

masterworks

MASTERWORKS CHORALE • TOLEDO, OHIO • MARCH 2017

adaptation of composite by Liz West

Verleih uns Frieden

(Grant Us Peace)

Masterworks Chorale
with the
Bowling Green State University
Collegiate Chorale

Saturday, April 1, 2017, 8 pm
Trinity Episcopal Church

program

Verleih uns Frieden
Felix Mendelssohn

Laetatus sum (Psalm 122)
Claudio Monteverdi

Laetatus sum (Psalm 122)*
Tomás Luis de Victoria

Laetatus sum (Psalm 122)[†]
Marc-Antoine Charpentier

We shall Walk Through the Valley
in Peace
Trad., arr. Moses Hogan

Peace I Leave with You
René Clausen

Song of Peace
Vincent Persichetti

Shaker Songs
Peace
Heavenly Display
Lay Me Low
Benediction
Kevin Siegfried

Hiney Mah Tov
Trad., arr Iris Levine

Sim Shalom
John Leavitt

*to be performed by the Masterworks Chorale with
the BGSU Collegiate Chorale

†to be performed by the BGSU Collegiate Chorale

finding peace in a tumultuous world psalm 122 to be performed in three settings

by Meghan Schmidbauer, Soprano

The past weeks and months have been tumultuous, regardless of one's political affiliations or organizational memberships. Years ago, only if we tuned in to the nightly news at 6:30, did we learn of the day's events. Now, with just a swipe, headlines are updated and information abounds. It's common to see alerts as breaking news arrives. It seems each morning comes with the news of pain and suffering from around the world. In a time when news is shared within minutes, I feel I am more exposed, left raw, from the constant barrage of anger and frustration that I read.

Just recently, we experienced the loss of a family member. His death was very sudden, and he was not yet thirty-five years old. It was during our deepest moments of mourning that I realized how similar grief and fear truly are. While often one accompanies the other, both emotions can stand alone. However hard the situation feels at the immediate moment, we are hopeful that the future will bring a sense of calm. This is why I believe peace is the end result we each desire. But because of our lives, our tribulations, and current events, I have started to ask myself how I can find peace in a time when it feels it is so unobtainable? When peace seems distant?

The program at the Chorale's April 1 concert, entitled *Verleih uns Frieden (Grant us Peace)*, includes settings of Psalm 122, "*Laetatus sum*" (I am happy) by three composers: Tomás Luis de Victoria, Claudio Monteverdi, and Marc-Antoine Charpentier. Written by David, as the third in a series of songs to be sung for the holy feasts in Jerusalem, it includes the iconic "I was glad when they said to me, let us go into the house of God!" As the Psalm continues, it turns to praying for peace. We are asked to pray for peace to be found within our walls, and for the sake of all others, for peace to be found within ourselves.

The setting of "*Laetatus sum*" by Victoria calls for three choirs. Bowling Green State University Collegiate Chorale will join Masterworks to sing this work. The three choirs will each be in a different location in the sanctuary, providing a rare experience for the audience. The three composers' settings of Psalm 122 will all be performed in Latin, and the words *laetatus sum*, which mean "I am happy," will be heard repeatedly.



The audience at the Chorale's April 1 concert will hear three settings of Psalm 122 by three composers. Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548–1611) (left) was a Spanish composer of the Renaissance. Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643) (center) was a transitional composer between the Renaissance and the Baroque periods. Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1634–1704) was a French composer of the Baroque period. All three had ties to the Roman Catholic church. Victoria and Monteverdi were priests, and Charpentier was the director of music for the Jesuits in Paris.

Each piece of music carries the hope and the thought of peace. I imagine each note carrying the hope of the composer for a time when peace is more bountiful. At this tumultuous time, we are all searching for what provides us security. I am so fortunate to have found what centers me, what provides me foundation — music. I continue to find myself drawn to the words of David, "for the sake of my brothers and my friends, I will now say, 'May peace be within you.'" (Psalm 122:8, NIV). Please join us. Allow yourselves to be open to the melodies and the lyrics, and seek the peace within yourselves.



