

*From the Mountains of Canada
Reverend Joy
The Spirit of the
Singing*
Da Capo
Chamber Choir

directed by Leonard Enns

imagining home

featuring the world premiere
of the 2011 NewWorks winning entry
The Echo by Patrick Murray

also including
Svyati by John Tavener
with guest cellist, Ben Bolt-Martin

Saturday Nov 12/11 - 8pm

Knox Presbyterian Church
(corner of Caroline & Erb streets, Waterloo)

Sunday Nov 13/11 - 3pm

St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church
(corner of Duke & Water streets, Kitchener)

Program

John Tavener – *Song for Athene*

John Tavener – *Svyati*
with Ben Bolt-Martin, cellist

Patrick Murray – *The Echo*

intermission

~Jana Skarecky – *Eye of the Phoenix*~

J. Scott Brubacher – *Psalm 137*

Christine Donkin – *Candles*

~Tim Corlis – *Played by Hand*~

Carlyle Sharpe – *Peace*

~Jeff Enns – *Nanabosho*~

Jeff Enns – *To you before the close of day*

Please join us for an informal reception following the concert.

Notes & Texts

(notes written by L. Enns unless otherwise noted)

Home is the overarching theme for the three concerts of the 11/12 DaCapo season: imagining home, creating home, and celebrating home. Today, imagining home.

While an imagined home can be a physical reality, in important ways it is a psychological and spiritual place. This is our focus today. Two works by John Tavener open the concert, with texts expressing comfort and supplication for the departed, whose imagined home lies beyond the “door of paradise.” Next we hear the words of Christina Rossetti, set to music by Patrick Murray (tonight’s celebrated 2011 NewWorks winner), mourning an imagined but unattainable and lost home: “...come to me in dreams, that I may live/My very life again though cold in death...As long ago, my love...”

In the second part of our concert, the focus shifts from death to life. While the concert begins with a prayer for the departed, it will end with a prayer for the living: “A healthy life we ask of you, the fire of love in us renew, and when dawn new light will bring, your praise and glory we shall sing.” Here is an imagined home imbued with health, love, and peace; it is this trajectory that underlies the concluding works of the concert. On the way to this final prayer we hear, in Scott Brubacher’s setting of Psalm 137, the ancient lament of a people torn from their home (now an imagined one), followed by Christine Donkin’s music that acknowledges illuminating presence of God with the simple Psalm verse “You light my candle, Lord; my God lights my darkness.” Carlyle Sharpe’s setting of Gerard Manley Hopkins’ “Peace” confronts us with the fact that no “...pure peace allows / Alarms of wars,” and that peace requires work: “And when Peace here does house / He comes with work to do.” Creating the home of our imagination requires work: that will be the theme of our next concert on February 25/26. Come back for that!

Song for Athene – John Tavener (British)

Alleluia. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest.
Alleluia. Remember me, O Lord,
 when you come into your kingdom.
Alleluia. Give rest, O Lord,
 to your handmaid, who has fallen asleep.
Alleluia. The Choir of Saints have found
 the well-spring of life and door of Paradise
Alleluia. Life: a shadow and a dream.
Alleluia. Weeping at the grave creates the song: Alleluia.
 Come, enjoy rewards and crowns
 I have prepared for you.
Alleluia.
 ~ texts from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*
 and from the Orthodox Funeral Service

Svyati – John Tavener

The text of *Svyati* is the Trisagion – “Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us” – used in almost every Orthodox service, and most poignantly at funeral services as the coffin enters the church and again as it is carried to the grave. Tavener describes the solo cello as representing the Priest, or as the Ikona of Christ, in dialogue with the choir.

The Echo – Patrick Murray (Canadian)

"Choral music played an important role in my musical upbringing, and I'm continually drawn back to the medium as a vehicle for personal expression. In *The Echo* by Christina Rossetti - a powerful meditation on the passing of a loved one - I discovered such a complex depth of unresolved emotion that I felt compelled to explore its musical possibilities. The result is a haunting landscape of half-remembered fragments of melody and harmonies alternately sweet and brittle, an aural echo of fragility and loss as evoked by the poet.

I am incredibly excited about the opportunity to work with Leonard Enns and DaCapo on this piece. Their commitment to artistic excellence and promoting new choral music is a continuous inspiration to composers across this country." ~ Patrick Murray

Come to me in the silence of the night;
Come in the speaking silence of a dream;
Come with soft rounded cheeks and eyes as bright
As sunlight on a stream;
Come back in tears,
O memory, hope, love of finished years.

O dream how sweet, too sweet, too bitter sweet,
Whose wakening should have been in Paradise,
Where souls brimfull of love abide and meet;
Where thirsting longing eyes
Watch the slow door
That opening, letting in, lets out no more.

