

SKYLARK



SUB ROSA

Tuesday, April 26, 2022: Phillips Exeter Academy
Wednesday, April 27, 2022: Belleville Church
Thursday, April 28, 2022: First Parish Weston
Friday, April 29, 2022: Simon Center for the Arts
Saturday, April 30, 2022: Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

We kindly ask you to turn off your cellular phones and to hold your applause until the conclusion of the program.



⊗ Orzchis

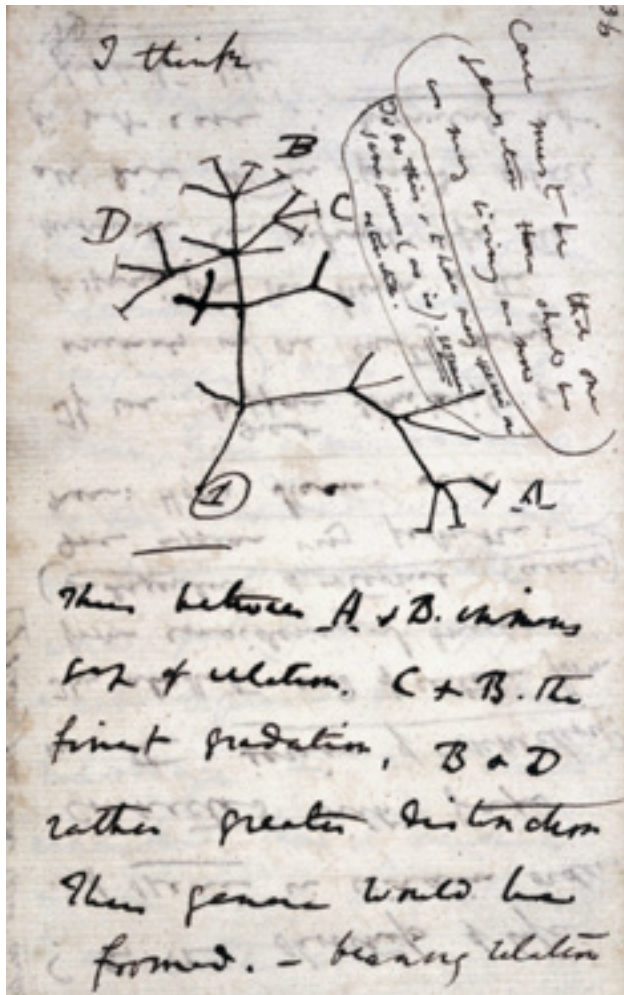
O orzchis Ecclesia,
ar mis divinis præcincta,
et hyazintho ornata,
tu es caldemia stigmatum loifolum
et urbs scientiarum.
O, o, tu es etiam crizanta in alto sono
et es chorzta gemma.

*O vast Church,
girded with divine arms,
and adorned with hyacinths,
you are the fragrance of the wounds of peoples
and the city of knowledge.
O, you are indeed anointed with a lofty sound,
and you are a sparkling gem.*

Music and illustrations: Hildegard Von Bingen (1098-1179)
Vision of the angelic hierarchy
Frontispiece of Scivias
First vision: Fiery life-force

Cover etchings: Brian D. Cohen





Missa Charles Darwin

Introitus: Tropus ad Kyrie

Ignorance more frequently begets confidence than does knowledge

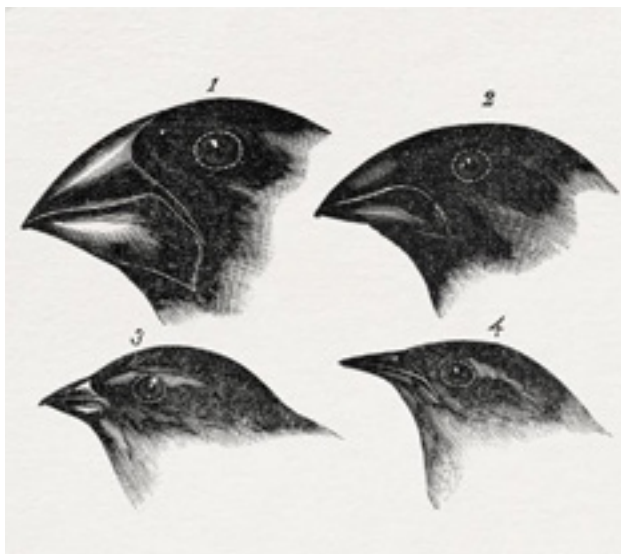
-Introduction to the Descent of Man

Kyrie, eleison
Christe, eleison
Kyrie, eleison

Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy

One general law, leading to the advancement of all organic beings, namely, multiply, vary, let the strongest live and the weakest die

