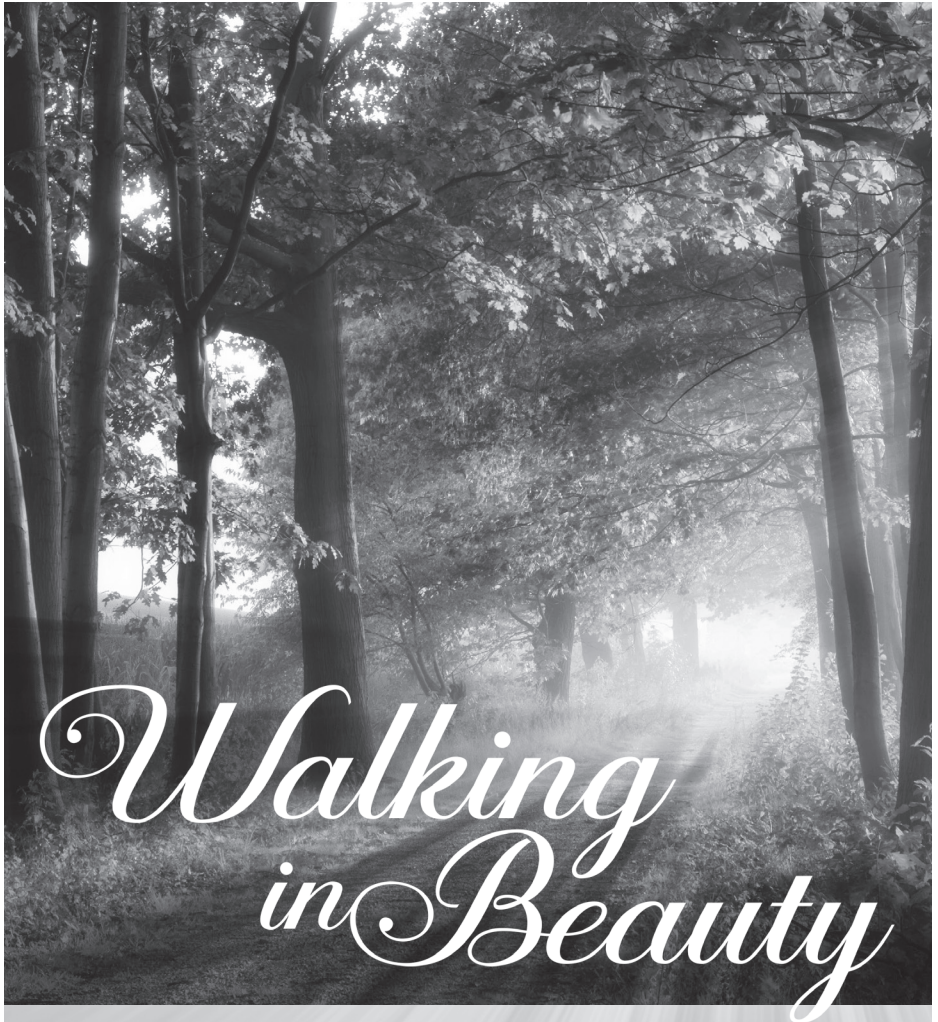


ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS



Walking in Beauty

June 2 and 3, 2018

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for the Performing Arts

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LAURA RICH



Change is in the future of the Rogue Valley Chorale and includes a sad farewell. Our beloved Laurie Anne Hunter will be retiring at the end of this season following our Ireland singing tour. Laurie Anne's exceptional musicality and effective conducting style has been a gift to our community and has resulted in over twenty magnificent concerts over the past five years.

Laurie Anne has impacted the musical development of the Chorale singers due to her vocal training abilities and standard of excellence. The camaraderie she has nurtured and the bonds of friendship she has inspired run deep. Laurie Anne will no longer stand in front of us in rehearsals or performances, but the tremendous impact she has had will remain as her legacy. We'll miss you, Laurie Anne, and wish you the best.

As difficult as it is to say farewell to Laurie Anne Hunter, it is equally exciting to usher in this next phase of our evolution as a contributing force in our Rogue Valley arts community. We are fortunate to have found an outstanding incoming artistic director, Michael Morris. Mr. Morris has been teaching voice, conducting, and singing professionally for over 40 years. He has served on the music faculty at Holy Names College, Notre Dame de Namur University, Santa Clara University, Ohlone College, and De Anza College. Michael has sung the leading baritone roles in some 80 operas. He is a highly respected and engaged music director and conductor. We look forward to introducing you to him during our 2018-2019 season.

