

# A certain **slant** of light

*There's a Certain Slant of Light,  
Winter Afternoons,*

*That oppresses, like the Great  
Of Cathedral Tunes.*

MUSIC SET TO THE POETRY OF  
**EMILY DICKINSON**

*Heavenly Hurt, it gives us—  
We can find no scar,*

*But internal Difference  
When the Meanings, are.*

**VC CHORUS & SINGERS**

BRENT WILSON, DIRECTOR / MARK HOLMSTROM, PIANO

*None may teach it—Ay—  
'Tis the Seal of Grief—*

*An imperial Affliction  
Sent us of the Air—*

**FRIDAY, OCT. 14 / 7:30PM**

HELEN YUNKER AUDITORIUM / 4700 LOMA VISTA RD.

*When it comes, the Landscape listens—  
Shadows—hold their breath—*

*When it goes, 'tis like the Distance  
On the Look of Death.*

# VENTURA COLLEGE SINGERS and CHORUS

BRENT WILSON conductor

MARK HOLMSTROM piano

JENNA GARCIA poetry performer

## PROGRAM

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The program tonight consists of music  
exclusively using the writings of Emily Dickinson

### VENTURA COLLEGE CHORUS

*Will there really be a morning?*

Ruth Morris Gray  
(b. 1961)

*The Railway*

### STUDENTS OF THE VOICE PROGRAM

The Copland pieces will be performed in the  
order in which they appear in the complete song cycle.

*Selections from Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*

Aaron Copland  
(1900–1990)

*There came a wind like a bugle*

NEIRIN WINTER tenor

*Why do they shut me out of Heaven?*

SABRINA MORENO soprano

*The world feels dusty*

ANNELISE EBELL soprano

### VENTURA COLLEGE SINGERS

*The Definition of Beauty*

Alice Parker  
(1947–2020)

I. The Definition of Beauty is

II. Beauty – be not Caused – It is –

III. So gay a Flower

IV. Estranged from Beauty – none can be –

## PROGRAM cont'd

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*Three Emily Dickinson Songs*

Michael Hennagin  
(1936–1993)

I. Heart, we will forget him

II. Going to Heaven

III. The World Feels Dusty

### STUDENTS OF THE VOICE PROGRAM

The Copland pieces continue to be performed in the order in which they appear in the complete song cycle.

*Selections from Twelve Poems of Emily Dickinson*

A. Copland

Heart, we will forget him

MARCELA CARMONA soprano

Sleep is supposed to be

LILY CALHOUN soprano

When they come back

ALMA VALENCIANO soprano

The Chariot

REBEKAH SCHINDLER mezzo-soprano

### VC CHORUS

*If I can stop one heart from breaking*

Mark Patterson  
(b. 1969)

The final piece is a preview for our next concert on  
December 9th at 7:30pm

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

music set to the writings of Maya Angelou

### VC CHORUS and SINGERS

*Still I Rise*

Mark Hayes  
(b. 1953)

text by Maya Angelou

## JENNA GARCIA poetry performer

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Jenna Garcia is a Professor of English at Ventura College. Her love of teaching was sparked in Mexico City, where she taught English as Second Language. Garcia teaches American Literature and World Literature, as well as Academic Writing and Critical Thinking and is a fellow with the South Coast Writing Project at UCSB. In addition to reading great literature, Garcia enjoys traveling with her family. Garcia studied English Literature and Spanish at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN (B.A.) and English Literature at Claremont Graduate University (M.A.).



## MARK HOLMSTROM piano

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Rehearsal pianist and staff accompanist at Ventura College, Mark Holmstrom also keeps musically busy as Organist/Pianist at Camarillo UMC and accompanist for The Wagner Ensemble (conducted by Roger Wagner's daughter, Jeannine Wagner.) A man of eclectic musical tastes his favorite band is the Grateful Dead, but he also enjoys a wide variety of genres from classical to reggae. At Ventura College, Holmstrom has played for numerous musicals and opera as rehearsal pianist and pit musician, and accompanies voice students for preparation on jury and audition repertoire. He has collaborated with the Ventura College Chorus and Singers in over thirty concerts for the past decade.



## BRENT WILSON conductor

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Brent Wilson is the Director of Voice, Choir, Opera and Musical Theatre, and Department Chair for the Performing Arts at Ventura College, Director of Choral Studies at University of California-Santa Barbara, and Resident Guest Director of opera at Viterbo University.

Additionally, he has been on faculty at the Tanglewood Institute through Boston University, and Augustana College. He is a member of the National Opera Association, National Association of Teachers of Singing, American Choral Directors Association, and champions the

training of young singers, having students perform in Broadway tours such as Hamilton, Rock of Ages, and School of Rock.



