

FORBES CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®**

School of Music

*presents*

# Dreams & Visions

**UCSA: University Chorus: Soprano/Alto Ensemble**  
**UCTB: University Chorus: Tenor/Bass Ensemble**  
**Treble Chamber Choir**  
**University Chorus**

**Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy, *director***  
**Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *director***  
**Ricky Goodwyn, *graduate conductor***  
**Nick Gomez-Colon, *graduate conductor***

**Elizabeth Williams, *collaborative pianist***  
**Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist***

Friday, March 1, 2024  
8 pm  
Concert Hall



There will be one 15-minute intermission.



## **Program - *continued***

### **TCC: Treble Chamber Choir**

**W. Bryce Hayes, *director***

**Elizabeth Williams, *collaborative pianist***

A Hymn for St. Cecilia Eleanor Daley

*Ave Maria* Cesár Alejandro Carrillo

The Sky is Strung with Glory Andrea Ramsey

Nick Gomez-Colon, *graduate conductor*

Set Me As a Seal René Clausen

What Happens When a Woman? Alexandra Olsavsky

The Parting Glass arr. The Wallin' Jennys

### **University Chorus**

**W. Bryce Hayes, *director***

**Elizabeth Williams & Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianists***

*Ka Wai Mapuna* (The Water Spring) Lili'oukalani

Hold Me, Rock Me Brian Tate

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personal computers, and any other electronic devices.

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of this production is strictly prohibited  
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## Program Notes

Welcome! Our first number, **Human Am I**, is an adaptation of an aural tradition song, “Woman am I,” which has been set by multiple New Age recording artists as well as choral composer and arranger Joan Szymko. Our arrangement celebrates the dreamer and visionary with each and all of us, our infinite selves!

Human am I, Spirit am I (are you, are we!)! I am the infinite within myself.  
I have no beginning and I have no end. Oh yes, I am! (you are! and we are!)

With text is taken from the Marian *O Antiphons*, **O Oriens** (O Morning Star) opens with an expanding sense of promise illustrated by cascading choral development, followed by multiple sections of independent polyphonic singing. A lush yet accessible composition, its majestic, independent part-writing makes it a delight to sing.

A traditional Bulgarian folk song, **Rumjana** has the common rhythm of a *lesnoto*, a stately dance in 7/8 time. A gorgeous language, Bulgarian is fun to sing! In this folk song one day a young girl named Rumjana meets an enchanting young man, named Rumjano (!), while she is busy collecting water in the coolness of the early morning.

Sarah Quartel’s “**All the Way Home**” was inspired by the Radcliffe Ladies’ Choir and their motto: “Friendship through singing.” The lilting vocal lines are underpinned by a delicate piano part, and the opening performance direction “contentedly rocking” describes the overall nature of the piece, full of gratitude and the rootedness of being home.

Perhaps the most well-known South African freedom song and capitalizing on the strong vocal tradition of South Africa, choral conductor and arranger Henry Leck has set **Siyahamba** in a glorious arrangement for three-part treble voices. To honor the aural tradition of South Africa, this song has been taught completely by rote audiation, which gives a life to our performance which we hope you will enjoy!

Composer Dan Davison writes, “**Armonía** is a journey where the singers invite the audience to experience the joys that musicians know so well. Choir people love harmony. Here, the Spanish flavor of the chords and the “bolero” style beat will take the listener to another land.”

English translation: *Harmony, how I love the sound of harmony.  
The sound of it is curious. It takes me from my world to a new place.  
And it guides me to a calm place. And there, the harmony is like warmth.  
Why does this sound do this? Why does it console me so?  
With harmony I feel tranquil. Can I take you there?*

Arranger Susan Brumfield writes, “**No Time** combines two camp meeting songs: “Rise, Oh Fathers” and “No Time”. When sung separately, each goes through the entire progression of fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sinners before concluding. Both songs were collected by Loman Cansler from Kansas City, Missouri, who learned them from his grandfather, James Reuben Broyles, a Missouri preacher. I first heard the two songs performed as a medley at the San Antonio Folklife Festival in August 1991.”

Sarah Quartel’s **Wide Open Spaces** explores the journey of exploration all young people go on as we explore our dreams and visions. Throughout our schooling, even into college, we consider who we want to become in this world: “There’s part of my journey that’s yet to be found.”