*we'll give voice to the desire for
peace with meaningful music
spanning from 1600 to the present*

Tim

*Tim Cloeter,
Artistic Director and Conductor*

from the director *continuing this season's theme of "one world, many voices"*

At our Christmas Concert this past December we began to explore the idea behind this season's theme, *One World, Many Voices*: that although we humans on this planet enjoy incredible cultural variety, we are also remarkably similar in that we long to love and be loved, we seek acceptance and community, and we express ourselves with music. I would go further to say that a unifying desire for beauty and peace exists in all cultures. When we are open-hearted to all, our diversity can enrich our society, but when we falter, it can lead to a fractured community. At all times in human history we have struggled to establish the true community we desire, so throughout the centuries we have created music that expresses our need for peace.

At our upcoming Classics Concert, we'll give voice to this desire for peace with meaningful music that spans from 1600 to the present, that originated in Spain, Italy, Germany, France, Israel, and the United States, and that includes a variety of styles, from art music with chamber orchestra to simple folksongs of Shaker and Jewish traditions. I'm

especially looking forward to the multiple settings of Psalm 122 by Renaissance and Baroque composers, to the plaintive and ultimately joyous last two movements from Joseph Haydn's Classical period *Mass in D Minor*, subtitled by Haydn himself "*Missa in angustiiis*" (*Mass for times of distress*) because of the uncertain time of war during which he composed it, and to Felix Mendelssohn's warmly Romantic period setting of "*Verleih uns Frieden*" (*Grant Us Peace*). I'm also quite glad for the collaboration with BGSU's Collegiate Chorale, and for the inclusion of a wide variety of instruments in this repertoire.

Again I am struck by the mission statement of Masterworks Chorale: "Connecting lives through choral music." In this Classics Concert, we'll not only come together to connect our shared desire for peace in our own time, but we'll also connect lives across countries and across centuries with the sounds of voices and instruments in the beautiful and resonant Trinity Episcopal Church.



photo by Rachel Smithberger



photo courtesy of the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center

The Chorale's outreach to the community is many-faceted. Above, groups caroled at Reynolds Corners Branch Library and at Sunset House. Shelly Schaefer demonstrated how to play the djembe, an African drum, at the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center.

outreach to the community *masterworks chorale shares choral art in many ways & venues*

In addition to its three main concerts every year, Masterworks Chorale strives to promote choral singing in a number of ways. Here are the Chorale's main outreach activities so far this season:

- One high school student sang in our Christmas Concert, and a second will sing with us in the upcoming Classics Concert.
- Hundreds of area residents heard Chorale members as they caroled at the Toledo Zoo on the night of the Zoo's tree lighting.
- An ensemble sang for and with residents of the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center.
- A group sang carols for patrons and staff at the Reynolds Corners Branch Library.
- Residents of Sunset House heard carols sung by an ensemble from the Chorale.

chorale soprano

katie heilakka: singer, ultra runner, chorale president



photo by Larry Marsh

*Katie Heilakka,
Chorale Soprano*

Six athletes, smiling broadly, hands joined and held high. Katie Heilakka's Facebook cover photo is a triumphant portrait. And with reason. She and her five teammates had just completed the Muskegon to Traverse City "Ultra Ragnar," a roughly 200-mile relay race, held last October.

Each runner of an Ultra Ragnar team is responsible for about 33 miles, broken up into legs of between three and eight miles. Between runs, Katie and her teammates hung out in a van, which they drove between relay points. The race took 36 hours. Spending a week-end in a van as a team, "you get to know each other really well," Katie says.

It was four years ago that Katie took up running as "something to cure boredom." She had just moved to Toledo and

was living alone. One 5K led to another, and then to three or four half-Marathons, and then to a full Marathon. And the running did help. These days, her running buddies are her best friends.

The next Ultra Ragnar will be in May along the shores of Lake Ontario, finishing at Niagara Falls. Then in June, Katie and eleven other runners will divvy up the roughly 200 miles from Madison, Wisconsin to Chicago. Because there will be 12 of them, they will be doing this as a regular Ragnar, considerably less strenuous than an Ultra Ragnar. Runners will average around 17 miles. Running as a part of the Chicago team will be fiancé, Tim. Katie and Tim have been dating for about a year and a half and announced their engagement in January. Running is an important shared interest. "We have a slight competition about who can get the most running medals," she says. (She's got more now.)

Teams, then, are important to Katie. She runs on a team. She sings in a choir, a sort of musical team. And now she finds herself serving as President of a third kind of team, the Masterworks Chorale board. There's been a lot to learn, she says, but she likes how board members work together to make decisions. "Sometimes I'll go into a meeting with my mind made up, and someone will present an idea that I had not thought of, and I really like it." She likes working behind the scenes.

