



DAL SEGNO

VOCAL ENSEMBLE BRENT WILSON, DIRECTOR

Palestrina: Missa Papae Marcelli Shaw: "The Sparrow" & Selections from Partita

> MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022 7:30 PM

HELEN YUNKER AUDITORIUM 4700 LOMA VISTA ROAD VENTURA, CA 93003



Ventura College Department of Performing Arts presents

The Laurel Project

DAL SEGNO BRENT WILSON director

ELAINA CRENSHAW soprano
ADRIEN ROBERTS soprano
ANTONIA WADA alto
GAJA HUBBARD alto
TODD HONEYCUTT tenor
WILLIAM GRUNDLER tenor
BRENT WILSON bass
BRIAN HOTCHKIN bass



PROGRAM

The first half will be performed without any pauses. Please hold applause until the end of the Agnus Dei.

Missa Papae Marcelli

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)

I. Kyrie

II. Gloria

III. Credo

IV. Sanctus

V. Agnus Dei

~INTERMISSION~

And the Swallow

Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

selections from Partita for 8 voices

C. Shaw

I. Allemande IV. Passacaglia

Partita for 8 voices is being performed with approval from the composer.

PALESTRINA and SHAW

Two masters; both in their own centuries.

Caroline Shaw is a musician who moves among roles, genres, and mediums, trying to imagine a world of sound that has never been heard before but has always existed. She is the recipient of the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in Music for Partita for 8 voices, several Grammy awards, an honorary doctorate from Yale, and a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship. She has worked with a range of artists including Rosalía, Renée Fleming, and Yo Yo Ma, and she has contributed music to films and tv series including Fleishman is in Trouble, Bombshell, Yellowjackets, Maid, Dark, and Beyonce's Homecoming. Her favorite color is yellow, and her favorite smell is rosemary.

Palestrina is Palestrina. Arguably the most well-known a cappella composer in history, his pieces are still in common practicum nearly 450 years after his death. Although the legend of *Missa Papae Marcelli* may or may not be true(claiming that this piece saved music as we know it), you can not dispute the importance of the Mass. From the first Kyrie, to the final Agnus Dei's somber cadences, the Pope Marcellus Mass is one of the most studied and celebrated vocal compositions ever written.



ELAINA CRENSHAW soprano

Elaina Crenshaw is a soprano, vocal instructor, piano instructor, and conductor. She holds three degrees in music, including a Master of Music in Choral Conducting and a Bachelor of Arts in Music (Vocal Emphasis). Elaina enjoys performing many genres of music. Some favorite performances include Messiah (soprano soloist), Elijah (soprano soloist), Vivaldi's Gloria (soprano soloist), The Telephone (Lucy), The Old Maid and the Thief (Laetitia), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Tytania), and Into the Woods (Baker's Wife). Elaina has performed in productions with Opera Idaho, Utah Vocal Arts Summer Opera Festival, and Aquilon Music Festival. She has also appeared on albums, including Daft Punk's Grammy awardwinning Random Access Memories, Just4Kicks' Joyful Noise, and Disney's Sofia the First: Once Upon a Princess. In her free time, Elaina enjoys traveling and sampling coffee and pastries from local cafes.

ADRIEN ROBERTS soprano

Adrien Roberts recently played Annina in La Traviata with Opera Santa Barbara. Adrien's operatic roles include: Marguerite in Faust, Cio Cio San in Madame Butterfly, Mimi in La Boheme, Rosalinda in Die Fledermaus, the Rooster in The Cunning Little Vixen, Yvette in La Rondine, Countess in Le nozze di Figaro, and Adina in L'elisir d'Amore. Ms. Roberts has performed in Sweeney Todd, Vivaldi's Gloria, and many other concerts in Ventura. Adrien also performs with Pacific Chorale and recently performed in a Star Wars project at the Star Wars convention. Every Christmas, Ms. Roberts performs in the Beatles project BOTH with the Open Fist theater.

ANTONIA WADA alto

Antonia earned an Associates of Arts in Music at Ventura College, and a Bachelor of Arts in Music Performance at California Lutheran University. She is a singer-songwriter, and also a member of the Areté Vocal Ensemble.