-From On the Origin of the Species (1859), Chapter 7: instinct

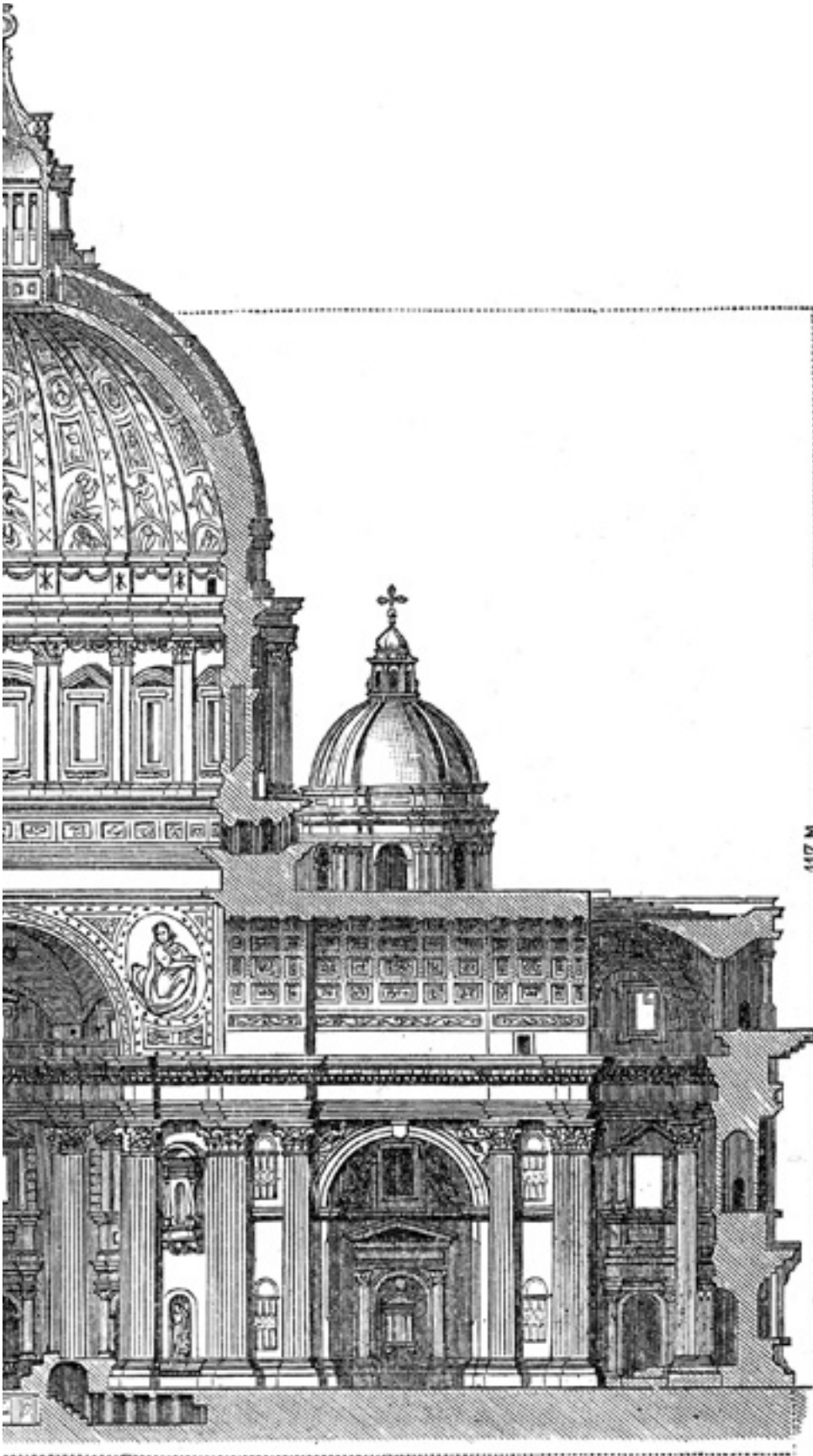


Music: Gregory W. Brown (b. 1974)

Illustrations: Charles Darwin

Handwritten notes (1837)

Finches (1845)



Tu es Petrus

Tu es Petrus,
et super hanc petram
aedificabo ecclesiam meam:
et portae inferi
non praevallebunt adversus eam.

