



Rudi E. Scheidt
School of Music

CHORAL SAMPLER CONCERT

SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 | 7:30 PM

SFPAC PLOUGH HALL

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music
Kevin Sanders, Director
College of Communication and Fine Arts
Ryan Fisher, Interim Dean

PROGRAM

BLU A CAPELLA

Erase Me

Lizzy McAlpine/arr. Greenwood
OPB Prismatics

Lexy Branch, soloist

Mazi

Francis Cathlina, conductor
Karen Zeferino, assistant conductor
Amy Nguyen, collaborative pianist

Adoramus te, op.44

Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594) /arr. Valos
Traditional Latin Text

I Am Not Yours

David N. Childs (b. 1969)
text by Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

On My Journey Now

trad. Spiritual
arr. Brandon Waddles (b. 1988)

Tigerchor

Emily Frizzell, conductor
Kane Bradley, assistant conductor
Amy Nguyen, collaborative pianist

Obwisana

Victor C. Johnson
(b. 1978)

The River

Susan LaBarr
(b. 1982)

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Robert Hunter

PROGRAM

University Singers

Francis Cathlina, Conductor
Terry Walker, Assistant Conductor
Amy Nguyen, Collaborative Pianist

My Heart Be Brave

Marques L.A. Garrett (b. 1984)
text by James Weldon Johnson
(1871-1938)

Credo

Antonio Lotti
(1667-1740)
traditional Latin Text

Grace Before Sleep

Susan LaBarr
(b. 1981)
text by Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

PERFORMERS

Tigerchor

Tenor 1

Kane Bradley
Benjamin Cannon
Christian Davis
Derrick Dotson
Macy Garey
Chandler Haun
Brody Melton
Dmareon Nowley
Myles Robinson
Morgan Williams

Tenor 2

Shawn Campbell
Roberto Cantu
Jack Deaton
Jeremiah Fields
Hank Fleming
Merritt Hanemann
Gabriel Hill
Spencer Newberry
Brandon Sewell
Abner Sotelo
Mason Threlkeld
Evan Torres
Daylon Verner
AJ Walton

Bass 1

Brandon Allen
Rashawn Cannon
Garrett Hines
Kai Howze
Micah Loftis
Mateo Navarro
Reagan Nunley
Luis Alejandro Perez-Afanador
Mario Shaw
Lyle Stephens
Dylan Swinger
James Thomas
Josue Villa

Bass 2

Mohamed Abdo
Jake Coppage
Cal Elrod
Luke Freeman
Garrett Heady
Benjamin Nguyen
Nate Perkins
Yun-Heng Tiao
Sam Tipps
Daniel Young

PERFORMERS

Mazi

Soprano 1

Melissa Barton
Kylee Kee
Haliegh Speaker
Arie Linger
Madeline Hawkins
Angelee Pham
Marshala Shelton
Katie Allen
Amanda Bolanos
AC Landsgaard
Nakisha Kennedy

Soprano 2

Demi Griffin
Ainsley Gibson
Serafina Cid Ross
Edlyn Jarquin
Macey Garey
Josephine Wright
Karen Zeferino
Ava Shatley
Emily Woelke
Mackenzie Tompson

Alto 1

Avery Walker
Mercy Hammond
Madison Penn
Emily Ward
Madison Lovelance
Kayla Jones
Kemauro Young
Ramiah Carter
Katie Sann
Orion Overstreet
Yanet Negusse

Alto 2

Lori Glasgow
Bibiana Roblero
Bella Grace Valente
Mae Sistrunk
Heaven Hubbard
Ebonye Jackson
Kailin Dodson
Yasrah Hasseb
Stephanie Rolfe
Ia White
Samaria Salle

PERFORMERS

University Singers

Soprano 1

Amanda Bolanos
Caroline Davis
Edlyn Jarquin
Fantasia Jones
Kylee Kee
Anne Catherine Landsgaard
Angelee Pham

Soprano 2

Karoline Larsen
Kayla Jones
Sarah McGinnis
Ava Shatley
Emily Woelke
Karen Zeferino

Alto 1

Nohelia Gomez
Mercy Hammond
Isabella Palmer
Caroline Phillips-Burk
Katie Sann
Lindsay Reeves
Rachel Young

Alto 2

Heaven Hubbard
Bibiana Roblero
Stephanie Rolfe
Mae Sistrunk
Bella Grace Valente
Morgan Williams

Tenor 1

Kane Bradley
Christian Johnson
Nick Kroboth-Larsen
Cait Mocan
Myles Robinson
Evan Velasquez

Tenor 2

Derrick Dotson
Christian McAlister
Brody Melton
Spencer Newberry
Brandon Sewell
Evan Torres
Terry Walker

Bass 1

Shawn Campbell
Merritt Hanemann
Andrew Heady
Alex Perez-Afanador
Nate Perkins
Dylan Swinger

Bass 2

Samari Gowdy
Garrett Heady
Ben Nguyen
Griffin Taylor
Gregory Thomas
SirLatimore Wilson

BIOGRAPHIES

Francis Cathlina

Francis Cathlina, D.M.A. (he/him) is a distinguished Vietnamese-American conductor and educator, known for his innovative programming that seamlessly weaves choral music with narrative. His transformative concert experiences invite audiences into a world where choral artistry becomes a powerful storytelling medium.

