University of Maryland School of Music Presents

BINGEN, BRAHMS, AND SHAW:
A CAPPELLA MASTERWORKS

UMD Chamber Singers

October 29, 2017 . 3PM
GILDENHORN RECITAL HALL
at The Clarice
University of Maryland School of Music presents

BINGEN, BRAHMS, AND SHAW: A CAPPELLA MASTERWORKS
University of Maryland Chamber Singers

Edward Maclary, Conductor

This performance will last approximately 90 minutes, which includes one 15-minute intermission.

O virtus sapientiae.................................................................Hildegard von Bingen
(1098-1179)

Laudibus in sanctis........................................................................William Byrd
(1543-1623)

Komm, Jesu, komm...............................................................Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

O Heiland, reiss die Himmel auf...........................................Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

INTERMISSION

Zigeunerlieder.................................................................Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Three Shakespeare Songs........................................Ralph Vaughan Williams
Full Fathom Five
The Cloud-Capp'd Towers
Over Hill, Over Dale

Partita........................................................................Caroline Shaw
(b. 1982)
The program we offer you today began last spring with the working title “Music that this conductor really likes.” In truth, many musical programs begin that way, whether or not the conductor cares to admit it. But the hope is that this program, as it has taken shape and been formed into the works you will hear today, will represent something more meaningful.

It will begin and end with music written by women whose working lives are separated by approximately 900 years - Hildegard of Bingen and Caroline Shaw, a member of the musical collaborative, Roomful of Teeth. The voices of women composers are increasingly important in our world and it is instructive, I think, to hear what is clearly a through line from Hildegard’s “O virtus sapientiae” (to which we will add some improvisational glosses) to “Allemande” (which is formed at least partially on improvisational glosses) from the Pulitzer Prize winning “Partita” by Shaw. Line is what defines the human voice as the instrument of greatest possibility for expression and flexibility and communication.

The works that fall in between these two compelling expressions of vocal possibilities are examples of how within any given era and any given expressive agenda - sacred or secular - singing, and its ability to communicate both the meanings of ideas and of the specific words that form those ideas, remains the supreme mode of artistic discourse. We offer for your inspection, contemplation, and delight the Renaissance style of William Byrd in a poetic setting of Psalm 150, followed by the contrapuntal mastery of J. S. Bach in an eight voice, double choir motet, “Komm, Jesu, komm.” The part about ‘music that the conductor really likes’ then kicks into full gear with not one, but two works by Johannes Brahms - the advent motet, “O Heiland reiss, die Himmel auf,” which will pay obvious homage to the Bach motet just heard; followed by the fabulously fun “Zigeunerlieder,” or “Gypsy Songs,” written by Brahms in an unexpectedly unbuttoned creative moment. These songs also give us a chance to depart from the all a cappella nature of the program for a time and will feature our ensemble’s pianist, Shuai Wang. After that we offer music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, settings of brief and beloved excerpts from ‘The Tempest’ and ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ by the greatest English poet and playwright of all. The evocative, atmospheric “Three Shakespeare Songs” demonstrate conclusively that much of our greatest vocal art music has been inspired by the greatest of texts. These mid-twentieth century part songs serve as the bridge to our program’s final work, the Caroline Shaw “Allemande.” We offer the composer’s own brief program note as an eloquent closing thought.

“Partita is a simple piece. Born of a love of surface and structure, of the human voice, of dancing, and tired ligaments, of music, and of our basic desire to draw a line from one point to another.”


**EDWARD MACLARY** is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities. Recognized as one of the leading choral conductors and pedagogues of his generation, he has led the UMD Choral program to global acclaim. The school’s flagship ensemble, the UMD Chamber Singers, has toured extensively and won top prizes in international competitions around the world. Over the past decade the UMD Concert Choir has become the symphonic chorus of choice for both the National Symphony Orchestra and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Maclary has served as the chorus master for Robert Shaw, Christoph Eschenbach, Marin Alsop, Andris Nelsons, Iván Fischer, Helmuth Rilling, Robert Spano, Matthew Halls, Nathalie Stutzman, and Masaaki Suzuki, among many others. Choirs under his direction have also performed with the Cleveland Orchestra and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

From 2014 – 2017, Maclary served as the Director of the Master Class in Conducting for the Oregon Bach Festival. He has also been the Artist in Residence for the Eastman School of Music Summer Choral Institute and has taught conducting master classes at Indiana University, Westminster Choir College, the University of Wisconsin, and Temple University. Regarded as an outstanding clinician and educator, Edward Maclary maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor for choral festivals and honors choirs around the country. Under his leadership the graduate conducting program at the University of Maryland has become one of most sought after in the country and its alumni occupy professional and academic positions around throughout the nation.