*You are Peter,
And upon this Rock
I will build My Church:
and the gates of hell
shall not overcome it.*

Music: Giuseppe Jannacconi (1740-1816)
Illustration: St. Peter's Basilica, antique print

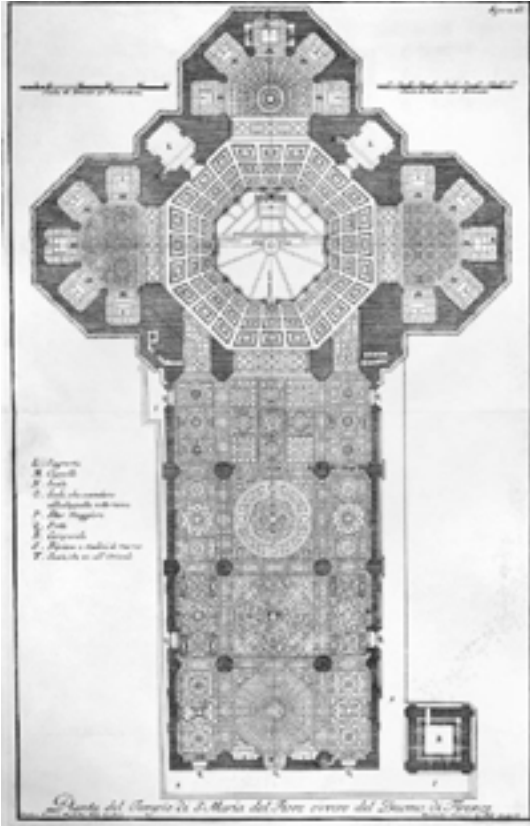
S A T O R
A R E P O
T E N E T
O P E R A
R O T A S

Music: Melissa Dunphy (b. 1980)
Photograph: Abbey of San Pietro ad Oratorium, Capecstrano, Abruzzo



Early

Nuper Rosarum Flores



Nuper rosarum flores
Ex dono pontificis
Hieme licet horrida
Tibi, virgo coelica,
Pie et sancte deditum
Grandis templum machinae
Condecorarunt perpetim.

*Recently roses (came)
as a gift from the Pope,
despite the cruel winter,
to you, heavenly Virgin,
to whom a temple of magnificent design
is dedicated dutifully and through sacred rites.
Together may they be perpetual ornaments.*

Cantus firmus:
Terribilis est locus iste

*Refrain:
Awe-inspiring is this place*

Hodie vicarius
Jesu Christi et Petri
Successor Eugenius
Hoc idem amplissimum
Sacris templum manibus
Sanctisque liquoribus
Consecrare dignatus est.

*Today the Vicar
of Jesus Christ
and Peter's successor, Eugenius,
has the honour to consecrate
this same most
spacious sacred temple
with his hands and with holy water.*

Cantus firmus

Refrain

Igitur, alma parens
Nati tui et filia
Virgo decus virginum,
Tuus te Florentiae
Devotus orat populus,
Ut qui mente et corpore
Mundo quicquam exorarit

*Therefore, gracious mother
and daughter of your own Son,
virgin, ornament of virgins,
the people of your city of Florence
devoutly pray
that whoever entreats you with a pure mind and
body may,*

Cantus firmus

Refrain

Oratione tua
Cruciatu et merit
Tui secundum carnem
Nati Domini sui
Grata beneficia
Veniamque reatum
Accipere mereatur.

*through your prayer,
your anguish and merits,
be found worthy to receive of the Lord,
born of you as all flesh is,
the benefits of grace
and the remission
of sins.*

Cantus firmus.

Refrain

Amen.

Amen.



Music: Guillaume Dufay (1397-1474)
Illustrations: Florence Duomo, Antique drawings

WINTER

Salve Radix

Salve radix varios producat germinibus ramos
quos inter ramus supereminet altior unus,
cuius et ex summo purpura rosa micat,
qua stant unanimes pax et Iustitia septe,
claudunturque foras dissona corda senum.

*Hail, Root, bringing forth varying branches from the bud,
Among which one branch rises above,
From whose top the purple rose gleams;
By which Peace and Justice stand enclosed and united;
And the dissonant hearts of old men are closed outside.*

Music: Richard Sampson (d. 1554)

The Evening Primrose

When once the sun sinks in the west,
And dew-drops pearl the Evening's breast;
Almost as pale as moonbeams are,
Or its companionable star,
The Evening Primrose opes anew
Its delicate blossoms to the dew;
And hermit-like, shunning the light,
Wastes its fair bloom upon the Night;
Who, blindfold to its fond caresses,
Knows not the beauty he possesses.
Thus it blooms on while Night is by;
When Day looks out with open eye,
'Bashed at the gaze it cannot shun,
It faints, and withers, and is gone.

Music: Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Ut Rosa

Flos ut rosa floruit
Quando virgo genuit
Maria, salvatorem omnium
Summi patris filium
Nova geniture.

*A flower blossomed like a rose
when born of the Virgin Mary,
was the savior of mankind
of the Father above, the Son,
in a new birth.*

Music: Per Nørgård (b. 1932)



Frontispiece of *Salve Radix* (1516)

Evening Primrose Botanical Print, Charlotte Gower (1863)



III

Liberate us, Save us

Liberate us,
save us,
justify us,
O blessed Trinity.