## Program Notes – *continued*

Andrea Ramsey's **There Has to Be a Song** has become a beloved tradition piece for University Chorus Tenor/Bass Ensemble. The inspired text by minister Bob Benson (1930-1986) helps us define why music is so important to us. Though the dark nights, troublesome days, and wearisome miles, "...there has to be a song."

Ursula Vaughan Williams (wife of composer Ralph), composed the beautiful hymn text used by composer Eleanor Daley for **A Hymn for St. Cecilia**. Patron saint of musicians, St. Cecilia has inspired centuries of composers and musicians to make a joyful noise: "Through the cold aftermath of centuries Cecilia's music dances in the skies".

César Alejandro Carrillo (b. 1957) is a Venezuelan composer. His setting of the familiar **Ave Maria** text for four-part treble voices uses expanded choral harmony with homophonic textures highlighting the mysticism of this Marian antiphon.

The poetic text of **The Sky is Strung with Glory** is an excerpt from Madeline L'Engle's poem *Instruments* (1). The connection between music and the universe complements the similar themes in **A Hymn for St. Cecilia**. Composer Andrea Ramsey writes, "The work is primarily in the Lydian mode, which is evocative of light and space in my mind."

René Clausen, faculty emeritus from Concordia College, Morehead in North Dakota has written extensively for choir. His *Set Me As a Seal* is among his most beloved works. The text is taken from Song of Solomon: "...for love is strong as death."

Axandria Olsavsky of the professional choral trio Artemisia writes of **What Happens When a Woman?**: "A song for the strong women of our world who seek to empower themselves by asking important questions."

Singing **The Parting Glass** has become an annual traditional for TCC in our mid-semester Spring concerts. We were delighted to have the opportunity to sing this arrangement with its composers, The Wallin' Jennys, in 2023 in their Forbes Center Concert!

Queen Lili'uokalani was the only queen regnant and the last sovereign monarch of the Hawaiian Kingdom. A prolific composer, she helped to preserve key elements of Hawaii's traditional poetics while mixing in Western harmonies brought by missionaries. Her **Ka Wai Mapuna** speaks of the beautiful Hawaiian landscape:

Translation: *The spring water swells Sacred Spring Bend and drink Bend and life  
Sacred bend Common bend Sword fern of the ancestors Care for the spring water  
Nourish the spring water Protect the spring water For long life, for optimal health.*

Our concert concludes with **Hold Me, Rock Me** a plaintive spiritual-style piece by Brian Tate. As we encounter our dreams and visions, "Someday, gonna cross that river, someday, gonna set out on my own" we are reminded that our life journeys are only fully realized when we are supported and comforted by our support network of family and friends who help to "hold me, rock me, calm and easy. Hold me rock me, deep and wide."

## Biographies

*2022 CVPA Outstanding Student Mentor, and 2016 JMU Woman of Distinction*, **Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy** brings to JMU a rich and diverse career of international performance and teaching. As JMU Director of Choral Activities, Dr. van der Vat-Chromy directs *The Madison Singers*, the *JMU Chorale*, the *UCSA: University Chorus Soprano/Alto Ensemble*, and coordinates the *VMRC Generations Choir*, an intergenerational choral practicum here in Harrisonburg. A certified Kodály music educator, Dr. V. is a proud faculty member of Kodály Institutes at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX, and JMU. The 2012-2014 Interim Music Director for the Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir, currently Dr. V. is the JMU Vocal Arts Summer Camp director and serves as Coordinator of the JMU Voice Area. An active adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor, Dr. V's research interests include the kinesthetic connections in conducting pedagogy, the integration of Kodály methodology into collegiate choral performance, and the sociological impact of choral cultures on student learning and the experience of flow. Recently dubbed by the renowned choral ensemble The King's Singers 'our collective fairy-godmother,' this semester Dr. van der Vat-Chromy was awarded the *2022 Shirley Hanson Roberts ('56) and Richard D. Roberts Endowment for Faculty Excellence*, a university-wide endowed award for excellence in student engagement, collaborative learning, growth, and self-discovery.

**Dr. W. Bryce Hayes** maintains an active career as a conductor, teacher, church musician, pianist, accompanist and singer. As choral conductor Bryce is currently Associate Professor of Choral Music at James Madison University where he conducts The University Chorus Tenor/Bass Ensemble and Treble Chamber Choir. In addition to his choral conducting responsibilities at JMU, Bryce teaches graduate choral literature, undergraduate conducting, and music education classes. He is an active adjudicator and clinician, recent and upcoming appearances include conducting honors choirs and workshops in Virginia, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Bryce is also the director of The Crozet Community Chorus. A New Jersey native, Dr. Hayes completed the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting from The University of Minnesota. Prior to his time in Minnesota, Dr. Hayes received a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Temple University. His career began with a Bachelor of Music degree in music education from Westminster Choir College following which he taught high school choir at Princeton Day School.

