

## ORLANDO SINGS

George Frideric Handel's

# MESSIAH

ORLANDO SINGS SYMPHONIC CHORUS THE ORLANDO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

MARCH 30 | 7:30 PM | STEINMETZ HALL DR. PHILLIPS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



## orlando sings choral festival 2023

MAY 18 | 7:30 PM MAY 20 | 5:00 & 8:00 PM First United Methodist Church of Orlando

Visit ORLANDOSINGS.ORG for tickets



2022-23 SEAS SINGLE TICK NOW ON SAL **Dvorak's 6th** The Plaza Live April 17

**Peter Rabbit** The Plaza Live April 29 & 30

DMING CONCERT

**Mahler's 5th** Steinmetz Hall May 6 & 7

Let's Misbehave – The Songs of Cole Porter Steinmetz Hall May 13

TICKETS ARE ON SALE AT ORLANDOPHIL.ORG 407.770.0071



Dear Friends of Orlando Sings,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to **HANDEL'S MESSIAH**! As we are about to launch our first Annual Fundraising Campaign, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support and encouragement. Our choirs are growing, our community of supporters is energized, and we could not be more excited about everything that is in the works for 2023, 2024, and beyond!

Would you like to sponsor one of our artists or concerts? Or would you like to make a matching

challenge gift? Let's talk!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the **Second Annual Orlando Sings Choral Festival** coming up **May 18 & 20**. You will hear some incredible contemporary music (and meet the composers!), experience beautiful digital projections, enjoy a special dinner, and celebrate the grand finale of our second season! Festival concerts will feature fabulous soloists, the Orlando Sings Symphonic Chorus, the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, Harmonia, our professional vocal ensemble Solaria, and the first performance for the new Orlando Senior Singers! We will also welcome back conductor Christine Le, and guest conductor Chevalier Lovett will make his Orlando Sings debut.

Learn more at **orlandosings.org/season**, sign up for our email newsletter, and be sure to follow us on social media to stay up to date on all the exciting work of Orlando's new and fast-growing fine arts nonprofit organization.

All of this is possible because of the generous support of YOU, our patrons and donors. Please donate today (go to **orlandosings.org/donate**) and please also consider making an additional gift to the Ashley Minear Orlando Sings Endowment Fund (**orlandosings.org/endowment**).

We are thankful to be contributing to the cultural life of our community and changing lives for the better through music. Thank you so much for your support. See you at the next concert!

Sincerely,

Andrew Minear, D.M.A. Artistic and Executive Director

## **ORLANDO SINGS SYMPHONIC CHORUS**

## SOPRANO

Katelyn Bocarro Pamela Carlson Kristina Cawthon Amy Conrod Leslie Gallagher Ryleigh Graber Brittany Gress Holly Hodges Lauren Jewell Irene Kaplan Brianna Martin Meagan Miller Claire Olinik Sandra Peter Hollie Pratt Sanuki Prematilleke Karen Roberts Shannon Romba Janie Rutherford Erin Scully Kolodinsky Sandra Shafer Kathryn Supina

## ALTO

Indhira Acosta Ali Bernards Hillary Brown Kate Carlton Ashleigh Ciambriello Ashley Cintron Rebekah Ciolek Dorea Cook Katie Counts Meagan Davis Melinda Fradley Emily Fratti Johanna Gonzalez Kari Hamada Grace Hayes Cristina Jimenez Sydney Leduc Danielle Lindner Michelle Mailhot Susan Mathews Valerie Parrish Miranda Schubert Lindsay Taylor Stough Michelle Toro

## TENOR

Antonio Barnes Alexander Bilka Andy Blanchard Paul Braithwood Nathan J. Caldwell Andrew Campbell Ross Cawthon Thomas Dyer Andrew Francis Noel Godoy Daniel Hill Michael Kennedy Brian Knollman Taylor VanDuyn Will Mathews Kelvin Nguyen Terry Olson

Zachary Pecore Ezra Prather Ralph J Pugh Peter Rodrigues Wesley Schafer Kristopher Schave Michael Patrick Shortal Reiner Wolf

## BASS

Samuel Carlton Dillon Chapman Justin Chase Thomas Desmond Alex Glover Michael Hodges Cameron Ivie Aaron Kass Malcolm Katzen Jerrett King Ryan Knight Cesar Lengua-Miranda David McDermott Justin McGill Kelly McKee Matthew Minear Amir Mohammed Liam Joshua Munn Alex Pollard Evan Powers Nathan Selikoff James Thompson

**CONDUCTOR** Andrew Minear

## **GUEST SOLOISTS**

## SOPRANO

Anna Eschbach

TENOR

Eric Rieger

COUNTER TENOR Logan Tanner **BARITONE** Kyle White

## **ORLANDO SINGS COLLABORATIVE PIANIST**

## HARPSICHORD & ORGAN

Ledean Williams

## ORLANDO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

## FIRST VIOLINS

Rimma Bergeron-Langlois, Principal The Lynn and Charles Steinmetz Chair Annabelle Gardiner The Jeanne and John Blackburn Chair Julia Gessinger

