

MOUNT DESERT SUMMER CHORALE

David Schildkret, music director
founded 1968

presents

Old Favorites for New Beginnings

Friday, August 6, 2021, 7:00 p.m. ♦ Saturday, August 7, 2021, 2:00 p.m. ♦ 1932 Criterion Theatre

[Clayton W. Smith, piano](#)
[David Schildkret, conductor](#)

PROGRAM

“O Fortuna” from <i>Carmina Burana</i>		Carl Orff (1895-1982)
“Hallelujah” from <i>Christ on the Mount of Olives</i> , opus 85		Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
Ave verum corpus, K. 618		Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)
“Lacrimosa” from the Requiem, K. 626		Mozart
Ave Maria	Lydia Reifsnnyder, <i>alto</i>	R. Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943)
Three Madrigals (William Shakespeare) O mistress mine, where are you roaming? Take, O take those lips away Sigh no more, ladies, sigh no more!		Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)
For the Beauty of the Earth		John Rutter (b. 1945)
from <i>Elijah</i> , opus 70 He watching over Israel He that shall endure to the end		Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Keep Your Lamps!	Lynn Seippel, <i>djembe</i>	Spiritual arr. André Thomas
The Battle Hymn of the Republic (Julia Ward Howe)		William Steffe arr. Peter J. Wilhousky
“Hallelujah” from <i>Messiah</i>		George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

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MOUNT DESERT SUMMER CHORALE, 2021

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In Memoriam

The Mount Desert Summer Chorale honors two longtime members who passed away in the last year:

Robert Tennen, cellist, played in the MDSC orchestra for many years.
Billie Lear was treasurer and member of the chorus for most of its existence.

We remember them fondly for their dedication, loyalty, and service.

A NOTE ON THE PROGRAM

The winter months are normally pretty quiet for the board of directors of the Mount Desert Summer Chorale, but not this year. Back in January, the MDSC board began serious conversations about how things might work this summer. We hoped that live rehearsals and performances would be possible, at least to some extent, but we couldn't be sure. We knew that the original plan of performing the Mozart Requiem was unlikely to be feasible, so we went in a different direction: we decided to put together a program that would work under almost any conditions: instead of a big work with soloists and orchestra, we'd keep it simple with music that would be familiar to choir and audience members alike. That way, if there were only a few rehearsals, or if people had trouble getting to Maine, we would still be able to give a respectable performance. And in all honesty, we believed that people would be so excited to SING again and to HEAR singing again that the actual music would matter less than the very act of being together.

So we have assembled a program of short, mostly familiar choral pieces. Recalling our last live concerts, we begin with the dramatic opening of *Carmina Burana*: we think the outcry of "O, Fortuna!" will feel really apt after all we've been through! And the "Hallelujah," the concluding chorus from Beethoven's *Christ on the Mount of Olives*, will certainly express our abundant joy at being reunited. From Mozart, the lovely "Ave verum corpus" and a movement from the originally planned Requiem will provide some nice lyrical moments. There are a number of pieces MDSC has done before: "For the Beauty of the Earth" was on our Acadia Centennial Concert in 2016, and there are a couple of movements from *Elijah*, which we did so splendidly to honor our fiftieth anniversary in 2018. We sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" on the Heart-Stopping Choruses program in 2012, and the Hallelujah Chorus has turned up a few times, including in our complete *Messiah* performances in 2007.

But there's some new material, too—or at least new to MDSC as a group. Many of us in the choral music world have spent the last year thinking about the ways we have kept the repertory too narrow and excluded too many voices. Reflecting our desire to change and expand to include more viewpoints are "Ave Maria" by Nathaniel Dett, a major Black composer from Canada and the US, "Three Madrigals" by Emma Lou Diemer, a preeminent American woman composer, and "Keep Your Lamps!" a powerful spiritual about perseverance (we've all learned more about that lately!) in a wonderful arrangement by André Thomas.

We are all delighted that it has proven possible to be back in person this year, and we are excited to sing for you. Even though it's a cliché, it couldn't be truer: we hope you enjoy hearing this music as much as we have enjoyed preparing it.

—David Schildkret

TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

O Fortuna

*O Fortuna velut luna statu variabilis,
semper crescis aut decrescis; vita detestabilis
nunc obdurat et tunc curat ludo mentis aciem,
egestatem, potestatem dissolvit ut glaciem.*

*Sors immanis et inanis, rota tu volubilis,
status malus, vana salus semper dissolubilis,
obumbrata et velata michi quoque niteris;
nunc per ludum dorsum nudum fero tui sceleris.*

*Sors salutis et virtutis michi nunc contraria,
est affectus et defectus semper in angaria.
Hac in hora sine mora corde pulsum tangite;
quod per sortem sternit fortem, mecum omnes plangite!*

Ave verum corpus

*Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria virgine,
vere passum immolatum in cruce pro homine.
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.*

Lacrimosa

*Lacrimosa dies illa,
qua resurget ex favilla
judicandus homo reus.*

*Huic ergo parce Deus,
pie Jesu, Domine!
Dona eis requiem! Amen.*

Ave Maria

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum,
benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.*

*Sancta Maria, mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus.*

*Ave Maria, ora pro nobis,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.*

O Fortune, you are changeable like the moon,
always waxing and waning; hateful life
first oppresses and then soothes as fancy takes it;
you melt poverty and power like ice.

Fate, monstrous and empty, you whirling wheel,
you are evil; well-being always vainly fades to nothing;
shadowed and veiled, you plague me as well;
now I play the game and bare my back to your villainy.

Fate opposes me even in health and in virtue;
it enslaves me, driving me on and weighing me down.
So now, all, without delay, pluck the vibrating strings;
since Fate strikes down even the strong, weep with me!

Hail, true flesh, born of the Virgin Mary,
who truly suffered and was immolated on the cross for us.
From your pierced side, water and blood flowed.
Let it be for us a foretaste of the trials of death.

What weeping there will be on that day
when the guilty man arises from the ashes
to be judged.

Therefore, spare him, God,
merciful Jesus, Lord!
Grant them rest! Amen.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God,
pray for us sinners.

Hail Mary! Pray for us,
now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

THANKS

Amy Wlodarski
for leading the first live rehearsals

Rina Kim and Nathan Arch
pianists for Zoom rehearsals

Southwest Harbor Congregational Church
for rehearsal space

1932 Criterion Theatre
for performance space on special terms

Amanda Rhinehart and Full Circle Printing
for their prompt, cheerful, and inspired help

Riser and Setup Crew Members, Geoff Knowles, coordinator

Donors, Patrons, and YOU, our LIVE audience! Welcome back!

Please [visit our website](#) to learn more about the Mount Desert Summer Chorale, including a history of the Chorale, a list of past performances, and information on how to support us.

SAVE THE DATE!

*We plan to perform the MOZART REQUIEM next summer,
tentatively scheduled for August 5 and 6, 2022*