Michael received his Master of Music Degree in Vocal Performance from Notre Dame de Namur University and his Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education from San Francisco State University. He studied opera at the American Institute of Music Studies in Graz, Austria, where he received the George London Award for Vocal Performance.



Incoming Artistic
Director
Michael Morris

Michael has an exciting line-up of concerts planned for next season including both the Bach and Schubert *Magnificat*, the world premiere performance of a commissioned work, *Cantares Mexicanos*, and a concert featuring the music of Broadway icon, Cole Porter. Join us for what is sure to be a fabulous season with our new Artistic Director, Mr. Michael Morris.

As we let go of the past and embrace the future we remain committed to our mission, to enrich and inspire all members of our community through great choral music performed by choruses of all ages. Thank you for celebrating the joy of singing with us.

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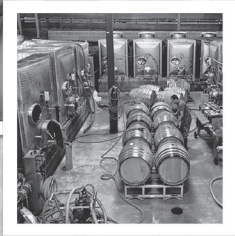
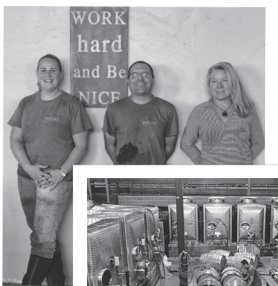
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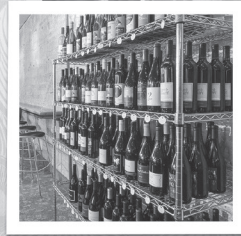
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CONDUCTOR NOTES By Laurie Anne Hunter



The inspiration for the title of this concert, *Walking in Beauty* came from the Navajo blessing prayer known as *Now I walk in Beauty*. There are different versions of the text, but they all express the notion of beauty before, behind, above and below. To walk in beauty is to be in harmony with everything around us—recognizing the beauty and connectedness of everything we see, appreciating the wonder of the universe we live in, and feeling the profound sense that we belong and that our lives are precious.

I wanted my last concert as Artistic Director of the Rogue Valley Chorale to be special. Many of the songs I have chosen for this program seem to resonate with the phase of my life in which I find myself, hoping to slow down and recognize the healing, love and beauty that is around me. I believe this music offers inspiration, joy, and a deep appreciation of the many forms that beauty takes. We open with *The Voice*, a lively song made popular by the group Celtic Woman, that tells us there is a voice or spirit who knows us, and will guide us if we listen. Mark Reppert, who conducts the Siskiyou Singers and is also singing with the Chorale this season, wrote a musical setting of *Now I Walk in Beauty* that helps set the tone for the rest of the concert. Poems of peace and harmony provide the lyrics for several pieces, including James Agee's *Sure On This Shining Night*, set to music by Morten Lauridsen, Distinguished Professor of Composition at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, and *She Walks in Beauty*, one of Lord Byron's most famous poems, set by composer Kevin Memley from Fresno, California. Vermont composer Gwyneth Walker adapted the lyrics for *The Tree of Peace* from the poem *O Brother Man* by John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), which exhorts us to "Listen to one another" so that "Love shall tread out the fire of anger, and in its ashes plant a tree of peace."

In preparing this program, I have also been mindful of the Chorale's upcoming trip to Ireland at the end of June. Most of our performances there will be in churches, and so it seemed appropriate to include a number of inspirational church anthems. *We are Not Alone* by Pepper Choplin speaks to many of us who have experienced loss. *For the Beauty of the Earth*, based on a famous hymn text, was written in 1980 by British composer John Rutter, one of the most prolific choral composers alive today. The Chorale has sung many of Rutter's compositions, including *Gloria*, which was featured on our Christmas concert this season. We close our first half with a beautiful setting of the famous hymn, *O Love*, which speaks of the immense power of love to reach us through our pain, giving us hope for a future that "shall richer, fuller be."

My tenure as Artistic Director of the Chorale has largely been about collaboration, so it seems fitting that my final concert should also include the Rogue Valley Youth Ensemble, who joins us for *Jubilate Deo* by Peter Anglea and the traditional Camp Meeting song, *No Time*, arranged by Susan Brumfield.

As I wrote in my last Chorale newsletter article, it is with immense love and gratitude that I leave the Chorale community. I feel a bit like I am stepping into the unknown of a new life. But I can truly say to you, "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good."