He's worked professionally with the choruses of the Grammy-nominated ensemble Boston Baroque, Handel and Haydn Society, Handel Oratorio Society, Long Beach Camerata, Santa Barbara Master Chorale, Boston Lyric Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, Granite State Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Opera Theatre Saint Louis. His productions of Twelfth Night (UCSB) and Trouble in Tahiti (Viterbo) have won top prizes awarded from the National Opera Association. Wilson resides in Los Angeles, California with his wife, twin daughters, and his best friend, Pippin the cat. In his spare time, he enjoys competing in endurance races and has completed five Ironman competitions, fourteen marathons, and most recently ran across the Italian Dolomites Alta Via 1 75 mile trail in a weekend.

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### VC SINGERS ROSTER

#### SOPRANOS

Lily Calhoun, Marcela Carmona, Isabella Catalano, Diane Hall,  
Isabella Ruff, Jesstina Torres

#### ALTOS

Taryn Lakes, Sabrina Moreno, Rebekah Schindler, Anika Velasquez

## VC CHORUS ROSTER

### SOPRANOS

Katie Bojorquez, Annelise Ebell, Mariah Gruber, Heaven Herrera Cruz, Mae Lazarovits, Camilla Mendez, Sabrina Moreno, Izabella Ruff, Jesstina Torres, Tori Tran

### ALTOS

Elaina Crenshaw, Sandra Garcia Cruz, Teresa Goodrich, Taryn Lakes, Areli Leon, Abigail Levine, Bella Cristina Ortiz, Paloma Rodriguez, Katherine Strange, Anika Velasquez, Claire Villegas, Rebekah Schindler

### TENORS

Octavius Licon, Arias Robles, Ryan Williams, Neirin Winter

### BASSES

Vincent Addieg, Luví Avendano\*, Shane Lisle, Oscar Rodriguez Dominguez, Reginald Whigham

\*—denotes guest artist

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## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

### **Thursday, October 27 through Saturday, October 29** **The Turn of the Screw**

Benjamin Britten's haunting music drama

BRENT WILSON director

JAMIE BIRKETT scenic design

Studio Theatre, PAC @ Ventura College

### **Saturday, November 5 at 7:30pm**

Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 "From the New World"

The Ventura College Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra

ASHLEY WALTERS conductor

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Sunday, November 6 at 2:30pm**

Music for Strings, Brass, Winds, Guitar, and Percussion

Ventura College Chamber Music

ASHLEY WALTERS director

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Monday, November 7 at 7:30pm**

The Laurel Project presents

Dal Segno vocal ensemble

Missa Papae Marcelli

BRENT WILSON conductor

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Saturday, December 3rd at 7:30pm**

Ventura College Jazz Band

Fundi Legohn, director

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Wednesday, December 7 at 7:30pm**

Music Department Holiday Celebration

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Friday, December 9 at 7:30pm**

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

music set to the writings of Maya Angelou

The Ventura College Chorus and Singers

BRENT WILSON conductor

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30**

Beethoven, Márquez, and Lawson

The Ventura College Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra

ASHLEY WALTERS conductor

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

**Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm**

An afternoon of chamber music

Ventura College Chamber Music

ASHLEY WALTERS director

Helen Yunker Auditorium, PAC @ Ventura College

## DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY & STAFF

Dean of Health, Kinesiology,  
Athletics & Performing Arts  
Administrative Assistants  
Department Chair, Performing Arts  
VCPAC Technical Director

Dr. Bernard Gibson  
Noelle Neal, Simanu Faasua  
Brent Wilson  
Jamie Birkett

### MUSIC FACULTY

Bassoon  
Keyboards  
Voice  
Percussion  
Keyboards  
Voice  
Oboe, Clarinet  
Voice  
Brass, Jazz Band  
Flute  
Guitar  
Bass, Ethnomusicology  
Classical Guitar  
Theory, Composition  
Strings, Composition  
Brass  
Cello, Chamber, Orchestra  
Voice, Choir, Musical Theatre, Opera  
Music Theory

Nick Akdag  
Dr. Ovanes Arakelyan  
Dr. Luvi Avendano  
Dustin Donahue  
Dr. Felix Eisenhauer  
Tara Eisenhauer  
Kimaree Gilad  
Brian Hotchkin  
Fundi Legohn  
Carol Lockart  
Dr. Cesar Mateus  
Barry Newton  
Dr. Hugo Nogueira  
Dr. Ollie Powers  
Dr. Andrew Tholl  
Jon Titmus  
Dr. Ashley Walters  
Brent Wilson  
Dr. Scott Wolf

### SPECIAL THANKS

Bernard Gibson, Luvi Avendano, Helen Yunker, Miriam Schwab,  
Noelle Neal, Simanu Faasua and the remainder of the  
Performing Arts faculty