

Upon the straits; on the French coast the light  
 Gleams and is gone; the cliffs of England stand,  
 Glimmering and vast, out in the tranquil bay.  
 Come to the window, sweet is the night-air!  
 Only, from the long line of spray  
 Where the sea meets the moon-blanch'd land,  
 Listen! you hear the grating roar  
 Of pebbles which the waves draw back, and fling,  
 At their return, up the high strand,  
 Begin, and cease, and then again begin,  
 With tremulous cadence slow, and bring  
 The eternal note of sadness in.

Sophocles long ago  
 Heard it on the Aegean, and it brought  
 Into his mind the turbid ebb and flow  
 Of human misery; we  
 Find also in the sound a thought,  
 Hearing it by this distant northern sea.

The Sea of Faith  
 Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore  
 Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled.  
 But now I only hear  
 Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,  
 Retreating, to the breath  
 Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear  
 And naked shingles of the world.

Ah, love, let us be true  
 To one another! for the world, which seems  
 To lie before us like a land of dreams,  
 So various, so beautiful, so new,  
 Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,  
 Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;  
 And we are here as on a darkling plain  
 Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,  
 Where ignorant armies clash by night.

**Tufts Concert Choir and Chamber Singers  
 On a Darkling Plain**



Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.  
 Distler Performance Hall

# On a Darkling Plain

Featuring the Tufts University Concert Choir and Chamber Singers  
Jamie Kirsch, conductor; Thomas Stumpf, accompanist

**Sunday, November 17, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.**

*Distler Performance Hall*

*Granoff Music Center, Tufts University*

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## PROGRAM

*The Red-Gold Darkness of Rain* (2017)

Dominick DiOrio  
(b. 1984)

*Thomas Stumpf, piano*

*Littoral* (2013)

Rebecca Sacks '06  
(b. 1983)

*Tufts University Chamber Singers*

*Phind'ukhulume* (Zulu Prayer)

arr. Mzwandile Mabuza  
(b. 1991)

*The Best of All Possible Worlds* from "Candide"

Leonard Bernstein  
(1918-1990)  
arr. Robert Page

*Thomas Stumpf, piano*

*Der Herr denket an uns*, BWV 196

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750)

1. Sinfonia
2. Der Herr denket an uns
3. Er segnet
4. Der Herr segne euch
5. Ihr seid die Gesegneten des Herrn

*Katherine Winterstein, Jane Starkman, violin; Jenny Stirling, viola*  
*Guy Fishman, cello; Anne Trout, double bass; Allen Hamrick, bassoon;*  
*Ryaan Ahmed, theorbo; Thomas Stumpf, organ*

*Wade in the Water*

arr. Stacey V. Gibbs  
(b. 1962)

*Dover Beach Revisited*

Dominick Argento  
(1927- 2019)

*Combined Choirs; Thomas Stumpf, piano*

## BWV 196 - "Der Herr denket an uns"

1. Sinfonia

1. Sinfonia

2. Chor

Der Herr denket an uns und segnet uns.  
Er segnet das Haus Israel,  
er segnet das Haus Aaron.

2. Chorus

The Lord is mindful of us and blesses us.  
He blesses the house of Israel,  
He blesses the house of Aaron.

3. Arie

Er segnet, die den Herrn fürchten, beide,  
Kleine und Große.

3. Aria

He blesses those who fear the Lord, both  
small and great.

4. Arie

Der Herr segne euch je mehr und mehr,  
euch und eure Kinder.

4. Arie

May the Lord bless you more and more,  
you and your children.

5. Chor

Ihr seid die Gesegneten des Herrn, der Himmel  
und Erde gemacht hat. Amen.

5. Chorus

You are the blessed of the Lord, who made  
heaven and earth. Amen.

### Wade in the Water

(Traditional Spiritual)

Trouble...

God's a gonna trouble de water.

Wade in de water,

oh, wade in de water, children,

wade in de water,

'cause my God's a gonna trouble de water.

See dat man all dressed in red,

God's a gonna trouble de water.

Well, it mus' be da children dat Moses led,

yes, God's a gonna trouble de water.

Wade in de water...

See date man all dressed in white,

God's a gonna trouble de water.

