlam, Artistic Director



Dr. Zack Durlam serves as Artistic Director of the Master Singers of Milwaukee, Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, and choir director at Grace Lutheran Church in Grafton, Wisconsin. At UWM, Durlam leads multiple choirs and teaches graduate and undergraduate conducting and choral literature. He previously taught at Fresno Pacific University where his Concert Choir performed at the California Music Educators Association Conference and he was awarded the university's 2013 Faculty Distinguished Service Award. Prior to that, Durlam taught high school vocal music for twelve years—including nine at Iowa City West where his Chamber Choir was chosen to perform at the North Central American Choral Directors Association (NCACDA) conference and the music

department was one of seven programs in the nation named a Gold Signature School by the Grammy Foundation. He received his bachelor's degree from Luther College, master's from the University of Iowa, and doctorate from Michigan State University. Durlam was awarded 3rd place in the college/university division of the 2018–2019 American Prize for Choral Conducting, and the UWM Concert Chorale and UWM combined choirs and orchestra were named national finalists in the same competition. The UWM Concert Chorale under his direction has been featured at the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association (WCDA) and Wisconsin Music Educators Association state conferences and the 2020 ten-state Midwestern ACDA conference. In fall of 2021 they performed with Andrea Bocelli during the Milwaukee stop of his "Believe" tour, and in 2015 they performed with the Rolling Stones at Milwaukee's Summerfest. Durlam has presented at state and regional conferences of ACDA and the National Association for Music Educators, and he frequently works as a guest conductor, and clinician. Durlam currently serves as president of WCDA.

## Jayne Latva, Pianist



Jayne Latva is a freelance keyboard player who enjoys a wide variety of assignments. As a staff accompanist for the Houston and Milwaukee Ballet companies, she was the soloist in over 20 productions. In 2012 Jayne presented a paper entitled *Robert Schumann's Six Fugues on B-A-C-H: Inner Workings Inner World* at the national convention of the American Guild of Organists. A collection of her arrangements of Asian hymns is published by Augsburg. Jayne holds a doctorate in Piano Literature and Pedagogy from Indiana University.

# Thank You to Our Donors

Master Singers of Milwaukee acknowledges the individuals, corporations and foundations who provide support and whose generosity confirms the importance of choral music in our community. The following list contains names of those who have contributed in the last 18 months. Thank you for your support!

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