**SHUAI WANG**, piano, holds a Bachelor’s degree from Oberlin Conservatory of Music and a Master’s degree from University of Michigan. Wang has placed in various piano competitions, including first prize at the Mozart Piano Competition in Hong Kong, and first prize in the Sigma Alpha Iota Competition at Chautauqua Music Festival. Wang’s significant appearances include Mozart’s Piano Concerto K.459 at Chautauqua Music Festival, and the Friday Noon Concert Feature at Arts Club of Washington, DC. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies at University of Maryland.
CHORAL ACTIVITIES at the UMD School of Music offers students, faculty & staff, and the community a wide variety of ensembles. The UMD Chamber Singers, University Chorale, UMD Treble Choir, UMD Men’s Chorus, Opera Chorus, and UMD Summer Chorus perform works from all eras and styles from early Renaissance music to the 20th Century. Edward Maclary, Director of Choral Activities, also oversees the School’s graduate program in choral conducting. Rehearsals and concerts take place in the state-of-the-art Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center and the intimate Memorial Chapel.

For more information, contact:

UMD Choral Activities
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umchoirs@umd.edu
The UMD Chamber Singers are recognized by all who have heard their work as one of today’s leading collegiate choral ensembles. Over the past fifteen years, the Chamber Singers have collaborated regularly with the National Symphony Orchestra and the Baltimore Symphony under internationally renowned conductors in much of the world’s most challenging repertoire of the Baroque, Classical, and Contemporary eras. They have undertaken performance tours throughout the world and won top prizes in prestigious international competitions, as well as appearing by invitation at professional music conferences throughout the United States. Their ever expanding repertoire encompasses Medieval chant to the contemporary literature being produced by this generation’s brightest young composers. The members of the UMD Chamber Singers are chosen from across the College Park campus and represent the very best of the talent, energy, and intellectual curiosity of the University’s student body.

Edward Maclary, Conductor
Aaron Peisner, Assistant Conductor
Shuai Wang, Accompanist

Hayley Abramowitz*    Jeremiah Lee
Nina Anderson         Lucas Link+
Emma Baker            Tanya Malykh
Jenna Barbieri        Amber Merritt*
Michael Butler        Erin Moody
Noah Calderon         Johnathon O’Neal
Jovon Eborn           Dan O’Neill
Dominic Ellis         Angela Pan
Adia Evans            Jack Perdue
Michael Fili          Aaron Peisner+
Allison Garey         Simon Polson
Maddy Gershunskiy     Collin Power
Kathryn Hylton+       Samantha Scheff
Andrew Jones          Emily Shallbetter
Kieun Steve Kim+      Julianna Smith
Ashley Kitchelt       Jillian Tate
Mary Shea Kealey Kustas*    John-Paul Teti
Emily Weiser

+Graduate Conductor
*Ensemble Assistant
Edward Maclary  
*Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities*

Kenneth Elpus  
*Assistant Professor of Music Education, Choral Music*

Lauri Johnson  
*Choral Administrator*

**Graduate Conductors**
- Kathryn Hylton
- Kieun Steve Kim
- Lucas Link
- Aaron Peisner

**Choral Assistants**
- Hayley Abramowitz, *Operations*
- Carlos Howard, *Public Relations and Marketing*
- Mary Shea Kealey Kustas, *Operations*
- Amber Merritt, *Operations*
- Blossom Ojukwu, *Operations*

**UMD School of Music Voice Faculty**
- Carmen Balthrop, *Soprano*
- Linda Mabbs, *Soprano*
- Martha Randall, *Soprano*
- Kevin Short, *Bass-Baritone*
- Gran Wilson, *Tenor*
- Delores Ziegler, *Mezzo-soprano*
- Diba Alvi, *Diction & Pedagogy*

Craig Kier, *Director of Maryland Opera Studio*
UPCOMING FALL 2017 CHORAL EVENTS

HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR INVITATIONAL
Wednesday, November 8 . 7:30PM
Now in its 16th consecutive year, the High School Choir Invitational puts the future of choral music in the spotlight as talented area high school choirs gather for a vibrant performance alongside UMD choral students.

FALL CHORAL COLLAGE
University Chorale, UMD Treble Choir & UMD Men’s Chorus
Sunday, November 12. 3PM
UMD’s popular choral ensembles present an evening of eclectic repertoire ranging from chant to Barbershop arrangements.

TAMARA WILSON, SOPRANO:
Weightless Dreams
Sunday, December 3 . 8PM
A 2017-2018 University of Maryland School of Music Artist in Residence and 2016 Richard Tucker Award Winner, soprano Tamara Wilson appears in recital with pianist Justina Lee. Ms. Wilson explores the works of Fanny Mendelssohn, Marx, Debussy, Fauré, Copland, and Barber in the premiere of her song recital program, Weightless Dreams.

BACH CANTATA SERIES
Thursday, December 7 . 1:30PM
A UMD Choral Activities favorite, the Bach Cantata Series explores the more than 200 cantatas written by the great master through informal performances by students, faculty, staff, and community friends.

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS
UMD Treble Choir & UMD Men’s Chorus
Femmes de Chanson & MânerMusik
Theodore Guerrant, organ
Friday, December 8 . 8PM
Returning for its 16th season, the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols tells the Christmas story through lively readings and music that epitomizes hope, goodwill and joy. On the day of the performance, tickets will be available only at Memorial Chapel beginning at 7PM.