## **UCSA: University Chorus: Soprano/Alto Ensemble**

Elizabeth Williams, *collaborative pianist*

Gillian Saunders *UCSA undergraduate conducting intern*

Talia Bushman, Natalie Gillum, Allie Ranton, *UCSA undergraduate managers*

Kaileigh Atkinson	Grace Hollowell	Morgan Roberts
Gabi Bieberich	Abigail Johnson	Anne Rosario
Marisa Blass	Summer Komol	Gillian Saunders
Abby Bryan	Caitlyn Laird	Lauren Schmidt
Anna Bryant	Bryn Lewellen	Natalia Settipani
Karis Buchanan	Madeleine Magnant	Ashley Shupe
Talia Bushman	Erin Malloy	Rachel Smalley
Alissah Carmack	Caitlyn Newlin	Erin Smith
Laura Cook	Madeleine Parr	Olivia Smith
Mary Kate Connor	Sydney Parow	Nicole Stanley
Jackie Copeland	Faith Walthall	Sofia Vergard
Mariah Eakin	Sarah Patunas	Jaya Whaley
Abby Evans	Charlotte Peter	Savannah Whitley
Jordan Frick	Sarah Pinkstaff	Natalie Wigginton
Ella Gallagher	Ava Quesenberry	Jenna Williams
Bella Gayton	Allie Ranton	Erin Wilson
Natalie Gillum	Isabelle Rhodes	Alexa Yudoff

## **UCTB: University Chorus: Tenor/Bass Ensemble**

Linlin Uta, *collaborative pianist*

Ricky Goodwyn, *graduate conductor*

David Barredo	Jonas Kerlin	William Palesestrant
Anthony Bassett	Roland Lamoureux	Daniel Parsons
Michael Bromley	Kevin Landry	Titus Peltola
Thayer Causer	Radhg Leahy	James Schader
Garrison Cornwell	Roman Leonard	Ryan Secrist
Logan Ealley	Carter Linask	Henry Taylor
Ricky Goodwyn	Andy Loung	Michael Tsougranis
Joshua Grimes	Shaun McGovern	Matt Underwood
Kenneth Halloway	Kieran Morales	Matthew Yeary
Will Keppel	Lanie Misuko	

## **TCC: Treble Chamber Choir**

Elizabeth Williams, *collaborative pianist*

Sydney Ashworth	Nicole Murphy	Emalee Stepp
Bella Baptiste	Sydney Parow	Nancy Walker
Jackie Copeland	Madeline Parr	Jaya Whaley
Grace Hollowell	Allie Ranton	Savannah Whitley
Emma Jones	Isabelle Rhodes	Natalie Wigginton
Kendra Liverman	Abbey Spencer	

## **SP '24 JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY CHORAL AREA**

Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy

*Director of Choral Activities*

*Professor of Choirs, Conducting, and Choral Music Education*

Dr. W. Bryce Hayes

*Associate Director of Choral Activities*

*Associate Professor of Choirs, Choral Music Education*

Nikos Myrogiannis-Koukos, *DMA Choral Conducting Graduate Student*

Addison Walton, *DMA Choral Conducting Graduate Student*

Ricky Goodwyn, *MM Choral Conducting Student*

Nick Gomez-Colon, *MM Choral Conducting Student*

Nicole Dudley, *Choral Librarian*

### **JMU CHORAL COLLABORATIVE PIANISTS**

Amy Robertson, *The JMU Chorale*

Linlin Uta, *UCTB*

Elizabeth Williams, *The Madison Singers, TCC, and UCSA*

### **UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE MANAGERS/CONDUCTING INTERNS**

Ashley Seminaro, Erica Taylor, *TMS*

Ciara Theisz, Kelly Donlan, Natalie Carter, *JMU Chorale*

Nick Gomez-Colon., *Treble Chamber Choir*

Gillian Saunders, *UCSA*

Ricky Goodwyn, *UCTB*

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Dr. W. Bryce Hayes, *Associate Director of Choral Activities*