*Free us,
save us,
defend us,
O blessed Trinity.*



Music: John Sheppard (1515-1558)
Illustration: Woodcut, Antwerp, 1519



Mater Dei

The threefold terror of love; a fallen flare
Through the hollow of an ear;
Wings beating about the room;
The terror of all terrors that I bore
The Heavens in my womb.

Had I not found content among the shows
Every common woman knows,
Chimney corner, garden walk,
Or rocky cistern where we tread the clothes
And gather all the talk?

What is this flesh I purchased with my pains,
This fallen star my milk sustains,
This love that makes my heart's blood stop
Or strikes a Sudden chill into my bones
And bids my hair stand up?

Music: Sarah Rimkus (b. 1990)
Text: W. B. Yeats (1865-1939)
Image: *Madonna on a Crescent Moon in Hortus Conclusus*, Unknown (1450s)

Fire



Music: Fahad Siadat (b. 1982)
Image: Ancient Aethonian relief carving

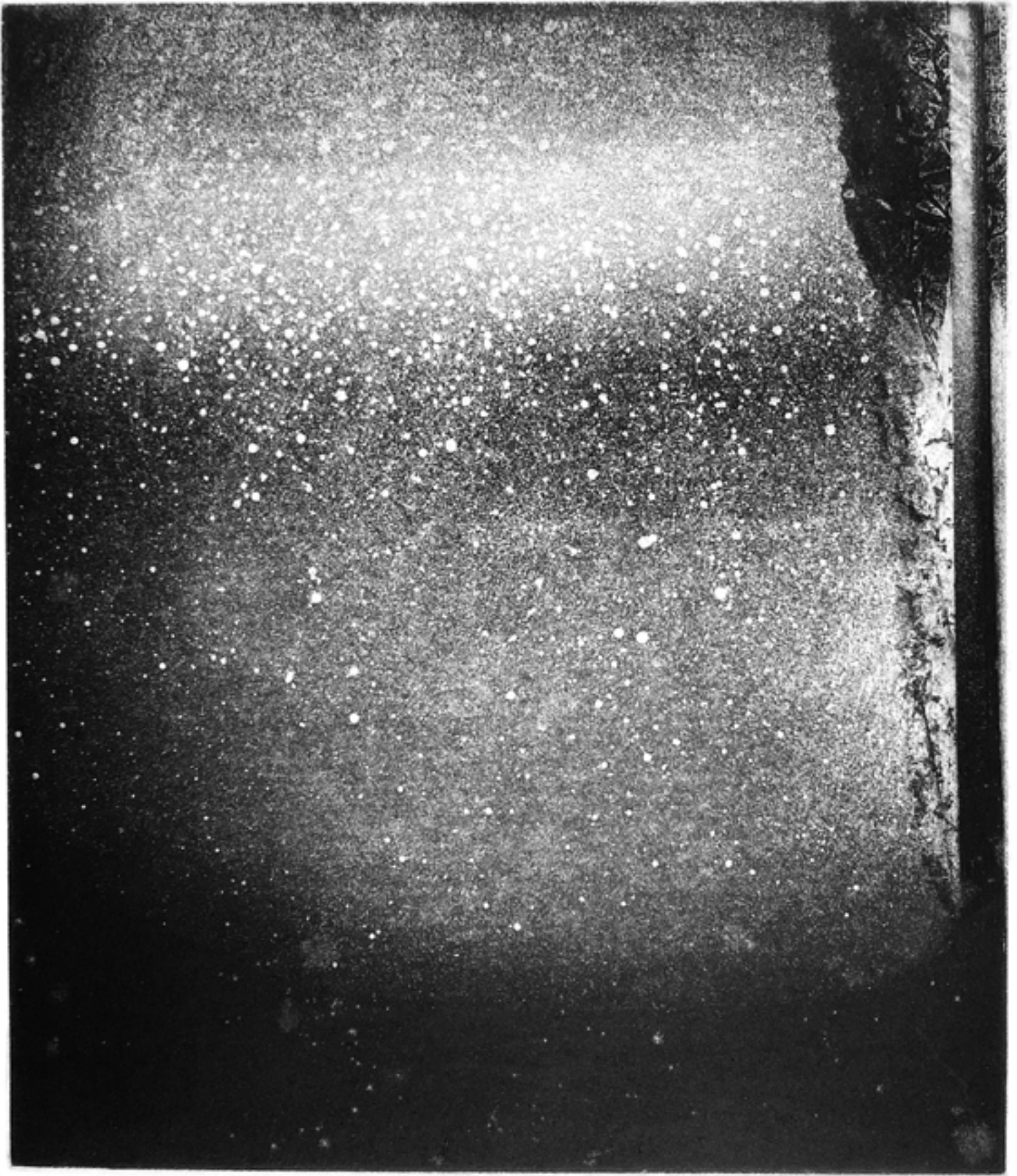


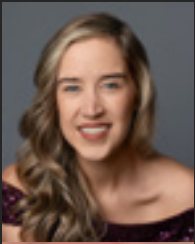
Music: Gregory W. Brown (b. 1974)
Ambigram designs: John Langdon