Katie comes from a musical family and has been singing all her life. Both grandfathers were music teachers. Her dad, an "amazing pianist," and her mom, also a singer, made sure that she and her older brother, Andrew, heard all kinds of music as they were growing up in the Philadelphia area. Listening to music in the car was "one way my mom and I connected. She was willing to give me control of the radio in the car, so it was usually show tunes." Her greatest music hero, however, is Leonard

Bernstein. A 2010 graduate of Baldwin-Wallace University in Berea, Ohio, Katie was in the Arts Management Program with a vocal performance major and a business minor.

The teamwork of choral singing is especially important to Katie. She loves the fact that "somebody who feels they might not be the strongest singer can still sing in a choir." She loves singing next to others on different parts and "leaning into the harmonies." She loves trying to blend in better with the people around her. I have had the pleasure of singing next to Katie in rehearsal. Her voice is truly beautiful: clear as a bell, and she sings with absolutely accurate pitch and rhythm.

When not singing, running the Chorale, or running long distances, Katie works at Owens Community

College as an admissions representative. Her boss is Chorale Soprano Meghan Schmidbauer; in fact, it was in a conversation with Meghan about a year and a half ago that Katie learned of the job opening at Owens.

What an asset this talented, versatile young woman is to Masterworks Chorale! We are so fortunate that she's decided to be on our team. And, the next time she has a solo, be sure to listen carefully. It will be a treat, I guarantee you. — Tom Sheehan, Tenor

*teams are really
important to katie*

We're throwing a mutual-appreciation party!

CABARET NIGHT

An Evening of Delectable Diversions

**Tuesday, April 25, 2017 • 6:00–9:00 PM
Carranor Hunt and Polo Club • Perrysburg**

For tickets, visit www.masterworkstoledo.com

Help raise funds for your favorite chorus, and we'll show you a great time!



**The
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*grant from andersons charitable foundation
new keyboard for run-outs*

Soprano Kate Mason-Wolf looks on as Chorale Director Tim Cloeter plays the Chorale's new electronic keyboard at the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center. The keyboard was purchased last fall with a \$1500 grant from the Andersons Inc. Charitable Foundation. "The Chorale is grateful to The Andersons Inc. Charitable Foundation for this fine keyboard," said Chorale President Katie Heilakka. "It's a wonderful gift to our organization, which will give us greater flexibility to share choral music with even more people!"

Masterworks Chorale is
grateful for
generous support from:



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Masterworks Chorale

northwest ohio's premier chamber choir

masterworks *Matters*

Go Ahead! Slit the Seal! Here's What's Inside!

Our Classics Concert on April 1 will include three settings of Psalm 122. A singer explains how she finds great peace in David's words • A profile of the Chorale's president, who is also a long-distance runner • A recap of all the Chorale's outreach activities • News of the Chorale's new electronic keyboard, purchased with funds from The Andersons Inc. Charitable Foundation

Mark Your Calendar and Join Us!

Classics Concert: Verleih uns Frieden
(Grant Us Peace)

Saturday, April 1 at 8 p.m.
Trinity Episcopal Church
316 Adams Street
Toledo

Broadcast of our Classics Concert
Thursday, June 1 at 8 p.m. on WGTE-FM

Party: Cabaret Night
Tuesday, April 25, 2017, 6-9 p.m.
Carranor Polo Club
502 E 2nd Street, Perrysburg
Tickets at www.masterworkstoledo.com

Collage Concert:
What a Wonderful World
Saturday, June 3 at 8 p.m.
The Valentine Theatre, Toledo

Broadcast of our Collage Concert
Thursday, July 27 at 8 p.m. on WGTE-FM

Tickets and Other Details

To buy tickets for our April 1 Classics Concert: Level A (closer up) \$25, Level B (farther back) \$20, Students \$12. Order by phone at (419) 242-2787 or at <http://tinyurl.com/MasterworksTickets>. This link will take you to the Valentine Theatre ticket office, which is handling our tickets for all of this season's concerts, regardless of the venue.

Disabilities



If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please advise the Chorale's business office at (419) 742-2775 at least two weeks before the concert. For TTY/TDD use Ohio Relay Service 1 (800) 750-0750.

Supporting the arts is easy when it's this much fun!

CABARET NIGHT

Masterworks Chorale's fundraising party



Masterworks Chorale of Toledo

www.masterworkstoledo.com