Blessings.

—Laurie Anne Hunter

ROGUE VALLEY
CHORALE

Laurie Anne Hunter
Conductor/Artistic Director
Mikiko Petrucelli
Accompanist

SOPRANO

Melodee Adams
Donna Barrett
Virginia Brown
Dee-Marie Broyles
Leslie Buys
Michelle Cipollone
Diane Combs
Janet Dolan
Ruth Engle
Connie Fisher-Crooks
Karen Foster
Nina Frost
Erin Galbraith
Beth Gibson
Kathy Gordon
Mary Kay Harmon
Ellie Holt-Murray
Jan Jacobs
Judith Kloetzel
Rebecca Leggett
Laurie Morey
Janelle Murray
Gay Pollard
Colleen Patrick-Riley

Marilyn Reppert
Deanna St. Martin
Phyllis Skinner
Rosemary Tutland
Maureen Vega
Susan White
jj Zwang

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Carmen Adams
Jean Adams
Joani Bristol
Susan Brusby
Liz Cooper
Amanda Crain
Sandra Cummings
Julia Curiel
Sharon Dady
Donna Daniels
Valerie Darby
Kristy Denman
Carol Doty
Cathy Eagles
Charleen Fike
Paula Fowler
Pat Franks
Susan Franks
Merry Harris
Renee Hanna



Laurie Henning
Jana Hogan
Carol Jacobs
Kimberly Little
Mary Lynn Lucas
Larissa Montegna
Kelly Nuss
Marjorie Overland
Nancy Purdy
Jeanie St. Germain
Deborah Sanford
Geri Shimabukuro
Nora Smith
Sandy Walper
Rebecca Webber
Nancy Yie

TENOR

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Aaron Dady
Ralph Dady
Tyler Davis
Cori Gibson
Roger Graves
Tom Hearon
Ed Houck
Phil Koenig
Annette Lewis
Bill Matthews

Christian Mathisen
Ralph McCulloh
Doug McDonald
Mark Reppert
Sue Thornburg
David Works
Kris York

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
LAURIE HUNTER



CHRISTOPHER BRISCOE

A native of Pasadena, California, Laurie Anne Hunter received her B.A. from the University of Winnipeg and her Masters in Piano Accompanying from the Juilliard School in New York. She spent five seasons as an Assistant Conductor and Vocal Coach with the New York City Opera, becoming only the fourth woman ever to conduct there when she made her Lincoln Center debut with Marc Blitzstein's *Regina* in 1992. Guest conducting appearances followed with the New England Lyric Operetta, Skylight Opera Theatre in Milwaukee, and the Kitchen-Waterloo Symphony.

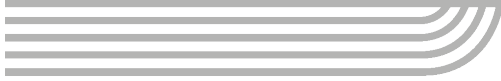
She was Associate Conductor of *Phantom of the Opera* in Toronto and *Showboat* on Broadway, and Assistant Conductor and Vocal Coach for the Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Augusta Opera, Mobile Opera, Boston Concert Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera Guild's educational productions. She headed the music staff for two years at the Banff Centre's Music Theater program in Canada, and worked with American Musical Theater of San Jose and the Seattle Opera. Ms. Hunter has been on the faculty of the Hartt School of Music in Hartford, Connecticut, the Israel Vocal Arts Institute in Tel Aviv, and the Musicians Club of America summer Opera and Lieder Institutes in North Carolina.

In 2001, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival brought her to Ashland as Musical Director and Pianist for *Enter the Guardsman*, and she has been an active and valuable part of the Rogue Valley's musical scene ever since. She has been an adjunct faculty member at Southern Oregon University since 2001, and music director at the First Presbyterian Church in Ashland since 2010. Additional contributions to the musical life of the Rogue Valley include work with the Oregon Cabaret Theatre, Southern Oregon University Theatre Productions, Southern Oregon Repertory Singers, Rogue Valley Symphony, Rogue Opera, and the Brava! Opera Theatre/James M. Collier Young Artist program. She took up the harp while earning her certification from the "Music for Healing and Transition Program" and for many years played therapeutic harp music for Providence Cancer Center and Hospice in Medford.

Ms. Hunter has been a part of the Rogue Valley Chorale community since 2002, serving as guest accompanist, Board member, and guest conductor before being appointed as the Chorale's Artistic Director and Conductor in 2013. She is delighted to have become more closely acquainted with this fine group of singers and to have gained so many new friends.