I mmortal B ach

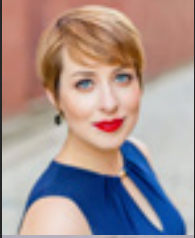
Komm süßer Tod,	<i>Come, sweet death,</i>
komm selge Ruh!	<i>come blessed rest!</i>
Komm, führe mich in Friede.	<i>Come, lead me to peace.</i>

Music: Knut Nystedt (1915-2014)
Based on the chorale by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Opposite page etching: *Tree and Stars*, Brian D. Cohen





Soprano Sarah Moyer’s recent and upcoming solo work includes performances with the Aspen Chamber Symphony, Bourbon Baroque, Lost Dog New Music Ensemble, Emmanuel Music, and Boston Modern Orchestra Project. She has performed American premieres by Melani and Nørgård, and world premieres by Harbison, Kallembach, Theofanidis, and Runestad, among others. As a choral artist, she appears with GRAMMY® nominated groups Skylark, Seraphic Fire, Conspirare, Clarion Music Society, True Concord, as well as Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Variant 6, Artefact, and Spire. She enjoys playing the ukulele, and racing triathlons and hiking with her husband Josh. www.sopranosarahmoyer.com.



Fotina Naumenko, soprano, has been praised for her “radiant voice” (Boston Globe), described as both “angelic” (MusicWeb International) and “capable of spectacular virtuosic hi-jinks” (Boston Musical Intelligencer). Fotina’s singing encompasses a wide variety of vocal genres including oratorio, opera, art song, choral and contemporary music, both as a soloist and ensemble musician. Ensemble credits include Grammy® award-winning Conspirare, the Experiential Chorus, Grammy® nominated groups Clarion, the Saint Tikhon Choir, and PaTRAM, among many others. Fotina serves on the voice faculty of Shenandoah Conservatory and lives in the Washington, DC area with her husband and their two cats, Pumpkin and Noodle.



Soprano Janet Stone’s first musical exploration was at age four, when she would sing “Row, row, row your boat” repetitively, at increasingly higher keys, to her parents’ chagrin. Located in Boston, Janet sings with multiple professional ensembles, including Skylark Ensemble, Ensemble Altera, and The Bach Project. She enjoys working with composers, and has premiered works by Patricia Van Ness, Elena Ruehr, and others. She served as section leader and featured soloist at Trinity Church, Boston for seven years. In her free time, Janet is training to be a professional cat lady. You can follow her feline friend on Instagram @obiewancatnobi.



Soprano Alissa Ruth Suver’s warmth, clarity, and flexibility have allowed her to perform a wide variety of repertoire across the United States, both as a soloist and ensemble singer. Currently based in Fort Worth, Texas, Alissa can be heard with a variety of professional choral ensembles around the country, including the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Skylark, Orpheus Chamber Singers, Verdigris Ensemble, Conspirare, The Crossing, and True Concord. In addition to her performance work, Alissa is currently the Assistant Choir Director for the thriving choral program at Timber Creek High School in Keller, TX. She loves painting, cooking, and yoga.



Julia Soojin Cavallaro, mezzo-soprano, is an experienced solo and ensemble singer whose repertoire spans oratorio, opera, art song, choral, and chamber music. Praised for her “warm mezzo, perfect diction, and easy phrasing” (New York Classical Review), she has performed with leading ensembles across the United States, including the Boston Early Music Festival, Boston Opera Collaborative, Handel and Haydn Society, New Camerata Opera, New York Philharmonic, and True Concord Voices & Orchestra. A graduate of Harvard College and Boston University, she lives in New Haven with her husband, two cats, and dog. Together they enjoy hiking, cooking, and watching foreign films.



