

Upcoming Chorale Performances

Thursday, April 12, 2018

Churchville-Chili High School Choral Honors Concert

5786 Buffalo Rd, Churchville, NY 14428

7:00 p.m. - Tickets available at www.cccsd.org/finearts

Sunday, April 22, 2018: **Rochester Christian Reformed Church**

2750 Atlantic Ave, Penfield, NY 14526

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service

3:00 p.m. - Afternoon Concert (free and open to the public)

Sunday, April 22, 2018: **Church of the Epiphany**

3285 Buffalo Rd, Rochester, NY 14624

7:00 p.m. - Evensong Service

Saturday, April 28, 2018: **Asbury First United Methodist Church**

1050 East Ave, Rochester, NY 14607

7:30 p.m. - Evening Concert (free and open to the public)

Sunday, May 6, 2018–Sunday, May 13: **Mid-Atlantic Tour**

List of performances can be found at www.roberts.edu/chorale

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The Roberts Chorale



RWCChorale



ROBERTS
WESLEYAN COLLEGE

Chorale

LUX

THE DAWN FROM ON HIGH

Composed by Dan Forrest

NEW YORK STATE PREMIERE

Friday, March 23, 2018 | 7:30

Andrews B. Hale Auditorium

Howard Stowe Roberts Cultural Life Center

Rochester, NY

Program Notes

LUX: The Dawn from On High is Dan Forrest's third major work for chorus and orchestra, after *Requiem for the Living* and *Jubilate Deo*. This five-movement work explores various facets of *lux* (Latin for "light"), in texts ranging from ancient liturgical chant to Scripture to modern secular love poetry. The music of LUX, written in 2018, was inspired thematically and spiritually by these profound texts, visually by the light in the Reims Cathedral in France and at the Poulnabrone Dolmen in Ireland, and musically by a variety of musical sources from ancient chant to modern minimalist composers.

The title invokes the dual meaning of the text of the first movement, where the light of dawn gradually ascends into the sky, yet the Light of the world descends from the sky—a "Dawn from On High." As a whole, the five movements trace a symmetrical journey through time—from ancient prophecy, to today ("even after all this time"), and then back again; or from another perspective, from a day's dawn, through the sun's high point in the sky, and then to the setting of the sun on the horizon at the end of day.

The first movement offers the promise of future light, and the hope of dawn is repeatedly heard in the text and evoked by the music. The second movement uses contrasting musical meters and keys to portray its text about light courageously shining in darkness. This movement finishes somewhat open-ended, not with a glib ending, reflecting the nature of light that must continue to shine through darkness. The third movement flashes ahead to today, seeing the sun as a metaphor for unconditional love that "lights the whole sky." The fourth movement continues the "light in the sky" motif with a joyful, jazz-influenced setting of the "Gloria in excelsis" text from the Scriptural nativity story. The fifth movement closes out the "day" with an ancient evening hymn, presented as a solo, then unison, then in increasingly complex canons, before a closing section provides closure and unity between these multiple facets of light. (From www.danforrest.com)

A Note from the Conductor

Thank you for joining us this evening! We are thrilled to perform this beautiful extended work and to present its New York State premiere for you, our loyal Rochester audience. The Roberts Chorale exists for the *education* of its members in musical and vocal skill development, the *exposure* of singers and audiences alike to diverse choral literature, and the *edification* of all who hear us. This new work by Dan Forrest brilliantly serves all three purposes, and it is our prayer that as you hear the culmination of our hard work tonight, you are uplifted and moved to ponder God's awe and the wonder of God's creation. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

—Adam Potter



The Roberts Chorale

THE ROBERTS CHORALE is Roberts Wesleyan College's premier vocal ensemble, devoted to the study and performance of high-quality choral music from diverse styles, musical eras, languages, and cultures. Bonded by a passion for compelling musical performance and a desire for meaningful Christian fellowship, the Chorale is an ensemble of talented singer-artists who combine their gifts to cultivate excellence in choral singing.

Mission Statement

We are a family of diverse musicians united to sing for the glory of God. Striving to serve as God's instruments, we seek to enlighten others to the reality of God's love. Recognizing that our music is a gift from God, we express ourselves humbly and honestly through song.

Our purpose as an ensemble and as individuals is to return the beauty God has given us, share the life-transforming power of musical and interpersonal harmony with our audiences, celebrate how our differences empower us to contribute to the kingdom of God, serve each other and those around us in ways beyond our music, connect our heads to our hearts and engage our hands, and find joy in all we do.



The Roberts Chorale

Tenor 1

Orlando Boxx '21
 Kyler M. Ribbing '20
 Tyler Rifenburg '20

BA Music & BS Physics
 BS Vocal Performance
 BA Music (Saxophone)

Rochester, NY
 West Henrietta, NY
 Canastota, NY

Tenor 2

André F. Arce '21
 Evan Dick '19*
 Ryan E. Case '20 †
 Jonah Seymour '21

BS Homeland Security/App. Intelligence
 BS Choral Music Education
 BS Instrumental Music Education
 BS Vocal Performance

West Henrietta, NY
 Lockport, NY
 Herkimer, NY
 Watertown, NY

Baritone

Reyers Phillip Brusoe '19 †
 Collin Murtaugh '18
 Edward C. E. Reeb '21
 Drew Rogers '19
 Nathan Sawyer '20

BS Piano Performance
 BS Instrumental Music Education
 BA Music (Voice) & Religion/Philosophy
 BS Psychology
 BS Music Education