Yet come to me in dreams, that I may live
My very life again though cold in death:
Come back to me in dreams, that I may give
Pulse for pulse, breath for breath:
Speak low, lean low
As long ago, my love, how long ago.
~ Christina Rossetti

Psalm 137 – J. Scott Brubacher (Canadian)

By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept
when we remembered thee, O Zion.
There we hung our harps upon the willow branches.
For there our captors asked us for songs;
our tormentors demanded a joyful melody, saying:
"Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
But how shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?
If I forget thee, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand forget its skill on the harp.
~ Psalm 137

Candles – Christine Donkin (Canadian)

2010 NewWorks honorable mention

Tu inluminas lucernam meam, Domine;
Deus meus inluminas tenebras meas.

*You light my candle, Lord;
My God lights my darkness.*
~ Psalm 18:28

Peace – Carlyle Sharpe (American)

When will you ever, Peace, wild wood dove, shy wings shut,
Your round me roaming end, and under be my boughs?
When, when, Peace, will you, Peace? I'll not play hypocrite
To own my heart: I yield you do come sometimes; but
That piecemeal peace is poor peace. What pure peace allows
Alarms of wars, the daunting wars, the death of it?

O surely, reaving Peace, my Lord should leave in lieu
Some good! And so he does leave Patience exquisite,
That plumes to Peace thereafter. And when Peace here does house
He comes with work to do, he does not come to coo,
He comes to brood and sit.

~ Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-89)

To You, before the Close of Day – Jeff Enns (Canadian)

2010 NewWorks honorable mention

To you, before the close of day, Creator of the world, we pray.
Your grace and peace to us allow and be our guard and keeper now.

Save us from troubled, restless sleep, from all ill dreams
your children keep;
so calm our minds that fears may cease and rested bodies
wake in peace.

A healthy life we ask of you, the fire of love in us renew,
and when dawn new light will bring, your praise and glory
we shall sing.

Creator, this we ask be done through Jesus Christ, your only Son,
whom with the Spirit we adore, with you, one God forevermore.
Amen

~ Compline hymn, ca. 6th C;
tr. John Mason Neale, 19th C (alt.)

The Artists

DaCapo Chamber Choir

The DaCapo Chamber Choir was founded in 1998 under the direction of Leonard Enns. The mission of the choir is to identify, study, rehearse, and present in public performance and recordings, the outstanding choral chamber works of the past 100 years and to champion music of Canadian and local composers. In 2011, DaCapo was awarded first place in the Association of Canadian Choral Communities' (ACCC) National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs in the Contemporary Choral Music category. The choir also received 2nd place in the Chamber Choir category.

Our performance season consists of three annual concerts in Kitchener-Waterloo: once in the fall around Remembrance Day, a mid-winter, and a spring concert. In addition, the choir performs on an ad hoc basis at other events.

The choir has released two CDs, the award-winning *ShadowLand* (winner of the 2010 ACCC's National Choral Recording of the Year award, including the Juno-nominated *Nocturne* by Leonard Enns) and *STILL* (2004). The choir has also appeared on several other recordings, including *notes towards*; DaCapo's performance on that disc helped garner a Juno nomination for the title work, *Notes Towards a Poem That Can Never Be Written*, by Timothy Corlis.



For more information about the choir, including photos, sound clips, the NewWorks choral composition competition, and more, visit our web site at www.dacapochoamberchoir.ca or join our eList by emailing info@dacapochoamberchoir.ca. Plus, you can become a facebook fan of DaCapo!

DaCapo Chamber Choir

Soprano

Corey Cotter Linforth
Sara Martin
Liz Mitchell
Laura Wallace Jarvis
Jennie Wiebe
Valerie Wiersma

Tenor

Brian Black
Thomas Brown
Curtis Dueck
Ben Janzen
Michael Lee-Poy
Stephen Preece

Alto

Theresa Bauer
Emily Berg
Sarah Flatt
Janice Maust Hedrick
Deborah Seabrook
Susan Schwartzentruber

Bass

Keith Hagerman
Stephen Horst
Timothy Kauk
Vincent Kong
Bill Labron
Phil Rempel

To inquire about auditions, email auditions@dacapochamberchoir.ca

Leonard Enns, director

DaCapo's founding director, Leonard Enns, is on the faculty of the Music Department at Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo. He is the director of the UW Chamber Choir, and former (founding) director of the Conrad Grebel Chapel Choir. In addition to his work as conductor, he maintains an active composition schedule. Upcoming premieres this fall include several songs from his cycle, *In the End*, in a new version for voice, violin, by soprano Chrisinte Howlett in Poughkeepsie, New York; premieres in the new year include *Second-Storey Sun*, for choir and counter-tenor, commissioned by the Halifax Camerata Singers, and the song cycle, *Behind the Seen*, commissioned by baritone Mel Braun and pianist Laura Loewen in Winnipeg.

Ben Bolt-Martin, cellist

Ben Bolt-Martin has just finished his twelfth season playing cello with the Stratford Festival of Canada, performing live productions and recording new incidental music. He also plays with the Factory Arts String Quartet, cornerstone of the INNERChamber music series which has been receiving rave reviews for its concerts at Factory 163 (also in Stratford).