Praised for having “the voice of an angel,” mezzo-soprano and contemporary vocalist Carrie Cheron defies the definition of genre. She has performed as a soloist with and as an ensemble member of such groups as the Boston Baroque, the Handel + Haydn Society, the American Classical Orchestra, Arcadia Players, Yale Choral Artists, and Atlanta’s New Trinity Baroque. Carrie is also a nationally recognized, award-winning, performing singer/songwriter and has shared the stage with such acclaimed artists as Sweet Honey In The Rock, The Barra MacNeils, David Jacobs-Strain, Anais Mitchell, and Edie Carey. She is on the voice faculty at Berklee College of Music. www.carriecheron.com

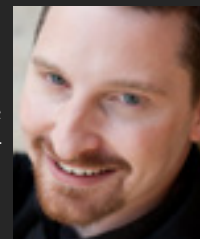


Mezzo-soprano Helen Karloski has been praised for her “genuine mezzo timbre” (Opera News) and a voice “beautifully suited for oratorio” (Santa Fe New Mexican). Ms. Karloski made her Lincoln Center debut in Mozart’s Solemn *Vespers* with the Mostly Mozart Festival and her Carnegie Hall debut performing Mozart’s *Mass in C Minor* with the Oratorio Society of New York. Recent appearances include Pergolesi’s *Stabat Mater*, (Harry Bicket), Dvorák’s *Stabat Mater* (Omaha Symphony), Beethoven’s *Ninth Symphony* (American Classical Orchestra), Handel’s *Messiah* (TENET), and Mendelssohn’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (New York City Ballet). Helen enjoys exploring the world with her husband Paul.

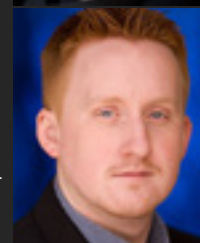


Hailed as “astonishing” (Gramophone) and “as good as they come” (MusicWeb International), mezzo-soprano Clare McNamara brings her versatility to a wide variety of early and new repertoire throughout the United States and abroad. One of Skylark’s longest-standing members, she has maintained affiliations as a soloist and ensemble member with groups such as Handel+Haydn Society, Cut Circle, Lorelei Ensemble, The Boston Camerata, the Staunton Music Festival, and the Washington Bach Consort. Clare’s pandemic time has included getting married over Zoom, learning to appreciate wedding, and teaching herself how to nap.

Paul D’Arcy is in demand nationally as a soloist and chamber musician. Recent solo appearances include Handel’s *Messiah* and Mozart’s *Requiem* with the Austin Symphony, as well as Mendelssohn’s *Elijah*, Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio*, and Mozart *Requiem Undead*. Concert work in NYC includes Musica Sacra, St. John the Divine, Trinity Wall Street, Musica Viva, American Classical Orchestra, and Orchestra of St. Luke’s. National ensembles include Seraphic Fire, San Diego Bach Collegium, True Concord, Ensemble Origo, and Spire. Discography includes Harmonia Mundi, Reference, Naxos, and PBS, including Conspirare’s 2015 Grammy winning CD. Paul also enjoys making barrel-aged cocktails, cooking, and traveling.



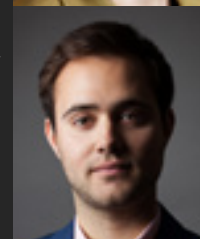
Tenor Erik Gustafson is nationally active as an oratorio soloist and choral artist, and teaches voice at Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO. Erik has collaborated on two GRAMMY® Award-winning recordings with the Phoenix Chorale, and albums with Bach Collegium San Diego, Conspirare, True Concord, Spire Chamber Ensemble, and Sounding Light. He performs regularly with Seraphic Fire and Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and is a founder of Quadrivium. Past solo highlights include Bach’s St. John Passion with Arizona Bach Festival, Handel’s *Messiah* with Tucson Symphony Orchestra, and Bach’s *Christmas Oratorio* with Oregon Bach Festival. Erik is a connoisseur of craft beer.



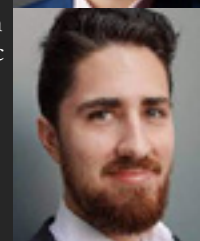
Nathan Hodgson is a New York based tenor specializing in early music, chamber music, and choral singing. He sings with the Schola Cantorum at The Church of Saint Vincent Ferrer in New York City and performs with ensembles across the nation. A native of DFW, Nathan studied at the University of North Texas and, after receiving a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, sang regularly in the Dallas area with ensembles including the Orpheus Chamber Singers, Dallas Bach Society, and Denton Bach Society before moving to New York City in 2015. Nathan’s extramusical pursuits include baking, hiking, and kickboxing.



Robbie Jacobs studied Music at King’s College Cambridge, where he was the Senior Choral Scholar under Stephen Cleobury, and holds a Master’s in Choral Conducting from the Royal Academy of Music. He has sung with *Tenebrae*, *The Sixteen*, and *The Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula* at the Tower of London. As a conductor, he is the Co-Artistic Director of *Reverie Choir*, was the Acting Artistic Director of the London Youth Choir, has worked extensively with the National Youth Choir of Great Britain, and was the inaugural Conducting Scholar for *Genesis Sixteen*, under Harry Christophers and Eamonn Dougan. He is currently Director of Artistic Programming for the Boston Children’s Chorus.