JIM COLLIER

CONCERT SPONSOR IN PERPETUITY



What would our valley be like without Jim Collier? His dedication to supporting the arts is well known, and many music and theater groups owe their ability to serve our community to this outstanding individual.

An inheritance enabled Jim to become a generous patron of the performing arts. Jim not only supports the arts in the Rogue Valley, but also sponsors orchestras and opera companies in his hometown of Des Moines, Iowa, as well as in Bakersfield, California. He was nominated as Outstanding Individual Philanthropist of Central Iowa in 2006, and is known as “The Piano Man,” a title he earned by donating three concert grand and four upright pianos to various organizations in the Rogue Valley.

Jim was exposed to music as a young boy. He took piano lessons, but when it came time to showcase his talents during his first recital, Jim pretended to be sick. His savvy mother didn’t buy it and made him perform. Jim reports that no one was sorry to see him give up the piano after his “less than perfect” performance. But his piano experience planted a seed that grew into an intense love of the arts. Jim says, “I am a much better patron of the arts than a performing artist. I’ll leave that to others.”

Jim retired to Medford after teaching high school English in Delano, California (near Bakersfield) for 30 years. A group of friends introduced him to the opera, and he made frequent trips to Los Angeles to see spectacular performances featuring some of the world’s finest singers. Opera deepened his interest in the performing arts. He began visiting Ashland to attend the Oregon Shakespeare Festival plays, a passion he shared with his students in California.

The term “arts in Southern Oregon” has become synonymous with the name Jim Collier. Our community is richer because of this tireless and dedicated philanthropist.

ARTIST BIOS



LISA TRUELOVE, cello

Lisa lives in Ashland, Oregon. She has a Bachelor of Music performance degree in cello from Ithaca College, NY. Lisa has performed with the Northwest Bach Ensemble, with Oregon Shakespeare Festival as both cellist and cast member, and plays regularly with the Southern Oregon Repertory Singers and Brava Opera. Lisa performs every summer with the Britt Classical Festival Orchestra in Jacksonville, Oregon, and often with the North State Symphony in Chico and Redding, California. She is currently Principal Cellist with the Rogue Valley Symphony. Lisa maintains a private cello studio in her home and performs cello/piano recitals with her husband Stephen.



LORI CALHOUN, alto recorder

Lori has played Principal Clarinet for the Rogue Valley Symphony since 1983, and performs regularly with Brava Opera. As a doubler, she has appeared with Bernadette Peters, Natalie Merchant, and Chris Botti. She has been an integral musician with local organizations such as the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Oregon Cabaret Theater, and Camelot Theater, and has appeared with Southern Oregon Repertory Singers, Siskiyou Singers and Rogue Valley Chorale on instruments including clarinet, bass clarinet, flute, alto and soprano saxophones, recorders, duduks and wind synthesizer. Lori specializes in clarinet pedagogy and coaches clarinet for the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon, as well as teaching clarinet privately. She shares her singing talents with young people in classroom music instruction.



We remember dear friend and fellow tenor Scott Calvert who passed away on March 16, 2018.

ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE ASSOCIATION

PROGRAM

The Voice Brendan Graham, arr. Roger Emerson
Soloist: Larissa Montegna

Now I Walk in Beauty arr. Mark Reppert
Alto Recorder: Lori Calhoun

Sure on This Shining Night Morten Lauridsen

Tree of Peace Gwyneth Walker

We Are Not Alone Pepper Choplin
Ireland tour group Soloist: Kathy Gordon

She Walks in Beauty Kevin A. Memley

For the Beauty of the Earth John Rutter

I Have Loved the Stars Too Fondly Heather Sorenson
Cello: Lisa Truelove

O Love Elaine Hagenberg

INTERMISSION

Jubilate Deo Peter Anglea
with the Rogue Valley Youth Ensemble

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness;
Come before his presence with singing.
For the Lord is good;
His mercy is everlasting;
And his truth endureth to all generations.

No Time arr. Susan Brumfield
with the Rogue Valley Youth Ensemble

Corner of the Sky (from "Pippin") Stephen Schwartz, arr. Teena Chinn
Soloist: Aaron Dady

Lullabye ("Goodnight My Angel") Billy Joel, arr. Kirby Shaw

The Rose Ola Gjeilo
Cello: Lisa Truelove

Thankful arr. Mark Hayes

Until We Meet Again arr. Christi Jones
Ireland tour group

For Good (from "Wicked") Stephen Schwartz, arr. Mac Huff

Thank you Pam Nordquist, Director, and the
Youth Ensemble singers for your participation
in tonight's concert.