Olga Ferroni Joni Hanze Galen Kaup

## SECOND VIOLINS

Alexander Stevens, Principal Victor Ferroni Sacha Phelps Linda Van Buren Jennie Rudberg Dina Fedosenko

## VIOLAS

Douglas Pritchard, Principal Melissa Swedberg Oana Potur Linda Kessler

## CELLOS

Ronald Gardiner, Principal Brenda Higgins Jonathan Stilwell

## BASSES

Don-Michael Hill, Principal In Partnership with UCF Chris Morgan

## OBOES

Jamie Strefeler, Principal In Partnership with UCF Sherwood Hawkins

## BASSOON

Diane Bishop, Principal The Theodore R. Hassen Chair

## TRUMPETS

Thomas Macklin, Principal The Stephen Goldman Chair Lyman Brodie

## TIMPANI

Carl Rendek, Principal The Kenneth and Ann Hicks Murrah Chair

## MESSIAH

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) Premiered April 13, 1741

# PART THE FIRST: Prophecy and Promise of the Redeemer

## Sinfony

Scene One: God's Comforting Promise

## Accompagnato (Tenor)

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Isa. 40:1–3

## Air (Tenor)

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain. Isa. 40:4

## Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Isa. 40:5

Scene Two: The Purifying Messiah is Prophesied

## Accompagnato (Bass)

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of Hosts; Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth; the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come. Hag. 2:6–7 The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in: Behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts. Mal. 3:1

## Air (Alto)

But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire. *Mal.* 3:2

## Chorus

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. *Mal.* 3:3

Scene Three: God's Glory Comes Through a Virgin

## **Recitative (Alto)**

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Emmanuel, God with us. Isa. 7:14; St. Matt. 1:23

## Air (Alto) and Chorus

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid, say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God. Isa. 40:9 Arise, shine, for thy Light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Isa. 60:1 Scene Four: From Darkness Comes the Light of the World

## Accompagnato (Bass)

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Isa. 60:2–3

## Air (Bass)

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. Isa. 9:2

## Chorus

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isa. 9:6

Scene Five: The Christmas Story

## Pifa (Sinfonia pastorale)

## **Recitative (Soprano)**

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. *Luke 2*:8

## Accompagnato (Soprano)

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. *Luke 2*:9

## **Recitative (Soprano)**

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10–11

## Accompagnato (Soprano)

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying... *Luke 2*:13

## Chorus

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men. *Luke* 2:14

Scene Six: Christ the Shepherd-King's Ministry on Earth

## Air (Soprano)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Sion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen. Zech. 9:9–10

## **Recitative (Alto)**

Then shall the eyes of the blind be open'd, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as a hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. *Isa.* 35:5–6

## Air (Soprano and Alto)

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Isa. 40:11 Come unto Him, all ye that labour, come unto Him that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. Matt. 11:28–29

## Chorus

His yoke is easy, His burthen is light. Matt. 11:30

## Intermission (15 minutes)

## PART THE SECOND: The Suffering Lamb Who Redeems

Scene One: The Sacrificial Lamb Heals His Wayward Flock

## Chorus

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world. John 1:29

## Air (Alto)

He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. Isa. 53:3 He gave His back to the smiters, and His cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: He hid not His face from shame and spitting. Isa. 50:6

## Chorus

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him. Isa. 53:4–5

## Chorus

And with his stripes we are healed. Isa. 53:5

## Chorus

All we, like sheep, have gone astray, we have turned ever'y one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isa. 53:6

Scene Two: The Abandoned Messiah Suffers Scorn

## Accompagnato (Tenor)

All they that see Him laugh Him to scorn; they shoot our their lips, and shake their heads, saying: Ps. 22:7

## Chorus

He trusted in God that He would deliver Him: let Him deliver Him, if He delight in Him. Ps. 22:8

## Accompagnato (Tenor)

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness. He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man, neither found He any to comfort Him. Ps. 69:20

## Arioso (Tenor)

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow! Lam. 1:12

## Accompagnato (Tenor)

He was cut off out the land of the living; for the transgressions of Thy people was He stricken. Isa. 53:8 Scene Three: Christ's Resurrection and Ascension

## Air (Tenor)

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell, nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption. Ps. 16:10

## Chorus

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory. Ps. 24:7–10

Scene Four: Spreading the Gospel

## Chorus

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of the preachers. Ps. 68:11

## Air (Soprano)

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things. *Isa.* 52:7 / *Rom.* 10:15