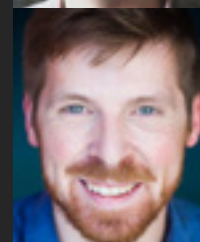
Nathan Halbur, baritone, performs in solo and choral capacities throughout Boston and its environs. In addition to singing with *Cantata Singers* since September 2019, he has worked with ensembles including *Emmanuel Music* and the *Metropolitan Chorale* (with whom he is Artist in Residence) and has appeared with the Boston Pops in their Holiday Pops Tour. Before moving to New England, he lived in California, acting as Musical Director of the *Davis Chamber Choir* and studying Physics at the University of California, Davis. He is Artistic Director of *Causeway Chamber Soloists* (an organization dedicated to producing recitals and recordings of vocal chamber music) and is an active composer and arranger of vocal music. He is half of the jazz/neo-soul duo *Dreamglow* as vocalist, keyboardist, and producer.



Michael Hawes is a Bass-Baritone Singer and Trumpeter living in Chicago. Music Director of St. Cornelius Church, he is also a member of *Axiom Brass*, an award winning Brass Quintet that tours the world. Michael sings with the *Clarion Choir*, *Seraphic Fire*, and is so honored and excited to join ranks with *Skylark* this season. Recent performances have taken him to Taiwan, Russia, the Dominican Republic, France, England, Canada and across the United States. In his spare time you’ll likely find him chasing frisbees into Lake Michigan, as thrown by his wife Nini. You can learn more at michaelhawesmusic.com.



Christopher Jackson, Bass, is *Skylark*’s Director of Educational Outreach and in his sixth year as a core member of the ensemble. He is a professional singer, conductor, and music educator, now beginning his third year as the Head of Choral and Vocal Studies at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Christopher is regularly sought as guest conductor for high school festivals, and he has sung with a variety of professional ensembles across the country, including *Roomful of Teeth*, *South Dakota Chorale*, *Santa Fe Desert Chorale*, and *Bach Vespers* at Holy Trinity Lutheran of NYC. Cat-person, cook, reader, traveler, and whiskey enthusiast.



Baritone David Tinervia has performed as a soloist throughout the United States and Canada. A two-season fellow of the Tanglewood Music Center, Mr. Tinervia recently made his Tanglewood debut as *The Traveler* in *Curlew River* in collaboration with the Mark Morris Dance Group. In January, he was a finalist of the 2016 New England Regional Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Notable engagements this season include the premiere recording of James Kallembach’s *Most Sacred Body* with Scott Allen Jarrett and Marsh Chapel in Boston, as well as the world premiere of Nina C. Young’s work for baritone and orchestra, *Out of whose womb came the ice*, commissioned by the American Composer’s Orchestra in NYC



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Script editing: Matthew Guard, Gregory Brown, Dan Brown
Live visual presentation design: Gregory Brown
Printed program design: Matthew Guard
Program cover etchings: Brian D. Cohen (briandcohen.com)
Element ambigrams: John Langdon
Original music for the program: Gregory Brown and Melissa Dunphy
Composer interviews: Melissa Dunphy, Sarah Rimkus, Fahad Siadat
Special thanks: Kristofer Johnson, Barb Darby & Phillips Exeter; Yehuda Hanani and Close Encounters with Music; John Stookey; Gregory Brown and Mary Hubbell; Dan Brown

CREATIVE TEAM



Composer Gregory W. Brown's music has been heard on American Public Media's Performance Today, BBC Radio, Minnesota Public Radio, Kansas Public Radio, and Danish National Radio; his *Missa Charles Darwin* received its European debut in March 2013 at the Dinosaur Hall of Berlin's Museum für Naturkunde. Brown's works have been performed across the United States and Europe — most notably at Cadogan Hall in London, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, and Carnegie Hall in New York City. His latest major work — *Fall & Decline* — was released on Navona Records in 2021.



Dan Brown is the author of numerous #1 bestselling novels, including *The Da Vinci Code*, which has become one of the best selling novels of all time as well as the subject of intellectual debate among readers and scholars. Brown's novels are published in 56 languages around the world with over 200 million copies in print. The son of a mathematics teacher and a church organist, Brown was raised on a prep school campus where he developed a fascination with the paradoxical interplay between science and religion. These themes eventually formed the backdrop for his books. He is a graduate of Amherst College and Phillips Exeter Academy, where he later returned to teach English before focusing his attention full time to writing. He lives in New England with his yellow lab, Winston.