Well, it mus' be da children of de Israelites,

yes, God's a gonna trouble de water.

Wade in de water...

### Dover Beach Revisited

(Text by Matthew Arnold; 1851)

The sea is calm tonight.

The tide is full, the moon lies fair

If Snake had not seduced our lot,  
 And primed us for salvation,  
 Jehovah could not pardon all  
 the sins that we call cardinal,  
 involving bed and bottle!  
 Now onto Aristotle!  
 Okay!

Mankind is one,  
 All men are brothers.  
 As you'd have done,  
 Do unto others,

It's understood in this best of all possible worlds,  
 All's for the good in the best of all possible worlds.

Objection!  
*Yes!*

*What about war?*  
*Well it seems to me....*

*Though war may seem a bloody curse,*  
 It is a blessing in reverse.  
 When cannons roar,  
 both rich and poor  
 By danger are united.  
 Till every wrong is righted.

Philosophers make evident the point that I have cited.  
 'Tis war makes equal, as it were,  
 the noble and the commoner,  
 Thus war improves relations!  
 Now onto conjugations!

Amo, amas,  
 Amat, amamus!

Proving that this is the best of all possible worlds.  
 With love and kisses, the best of all possible worlds!  
 Proving that this is the best of all possible worlds.  
 With love and kisses, the best of all possible....

Quod erat demunstrandum!  
 Q.E.D!  
 Amo, amas,  
 Quod erat demunstrandum,  
 In this best of all possible worlds.  
 Quod erat demonstrandum!  
 Q.E.D!

## TUFTS CHAMBER SINGERS

### Jamie Kirsch, conductor

| Soprano           | Alto           | Tenor         | Bass            |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Yumei Lin         | Isobel Bohmer  | Auguste Brown | Daniel Fier     |
| Denise Looi       | Emily DeWolf   | Sam Volpe     | Kevin Ho        |
| Laura Manwaring   | Elaine Harris  | Harper Wise   | Samuel Lapine   |
| Frankie Michielli | Natalie Hwang  | Zhuo Yang     | Kevin Lee       |
| Mary Reynolds     | Allie Lam      |               | Anthony Merolla |
| Lydia Russell     | Kaitlyn Meslin |               | Kevin Schult    |
| Olivia Swonder    | Amulya Mutnuri |               | Chris Thomson   |
| Abigail Zielinski | Rachel Wolff   |               |                 |

## TUFTS CONCERT CHOIR

### Jamie Kirsch, conductor

| Soprano            |                      | Alto                  |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Hanna Anderson     | Kathryn Miles        | *Ayda Aricanli        | Chloe Malley         |
| Katherine Barrasso | Leslie Moukheiber    | Ainsley Ball          | Kaleigh Pentland     |
| Anne Marie Burke   | Jane Nasta           | Rachel (Ray) Callahan | Rossiel Reyes        |
| Tatyana Emery      | *Haruka Noishiki     | *Isabelle Chirles     | Mimi Ricanati        |
| Fariha Fairoz      | Caroline Robertstone | *Olivia Fletcher      | Natalie Sheehan      |
| Ruth Greenfield    | Meghan Schroeder     | Emily Hu              | Clara Smith          |
| Carolyn Hitelman   | *Julia Shufro        | Juliana Kessler       | Morgan Strong        |
| Janice Kwong       | *Vicky Zhang         | Adrienne La Forte     | Alexandra Therriault |
| Aviva Michaeli     |                      | Abby Larson           | Jordyn Voss          |
|                    |                      | Lishu Liao            | *Megan Wei           |
|                    |                      |                       | Rachel Wolff         |

| Tenor              |  | Bass             |                   |
|--------------------|--|------------------|-------------------|
| Lenny Fiannaca     |  | Mitch Browne     | *Joshua Leferman  |
| Danny Gur          |  | Michael Friedman | Lucas Pyle        |
| Michael Guyumbzhya |  | Patrick Gavazzi  | Jeff Rawitsch     |
| Eamon Mahoney      |  | Michael Kerr     | Kevin Schult      |
|                    |  | *Lillian Kirk    | Josh Simani       |
|                    |  | Jacob Kirsch     | David Whittingham |
|                    |  | *Michael Kotlik  | Nuo Yuan          |
|                    |  | *Noah Krupnick   |                   |