Scene Five: The Heathen Rebel Against God's Gospel

## Air (Bass)

Why do the nations so furiously rage together, why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His anointed. Ps. 2:1–2

## Chorus

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us. Ps. 2:3

## **Recitative (Tenor)**

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision. Ps. 2:4

## Air (Tenor)

Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Ps. 2:9

## Chorus

Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth, halleluja! *Rev.* 19:6 The Kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever, *Rev.* 11:15 King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, hallelujah! *Rev.* 19:16

# PART THE THIRD: Humankind's Redemption and Final Judgment

Scene One: The Expectation of Our Own Resurrection

## Air (Soprano)

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. And tho' worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. Job 19:25–26 For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep. I Cor 15:20

## Chorus

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. I Cor 15:21–22

## Accompagnato (Bass)

Behold, I tell you a mystery: we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. I Cor 15:51–52

## Air (Bass)

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. I Cor 15:52–53

Scene Two: The Final Judgement By the Lamb

## Air (Soprano)

If God be for us, who can be against us? Rom. 8:31 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth: Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather, that is risen again: who is at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us. Rom. 8:33–34

## Chorus

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever. *Rev.* 5:12–14

## Chorus

Amen.



For program notes and more information about our artists, go to **orlandosings.org/messiah** 



American tenor **Eric Rieger** has enjoyed success performing opera throughout Europe where he has sung under such conductors as John Elliot Gardner, Stefano Ranzani, and Franz Welser-Möst. His career has led him to the opera companies of Zürich, Luzern, Basel, Trier, Regensburg, Kaiserslautern, Bremerhaven, Osnabrück, Nordhausen, Konstanz, Novara, Treviso, as well as Zomeropera Alden Biesen in Belgium, Edinburgh Festival Theatre, Citizens Theatre in Scotland, and Everyman Palace Theatre in Ireland. Known for his interpretations of Rossini, Donizetti, and Mozart, Dr. Rieger has excelled in

such roles as Almaviva (Il Barbiere di Siviglia), Don Ramiro (La Cenerentola), Lindoro (L'Italiana in Algeri), Nemorino (L'Elisir d'Amore), Ernesto (Don Pasquale), Tonio (La Fille du Régiment), Tamino (Die Zauberflöte), Belmonte (Die Entführung aus dem Serail), Don Ottavio (Don Giovanni), and Ferrando (Cosí fan tutte). His large repertoire spans from the Baroque (Alcina, Dardanus), to the 20th century (The Rake's Progress, Albert Herring). Equally at home on the concert platform, Dr. Rieger has been featured at the Claudio Monteverdi Festival in Italy, the Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, and Carnegie Hall. He has appeared with many notable orchestras including the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Basel Sinfonietta, St. John's Orchestra (London), the Luxembourg Chamber Orchestra "Les Musiciens," the Trier Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Symphony Orchestras of Harrisburg and Lubbock, and the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra.



Praised for his "commanding, polished" singing, American Baritone **Kyle White** has found success performing roles from the standard repertoire as well as modern repertoire. For the 2022/2023 season, Mr. White performs the role of Nardo in La finta giardiniera with The Hungarian State Opera, Nardo in La finta giardiniera and Figaro in Il barbiere di Siviliga with Opera NEO, and Schaunard in La bohème with Kentucky Opera. Mr. White also joins Virginia Opera to perform the role of Samuel and cover The Modern Major General in The Pirates of Penzance, perform the role of Tommy McIntyre and cover Hawkins Fuller in

Fellow Travelers, and cover (with one sung performance) Giorgio Germont in La Traviata. A winner of the Iowa district of the 2023 Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition, the summer of 2023 sees Mr. White as a Filene Artist at Wolf Trap opera making his role debut as Valentin in Faust. Mr. White previously joined Palm Beach Opera as an Apprentice Artist for their 2021 Festival and their 2021/2022 season. Mr. White was a winner of the Florida district of the 2022 Laffont Competition, and an encouragement award winner of the North Carolina district in 2021.



Soprano, **Anna Eschbach**, is an active performer and private voice instructor in the Central Florida area. She earned her bachelor's degree in vocal performance from Appalachian State University and a master's degree in vocal performance from the University of Tennessee. Born and raised in Orlando, Ms. Eschbach has performed with numerous ensembles and orchestras throughout Florida, including Opera Orlando, the Orlando Philharmonic, the Bach Festival Society of Winter Park, and the Villages Philharmonic. She was a studio artist with Opera Orlando during the 2019-2020 season, where

she appeared as Anne Boleyn in the world premiere of 6 of VIII, as well as Barbarina in *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Most recently, she performed as soprano soloist with Orlando Sings in Haydn's *Creation* and in the Monteverdi Vespers of 1610. Currently, Ms. Eschbach maintains a thriving private voice studio and performing career throughout the Orlando area, and serves on the voice faculty at Rollins College.