We remember Denise Anderson,
Former Youth Ensemble singer,
whose life we honor when we sing.

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MIKIKO S. PETRUCELLI



Mikiko S. Petrucelli was born in Tokyo, Japan where she first started playing piano at the age of 4. She attended the Mushashino Academia Musicae and received her undergraduate degree in Piano Performance. She then moved to Germany and earned a Performance Degree from the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold, Germany. After she returned to Japan, Mikiko played with the string chamber group Uovo as their guest pianist, touring Japan and giving chamber and solo concerts in Germany. She has played on NHK radio, the national public radio station in Japan, and won a special award at the Josef Dichter Competition in Vienna, Austria in 2001.

In 2004 Mikiko moved to the United States and received a Masters of Music from Baylor University and Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

In 2008, as a result of winning the Chiara Competition, Mikiko performed Dvorak's Piano Quintet with the Chiara Quartet. She has also studied Historical Performance Practice in fortepiano. In 2008, she was invited to an international conference, as a result of a complete Hixson-Lied Presentation of Scholarly and Creative Activity Grant. She attended an international conference "The Art of the Fortepiano" and performed in several concerts in Middleburg, the Netherlands.

Mikiko has extensive experience as a chamber and solo pianist as well as an accompanist. As of May 2010, she completed three years of service at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska as an adjunct faculty member. She joined the Rogue Valley Chorale as accompanist in 2015.



DAVID GIBB PHOTOGRAPHY

CONDUCTOR EMERITUS

LYNN SJOLUND

Lynn Sjolund, Founding Artistic Director/Conductor Emeritus of the Rogue Valley Chorale, served as Artistic Director from 1973 until 2013. During his tenure, the Chorale presented hundreds of concerts to the community, toured Europe 7 times, performed at Carnegie Hall and made a lasting impact on the Rogue Valley community. The Rogue Valley Chorale singers will forever hold a place in their hearts for Conductor Emeritus Lynn Sjolund.



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CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS



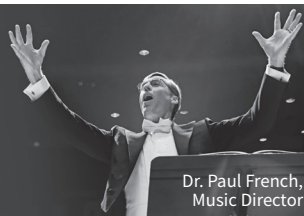
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*The Abduction from
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ROGUE VALLEY CHORALE

**MICHAEL
MORRIS**
ARTISTIC
DIRECTOR

2018–2019 Season

MICHAEL MORRIS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

MAGNIFY: The Words of Mary

December 1 & 2, 2018

Craterian Theater at the Collier Center

Magnificat in D major, BWV 243 by Johann Sebastian Bach and *Magnificat in C, D486* by Franz Schubert bring the words of the world's most iconic mother to life. A selection of Marian carols rounds out this orchestrated concert in a resounding celebration of life, love, dedication and the holiday season.



ETHEREAL MOMENTS

**Featuring the World Premiere
of Cantares Mexicanos**

March 23 & 24, 2019

Craterian Theater at the Collier Center

The Rogue Valley Chorale has commissioned renowned composer Joseph Julian Gonzalez to compose a new work, *Cantares Mexicanos*, based on the ancient Aztec poems that speaks of the Flower World, a mystical place of immense spiritual awareness that honors nature's beauty in a deeply fulfilling musical experience. Join the Chorale for this auditory and visual extravaganza. There will be a complimentary pre-concert presentation by Composer Joseph Julian Gonzales beginning at 6:30 on Saturday and 2:00 on Sunday. All are welcome to attend.



COLE! The Music of Broadway Icon Cole Porter

May 4 & May 5, 2019

Craterian Theater at the Collier Center

Put on your bling and loosen up your vocal chords! It is time for the music of Cole Porter. Great showstoppers such *Another Op'nin, Another Show* and *Anything Goes* mixed with Porter's beautiful ballads including *Every time We Say Goodbye* and *In the Still of the Night* will delight audiences. The talented pool of Chorale singers will present Porter's music as duets, trios, small ensembles, and the whole choir accompanied by a jazz combo including piano, guitar, string bass, and set drums. The concert promises a full evening of entertainment.



Call 541-779-3000 or visit craterian.org

For more information visit roguevalleychorale.org