\*Phind'ukhulume solo group

### Choir Officers, 2019-20

Co-Presidents: Kaleigh Pentland and Clara Smith ; Vice President: Morgan Strong  
 Secretary: Elaine Harris ; Treasurer: Michael Kotlik  
 Social Chairs: Michael Kerr and Caroline Robertson  
 Librarians: Olivia Fletcher and Joshua Leferman  
 Marketing/Recruitment/Alumni Relations: Rachel Yhanto

## PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

**Jamie Kirsch** is Director of Choral Activities at Tufts University, where he conducts the Tufts Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and teaches music theory and conducting. He is also Music Director of Chorus pro Musica in Boston.

Having recently completed several highly acclaimed performances of Franz Liszt's Transcription for Piano of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, **Thomas Stumpf** was a winner of the Bösendorfer Prize (Vienna) and the Lilli Lehmann Medal (Salzburg). His performing career has taken him across four continents and he is featured on six CD's. Stumpf's repertoire ranges from Bach to the avant-garde; he has conducted several Mozart concerti from the keyboard, and performed the complete solo piano works of Mozart. He has appeared with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Boston Pops Orchestra (under Arthur Fiedler), Alea III, and numerous other ensembles. Also an active composer, Stumpf's compositions have appeared on concert programs in Boston, throughout the U.S. as well as in Germany and the former Soviet Union. He was the Director of Music at Follen Church in Lexington MA, where he conducted many major choral works. His experience at Follen led to his first book, *A Sounding Mirror: Courage and Music in our Time* (Higginum Hill Books). He regularly gives master-classes at the Musikschule in Mannheim, Germany.

Special thanks to Thomas Stumpf; Jeff Rawitsch; Clara Smith; Kaleigh Pentland; all our Choir Officers; Anna Griffis; Prof. Richard Jankowsky; Jimena Codina; Holly Druckman; Alix Kaplan; our set-up crews.

## TEXTS AND TRANSLATIONS

### The Red-Gold Darkness of Rain

(Text adapted by the composer after "Summer Rain" by Amy Lowell)

Rain, all night rain.  
Drops fell and flattened  
And rang like metal.

Ping-ping!

Rain, all night rain.

Rattling, clashing  
Dancing, glittering.

Rain, all night rain.

The Red-Gold darkness of rain,  
Bright as the words you whispered to me.

With the red-gold-silver coolness of  
rain, all night rain.

### Littoral

(Text by Eliezer Schaffzin, 2012)

Between the tides of high and low  
In softer sands, my footsteps slow,  
At white waves' edge I lose the trace  
Of what is oft called nature's pace,  
But who's to say this way is pure.  
I hear the rush of water's wake,  
But 'tis the sound the highway makes;  
The sun's rays, or – a radiant screen,  
I cannot tell what each one means...  
We walk a most peculiar shore.

### Phind'ukhulume

(Zulu Prayer)

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Phind'ukhulume moya oyingcwele         | Speak again, Holy Spirit,              |
| Phind'ukhulume Nkosi yami.             | Speak again, my Lord.                  |
| Ngoba zonkizono ebengizenza,           | Because of all my sins                 |
| Namhla zisobala ebusweni bakho.        | Have been forgotten by you today.      |
| Khuluma khuluma, khuluma Nkosi yami.   | Speak, speak, speak my Lord.           |
| Khuluma ndimamele, khuluma Nkosi yami. | Speak, I am listening, speak, my Lord. |

### The Best of All Possible Worlds from *Candide*

(Lyrics by John La Touche)

Let us review lesson eleven,  
Paragraph two, Axiom seven.  
Once one dismisses the rest of all possible worlds,  
One finds that this is the best of all possible worlds.

Pray, classify pigeons and camels.  
Pigeons can fly. Camels are mammals.  
There is a reason for everything under the sun.

Objection!

*Oh?*

What about snakes?

*Well, let me see!*

'Twas snake that tempted mother Eve.  
Because of Snake we now believe  
That though depraved,  
we can be saved  
from hellfire and damnation.  
Because of snake's temptation.