Praised for his "striking musicality, clarity, and strong coloratura" (*Opera Canada*), countertenor **Logan Tanner** has performed on operatic stages throughout the United States and abroad. He recently performed the role of Ruggiero in Handel's *Alcina* at the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival, and "commanded the role of Oberon charmingly" (*Opera Canada*) in Britten's A *Midsummer Night's Dream* with the Halifax Opera Festival.

Tanner has garnered awards in numerous competitions, placing first in the Choralis Young

Artist Competition, Ise-Shima International Singing Competition, New Opera Stars Vocal Competition, New York Classical Music Society International Competition, and the Vano Visioli International Opera Competition. He took third prize in the Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition and 5th in the Opera Tools International Competition, and has won the American Prize in Opera and the Pasadena Vocal Competition Special Encouragement Award. In addition, Tanner was granted honorable mention by the NOMEA International Competition and the Vienna New Year Concert International Competition.

Tanner has been engaged as soloist with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Austin Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Europa, North Carolina Baroque Orchestra, the Axelrod Performing Arts Center, New York Repertory Orchestra, the Philharmonic of Southern New Jersey, Choralis, Chorus Austin, New York Chamber Choir, the Henry Purcell Society of Boston, La Fiocco, the Arcadia Players, Monmouth Civic Chorus, the Westchester Oratorio Society, and the Sparkill Concert Series.

Learn more about the artists at orlandosings.org/messiah

## ORLANDO SINGS SUPPORTERS

## Donate today at orlandosings.org/donate

## CONDUCTOR'S CIRCLE \$20.000.00 AND UP

Roy Cockrum

### PLATINUM LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$10,000.00 AND UP Lynda Langa

## GOLD LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

\$5,000.00 AND UP Andrew Minear\* Brent & Katie Rosengren

#### SILVER LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$2,500.00 AND UP

George and Leslie Andreae Anonymous Jeffrey Counts Nancy Fuleihan\* Shirley Piercy Nancy Rex

#### BRONZE LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$1.000.00 AND UP

Reed and Heather Arnos Paul Braithwood Susan K. Bright Ronald and Linda Boot Phil and Elizabeth Eschbach Rob and Rebecca Gallardo\* Tim and Suzanne Gifford Lynne and Charlie Gill Heyward and Katherine Gould\* Christopher Marshall Carolyn Minear Melanie Minear-Lazar Penny Walsh

#### SUPPORTERS CIRCLE \$500.00 AND UP

Walter Bissett Nicholas Boeheme\* Melanie Hill Kelly Jewell Sarah Wright-Killinger\* Jonathan Nelms Dee Schwartz Rico and Marty Supina Guy Swenson Michelle and Sam Waits

### DONORS CIRCLE \$250.00 AND UP

Aarika Ardis Indhira Acosta Jennah Delp\* Matt Hawks Carole Huston Camila Mattos Kelly and Tiffiney McKee Sandra Peter

Marshall & LindaGay Peterson-Blanc Kristopher Schave Murray and Hazel Somerville Patrice and Ken Thompson Joan and Harry Travis

### FRIENDS CIRCLE

Judy Arnett Allison Arnett Will Benton Ali Bernards Brian Brink Mario Campa & Scott Evans Ashleigh Ciambriello Paul Emery Russ Elms Kimberly Evans Emily Fratti Noel Godov Brittany Gress Melanie Huston Justin and Elizabeth Ingram Marcie and Hank Katzen Danielle Linder Chevalier Lovett Blaire Lynch\* Terence Madlangbayan Walter Magiera Kimber Maitland Marcia Minear David McDermott James Nussbaumer Alan Pagan Mary Palmer Evan and Nick Powers Sarah Purser & Marco Bojorquez Chrissa Rehm Svlvia Roan Anthony Roberts Peter & Jennifer Rodrigues Kristopher Schave Gary and Joanne Schoelkopf\* Cara Schoenfish Bethany Smith Theresa Smith-Levin Stubenbort Family Alex Swartsel Kenneth Swift II James Thompson Megan Ulrich Katheryn Wright\* Pete and Lisa Xiques\*

\*In memory of Ashley Minear





# orlando sings choral festival 2023

MARGARET BONDS CREDO ANDRÉ J. THOMAS MASS May 18 | 7:30 PM ORLANDO SINGS SYMPHONIC CHORUS HARMONIA

HELIOS by TIMOTHY C. TAKACH May 20 | 5:00 PM SOLARIA SINGERS

THE NOTEBOOKS OF LEONARDO DA VINCI by JOCELYN HAGEN INTO THE LIGHT by JAKE RUNESTAD May 20 | 8:00 PM ORLANDO SINGS SYMPHONIC CHORUS ORLANDO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

VISIT WWW.ORLANDOSINGS.ORG FOR TICKETS