GAJA HUBBARD KABARETTI alto

Gaja Hubbard was born in Florence where she graduated both from Law School and from the Conservatory of Music Luigi Cherubini. After working as assistant to stage director in various theatres and festivals in Europe she made her operatic debut in Puccini's Gianni Schicchi(cont'd)

next to the historical Schicchi of Giuseppe Taddei and took part to the first world recording of Leoncavallo's Zazà released by Bongiovanni.

Gaja Hubbard enjoys singing opera repertoire as well as oratorio, baroque and early music. She gave many concerts in Italy at Galleria dell'Accademia in Florence, Santo Spirito Church, Teatro di Rifredi, Boboli Garden, Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino among others. In 2008 she made her debut in Israel performing Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with the Symphonette Raanana. Gaja Hubbard is a member of Opera Santa Barbara Chorus since 2017. She also performs at Congregation B'nai B'rith and with the Santa Barbara Symphony Chorus.

TODD HONEYCUTT tenor

Todd Honeycutt (tenor) was born and raised in Birmingham, AL, and has been musical as far back as he can remember. After moving to Atlanta, GA in 1988, he performed in many theater productions, notably Into The Woods and Sweeney Todd, and numerous singing jobs including fronting a cover band. In 1996, he was privileged to sing in the Centennial Honor Choir in the opening ceremony of the Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. In 2005, he toured the US and Europe with Elton John as a backup singer to promote Elton's album Peachtree Road, including performances for thousands at Live 8 at Hyde Park in London and a massive free concert at the Colosseum in Rome. Todd also sang in the choir for Neil Young's 2006 album Living With War. After working several years at sea with many cruise lines, Todd decided to move to Los Angeles in 2008. He became a member of the Los Angeles Master Chorale in 2010 and has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Hollywood Bowl. While in LA, Todd has had the good fortune to sing on projects with Seth MacFarlane, "Weird Al" Yankovic, Randy Newman, and Richard Carpenter, and others. He has lent his voice to TV & film including The Simpsons and many film scores including Turning Red, Deadpool 2, Jersey Boys, Dawn Of The Planet Of The Apes, and Godzilla, among others. Todd is currently singing with the Steely Dan revue band "Pretzel Logic" and the a cappella jazz quintet "Pacific Swingline."

WILLIAM GRUNDLER tenor

William Grundler is a Los Angeles-based tenor, composer, and conductor. Notable roles include Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Pacific (cont'd)

Opera Project, the Governor and Vanderdendur in Angels Vocal Art's *Candide*, and Spoletta in Sacramento Opera's *Tosca*. Additionally, William made his Carnegie Hall debut performing scenes as II Duca and Nemorino in scenes from *Rigoletto* and *L'elisir d'amore*, respectively. Having performed as a soloist with the Santa Clarita Master Chorale, William has also sung choral works with Opera Santa Barbara, the LA Phil, the LA Master Chorale, and Long Beach Opera. In Autumn 2021 William made his LA Opera Chorus debut in *Tannhäuser* and sang studio sessions at the acclaimed EastWest Studios. William also conducts, arranges, and sings for St. Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church in Van Nuys.

BRENT WILSON director/bass

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's worked professionally with the choruses of the Grammy-nominated ensembles Boston Baroque and 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.

BRIAN HOTCHKIN bass

Brian Hotchkin is a bass-baritone, vocal instructor, stage director, and opera administrator. Noted for his "strong and effortless voice" and his "unerring, witty sense of theater," he has performed with companies around the country, including Virginia Opera, Opera New Jersey, the Aspen Music Festival, Chamber Opera Chicago, and Opera Santa Barbara. In 2020, he performed Filippo in Bellini's rarely heard opera, Beatrice di Tenda with the London Bel Canto Festival. His wide-ranging repertoire includes both the title role and Count Almaviva in Le nozze di Figaro, Leporello in Don Giovanni, and Alfonso and Guglielmo in Così fan tutte (Mozart); as well as Marcello in La bohème and Sharpless in Madama Butterfly (Puccini). Brian is on the performing arts faculty at Ventura College, where he teaches voice and has directed productions of The Light in the Piazza, Sweeney Todd, Hansel & Gretel, and The Mystery of Edwin Drood. He holds degrees in voice performance from DePaul University and the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University.

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