A two-time GRAMMY-nominated educator, Dr. Cathlina serves as the Director of Choral Activities at the University of Memphis Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. He provides visionary leadership for the Choral Area, oversees the Doctoral and Master's Choral Conducting program, and conducts the University Singers (flagship SATB choir) and Mazi (SSAA choir).

As a first-generation musician, Dr. Cathlina's Eastern heritage profoundly shapes his teaching. His dedication to collaboration and rigor has earned international recognition, including being named a 2023 National Finalist for The American Prize: Dale Warland Award in Choral Conducting (College Division). The UofM University Singers, under his direction, have been selected to perform at the 2024 Tennessee Music Educators Association Conference. Early in his career, the Texas Choral Directors Association (TCDA) designated him the "Young Director of Distinction."

Dr. Cathlina's teaching philosophy centers on developing masterful technicians, creative communicators, and responsible citizens. His former students successfully lead programs at diverse institutions—universities, public schools, prominent churches, and community choirs. Driven by a passion for human connection, he finds great inspiration as an honor choir conductor. Upcoming and recent engagements involve the International Mu Phi Convention Chorus, Mississippi All-State Treble Choir, UofM Symphony Orchestra, and honor choirs nationwide.

A recognized authority in vocal pedagogy, Dr. Cathlina's research focuses on choral tone and conducting gesture. He has published articles in ACDA's Choral Journal and has presented over 47 interest sessions across the globe. In 2023, he co-led two Conducting Masterclasses in Greece with the University of Macedonia (Thessaloniki) and Ionian University (Corfu). In 2024, he is set to be the Choral Headliner for the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference.

Dr. Cathlina holds a D.M.A. in conducting with a vocal pedagogy cognate from the University of North Texas, an M.M. from Michigan State University, and a B.M.E. from Baylor University. Before his doctorate, he taught in Texas public schools, working with elementary through high school-age singers. He is deeply grateful for the steadfast support of his husband, family, and friends, who embrace his unique blend of Vietnamese culture and Western upbringing. Dr. Cathlina, his husband Kyle, and their fur baby, Coco, proudly call Memphis, Tennessee, their home. www.franciscathlina.com

BIOGRAPHIES

Emily Frizzell

Emily Frizzell, conductor and mezzo-soprano, is an Assistant Professor of Music Education at the University of Memphis and Director of the Memphis Youth Chorale. At UofM, Dr. Frizzell teaches undergraduate and graduate music education courses, supervises music residents, and directs Tigerchor Tenor/Bass Choir. Additionally, she serves as the faculty sponsor for UofM [blu] a cappella and the UofM student chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. Dr. Frizzell is an active presenter, adjudicator, clinician and researcher, with writings published in PLOS One and GIA Publications.

Before her time at UofM, Dr. Frizzell worked as Director of Choirs at White Station Middle School for seven years. Before White Station, she was the Assistant Director of Choirs at Southaven High School and Southaven Middle School. She served as WTVMEA Junior High Choral Festival Co-Chair from 2013-2016. She also served as the Memphis City Schools Teacher Field Test Group and Development Team member, which developed the pilot portfolio evaluation method for Tennessee music teachers in 2012. Dr. Frizzell was also a Peer Evaluator of this portfolio evaluation method and a curriculum writer for Shelby County Schools. In 2013, she was awarded the Outstanding Young Music Educator award by the Tennessee Music Education Association. Her choir, the WSMS Chorale, was selected to perform at the 2013 NAfME conference in Nashville, TN and the 2014 TMEA conference in Memphis, TN. Additionally, she served on the Tennessee Department of Education Music Standards Writing Team in 2016.

Dr. Frizzell is an active member of the West Tennessee Vocal Music Educators Association, the National Association for Music Education, the American Choral Directors Association, the Society for Music Teacher Education, and the A Cappella Education Association. She earned a Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Memphis and a Master's in Music Education and a Bachelor's in Music Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. She lives in Lakeland, Tennessee, with her husband, JD, their children, Henry and Elliott, and their dogs, Sally and Ari.