Ben's solo projects tend to lean toward new music. In 2008, he was featured performer and co-producer of the Juno nominated disc *notes towards* and has recently been performing music for solo cello, both conventional and with electronics, supported by a grant from the Waterloo Regional Arts Council under the title "Stories from Home: Music from Waterloo Region".

Ben teaches cello and chamber music at the University of Waterloo, conducts the Stratford-Perth Youth orchestra, the Mississauga Youth Orchestra's Concert Orchestra and has been a regular guest conductor with the Georgian Bay Symphony and the Waterloo Chamber Players.

Patrick Murray

Patrick Murray is a multi-talented young composer, conductor and pianist. Patrick's original works have premiered at the Gardiner Museum, the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, the KW Kiwanis Music Festival, The Varsity newspaper podcasts, and the Atlantic Music Festival in Maine (July 2011). As a conductor, Patrick recently completed a two-month apprenticeship with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir, receiving tutelage from Noel Edison and conducting works in rehearsal. A proud supporter of emerging artists in all disciplines, Patrick has conducted the premieres of many new works by young composers, guest conducted the Hart House Choir, and served as music director for community productions of the Broadway musicals *Chicago* and *City of Angels*. Patrick currently studies music at the University of Toronto with Henri-Paul Sicsic (piano), Norbert Palej and Gary Kulesha (composition), and Ivars Taurins (conducting). He is the recipient of the 2008 Lyrical Lines Arts Advocacy Scholarship and a KW Arts Award in the Leading Edge category. Patrick is a graduate of the International Baccalaureate diploma program at Cameron Heights in Kitchener. www.patrickmurraymusic.net

Acknowledgements

DaCapo logo, poster, and program design – Heather Lee www.leedesigns.ca
Choir Manager – Sara Martin
Music library co-ordinator – Jennie Wiebe

Board of Directors:

Corey Cotter

Tim Hedrick

Eric Kennedy, acting chair

Nancy Kidd

Steve Strauss

We are currently seeking new Board members. For details, please email info@dacapochamberchoir.ca.

DaCapo thanks the following:

Conrad Grebel University College – for providing the space for DaCapo's weekly rehearsals

PeaceWorks Consulting – for hosting our Web site and our online ticket sales

Flow Cafe & Catering – for catering our post-concert receptions and

NewWorks gala reception



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Season Supporters (January 2011 –)

DaCapo thanks all of our donors, including the over 30 individuals & organizations who wished to remain anonymous.

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You can donate to DaCapo online! Visit our web site at www.dacapochamberchoir.ca and click on the CanadaHelps logo!





Peter Nikiforuk, Director

Two Christmas events you won't want to miss!

BROTHER HEINRICH'S CHRISTMAS AND OTHER TALES

Sunday, December 11, 3pm
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
49 Queen St N, Kitchener

A fable set to music with narrator,
choir, and small orchestra

Also featuring:
A Little Advent Music ~ Distler
Ave Rex ~ Mathias
and Audience Carols



SINGALONG MESSIAH

with soloists and orchestra

Alison Clark, Organist
Dale Mieske, Narrator

Sunday, December 18, 3pm
St Jacobs Mennonite Church
1310 King St. N, St Jacobs

Join us as we present our first ever Singalong Messiah fundraiser!
Bring your donation and a score if you have one (we have some loaners)
but your sense of humour is a must because we plan to run through
favourite Choruses and Arias of Handel's *Messiah* with absolutely
NO REHEARSAL WHATSOEVER.

Tax receipts available for donations over \$20.
Interested in hearing the end result? Audience members are welcome.

OUR SOUND WILL GO OUT



HARP

Lori Gemmell



ORGAN

Ian Sadler



TRUMPET

Larry Larson

First United Church, Waterloo

(Corner of King & William)

Saturday, November 19, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

\$18 advance/\$20 at door/\$10 students

519-746-7342 or 519-746-6768

Upcoming DaCapo performances

Creating Home

Saturday February 25th, 8pm

Sunday February 26th, 3pm

Featuring *Colour of Freedom* by Iman Habibi,
with Iranian-born vocal soloist, Amir Haghighi

Celebrating Home

Saturday May 5th, 8pm

Sunday May 6th, 3pm

Featuring guest pianist Catherine Robertson.

Friday January 20th, 8pm – Join DaCapo as we perform an all-Canadian joint concert with the visiting Canadian Chamber Choir!! More details and tickets will be posted on our web site soon.

Saturday April 21st, 2pm – Young Composers' Reading Session
If you are interested in the art (and work!) of composing, join us for an open rehearsal as DaCapo workshops the selected 2011 NewWorks young composers' compositions.



PO Box 40035, Waterloo Square PO, Waterloo, ON N2J 4V1
519.725.7549 | info@dacapochamberchoir.ca
www.dacapochamberchoir.ca

Please clip and post!