Delanson, NY
 Spencerport, NY
 Lockport, NY
 Canastota, NY
 Shortsville, NY

Bass

Hunter Kostraba '21
 Caleb N. Miller '20
 Eric James Stead '21
 Parker Story '20
 Phillip Anthony Woodard '19 *
 Elliott V. Wright '18

BS Choral Music Education
 BS Psychology
 BS Choral Music Education
 BS Piano Performance
 BS Choral Music Education
 BA History

Avon, NY
 Perry, NY
 Piles Grove, NY
 Rochester, NY
 Mobile, AL
 Canandaigua, NY

* Section Leader

† Assistant Section Leader/Sectional Pianist

Chamber Orchestra

Daniel Minnick, *organ*
 Emily Hutchinson, *flute*
 Theresa Lippa, *percussion*
 Iuliia Trishchuk, *violin*
 Beth Honan, *harp*

Natalie Jackson, *horn in F*
 Qiming Sheng, *oboe*
 Jared Steinmiller, *percussion*
 Victoria Yu, *cello*
 Esther Ting, *rehearsal pianist*

Program

LUX

Dan Forrest

The Dawn from On High

b. 1978

I. Illuminare

Soloists: Kyler M. Ribbing, Esther Ting, Evan Dick, and Kaitlyn Newman

Per viscera misericordiae
 Dei nostri
 in quibus visitavit
 nos oriens ex alto
 illuminare his qui in tenebris
 et in umbra mortis sedent
 ad dirigendos pedes nostros
 in viam pacis.
 Lux ex alto,
 veni nos illuminare.

*By the mercy of our God
 the dawn from on high
 will break upon us,
 to give light to those
 who sit in darkness
 and the shadow of death,
 to guide our feet
 into the way of peace.
 Light from on high,
 come illumine us.
 (based on Luke 1:78-79)*

Lux de luce apparuisti Christe,
 cui Magi munera offerunt,

*You appeared as Light from light,
 O Christ, to whom
 the Magi offered gifts,
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
 (Antiphon for Epiphany, 14th c.)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

II. Lux in Tenebris

Soloist: Sara Goutremout

Lux fulgebit hodie super nos,
 quia natus est nobis Dominus.

*A light will shine on us today,
 For the Lord is born unto us.
 (Introit for Christmas Dawn, 10th c.)*

Lux in tenebris lucet
 et tenebrae
 eam non superaverunt.

*The light shines in darkness;
 and the darkness
 has not overcome it.
 (John 1:5)*

III. The Sun Never Says

Even
After
All this time
The sun never says to the earth,
"You owe
Me."
Look
What happens
With a love like that,
It lights the
Whole
Sky.

*(Daniel Ladinsky, from "The Gift",
© 1999, used by permission)*

IV. Gloria in excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax.

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth, peace.
(from Luke 2:14)*

V. Creator of the Stars of Night

Soloists: Phillip Anthony Woodard, Léa Hossack Bouillon, and Brooke Sanford

Creator of the stars of night,
They people's everlasting Light,
O Christ, Thou Savior of us all,
now head They servants when they
call.

*Creator alme siderum
aeterna lux credentium
Christe redemptor omnium
Exaude voces supplicum.
O Blest Creator of the light, Who
made the day with radiance bright,
and o'er the newborn world did call
the light from darkness first of all.*

*When the whole world drew on
toward night, Thou camest, not in
splendor bright as sovereign, but the
humble Child of Mary, virgin mother
mild.*

To God the Father, God the Son, and
God the Spirit, Three in One,
laud, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.
(7th c. chant, various translations)

(...It lights the Whole Sky...)

The Roberts Choral

Follow Your Calling. Pursue Your Passion.

Dr. Adam Potter, conductor

Amber Coutwright, *president* | Melissa Pestinger, *vice president*
Kaitlyn N. Newman, *secretary* | Reyers Phillip Brusoe, *treasurer*
Kathryn McNeill & Phillip Anthony Woodard, *chaplains*
Brooke Sanford and Drew Rogers, *publicity chairs* | Evan Dick, *social director*
Léa Hossack Bouillon, *librarian*

Soprano 1

Lillian Rose Goetzman '21	BS Choral Music Education	Rochester, NY
Rebecca Mugnolo '20	BS Vocal Performance	Rochester, NY
Melissa Pestinger '19*	BS Choral Music Education	Barker, NY
Brooke Sanford '20	BS Choral Music Education	Lockport, NY

Soprano 2

Léa Hossack Bouillon '18	BS Vocal Performance	Biarritz, France
Lenora Mansil '19	BA Music (Voice)	Harrisville, NY
Starr Ryland-Buntley '20	BS Vocal Performance	Rochester, NY
Sarah E. Thomson '20	BA Music (Voice) & Comm.	Rochester, NY
Esther Ting '18 †	BS Vocal Performance	Sibu, Malaysia

Alto 1

Jaclyn Breeze '21	BS Flute Performance	North Chili, NY
Amber Courtwright '18*	BS Choral Music Education	Henrietta, NY
Grace Flier '19	BA Music (Violin) & Psychology	Springville, NY
Kathryn McNeill '19 †	BA Music (Piano)	Henrietta, NY
Julia Steidle '20	BS Vocal Performance	Argyle, NY
Adrianna White '19	BA Music (Voice)	Endicott, NY
Ashley Wimble '20	BA Music (Voice)	Latham, NY

Alto 2

Sara Goutremout '18	BA Vocal Performance	Copenhagen, NY
Sarah Hendrickson '19	BA Music (Piano)	Webster, NY
Courtney Krupa '20	BS Cross-Disciplinary Studies	Rockville Centre, NY
Kaitlyn N. Newman '19	BS Vocal Performance	Cortland, NY