Three-time GRAMMY®-nominee Matthew Guard is widely regarded as one of the most innovative and thoughtful programmers in American choral music. Praised for his “catalyzing leadership” (Q2/WQXR) and “musically creative and intellectually rich” programming (Opera Obsession), Matthew is passionate about communicating something unique in each concert and recording. He scours the world of available repertoire for each program, exhaustively researches each piece, and crafts concerts and printed programs that captivate audiences with their hidden connections and seamless artistry. Matthew is also an active arranger and editor of scores, and has just completed work on a new edition of Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil*, which he will premiere with Skylark in June 2022.

SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Even the best musical groups in America can only count on ticket sales to cover 50% of operating costs. We rely on your generous donations to help us with the balance of our operating budget. As a supporter, you ensure that we continue to:

- * Provide career opportunities for the most talented ensemble singers in the U.S.
- * Offer educational workshops and opportunities for young singers
- * Expand the reach of Skylark's inspiring and engaging programming to audiences across the U.S. and the world

Skylark is a registered 501(c)(3) organization – gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. The names listed below reflect gifts received between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list – please accept our sincere apologies for any mistakes or omissions.

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Sue Wentworth
Kathleen West
Ann Marie & Paul White
Raymond Wilson
Morgan Wolbe
Isabel Yoder
Jill Young Coelho
Carla Zavorskas


SKYLARK
VOCAL ENSEMBLE

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ABOUT SKYLARK

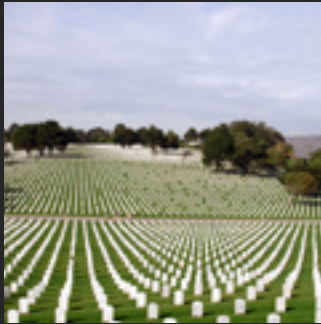
Three-time GRAMMY®-nominee Skylark, “the cream of the American crop” (BBC Radio 3), is a premier vocal ensemble of leading American vocal soloists, chamber musicians, and music educators. Skylark’s dramatic performances have been described as “gripping” (The Times of London), “exquisite...thrilling” (Gramophone Magazine), and “awe-inspiring” (Boston Music Intelligencer).

Skylark strives to set the standard for innovative and engaging programs that re-define the choral experience for audiences and singers alike. Artistic Director Matthew Guard’s well-researched and creative programs have been described as “engrossing” (WQXR New York) and “original, stimulating, and beautiful” (BBC Radio 3). Skylark’s most recent three recordings all reached the top 10 of Billboard’s Traditional Classical Chart, earning praise for “imaginative” programming (Limelight Australia) and “singing of the highest standard for any area or any repertoire” (Classics Today).

Since its founding in 2011 in Atlanta and Boston, Skylark has branched out to perform its dynamic programs in museums, concert halls, and churches across the United States. Skylark made its international debut in March 2018 at St. John’s Smith Square, London, as part of the UK choir Tenebrae’s Holy Week Festival. The Times of London declared that Skylark was “the highlight” of the festival that included some of the UK’s leading choirs, including The Tallis Scholars, Polyphony, Tenebrae, and the Gabrieli Consort.

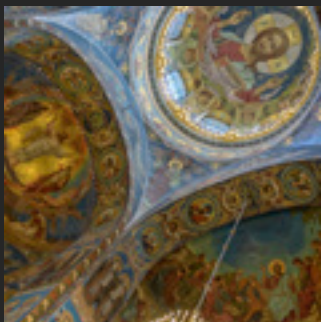
A not-for-profit entity with a passion for music education, Skylark performs educational outreach programs with high school and college students across the United States during its concert tours.

COMING SOON



Memorial Day in Falmouth REMEMBRANCE

Skylark returns to Falmouth with a stunningly beautiful tribute to America’s fallen heroes, with music taken from times of conflict over our nation’s history. Beginning with gritty revolutionary hymns of William Billings, and carrying through popular folk tunes and bluegrass music of the 20th and 21st centuries, Skylark’s signature programming is sure to appeal to a broad audience. The program includes many well-known hymns, including Amazing Grace and the Navy Hymn, with stunning solos and pristine ensemble work, along with more recent compositions familiar to Skylark audiences.



June 3-5 RACHMANINOFF VESPERS

In the fall of 2019, Skylark presented the greatest masterwork of a cappella music as it had never been heard before: a performance of the finest professional vocalists in the United States anchored by world-renowned basses joining forces for the first time ever. After what was described by many Skylarks as their most profound concert experience ever, we vowed to re-visit the work again soon. Join us again in June 2022 for an encore performance, this time working from a new edition of the score prepared by Artistic Director Matthew Guard and Skylark Soprano Fotina Naumenko. A portion of the proceeds raised from these concerts will go to support Ukrianian refugees displaced by the current crisis in Europe.