

**Concert Co-Sponsored By** 

Christ in the Arts Fund at First United Methodist Church

# October 16, 2018 • 7:30 PM

**First United Methodist Church** 

900 S Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78401

**Tickets \$10 / Students FREE with ID** 

www.CorpusChristiChorale.org f@CorpusChristiChorale

# CONNECTION COMMUNITY Creativity

The gift of the Corpus Christi Chorale



With gratitude for Arlene Long and all of the members of the Corpus Christi Chorale.



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#### DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Programming always seeks to be relevant to the world today, even though some of the music and text comes from previous centuries. This is never truer than this evening's program featuring the music of Dan Forrest, born in 1978. Tonight's music is presented with the hope that music can be a respite that brings reflection, comfort, and joy in the midst of a trying time for our nation and, indeed, the world.

We begin with ABIDE, on a poem by Jake Adam York from 2012, and music inspired by a vinyl recording of Thelonius Monk performing the classic hymn "Abide with me." In Forrest's own words: "My setting hints at that hymn and seeks to evoke a sense of Americana on a warm late-summer evening. York's poem is worth pondering deeply on many levels, and I hope this musical setting enables repeated and ever-deeper reflection on the work of this gifted poet." We are invited to give attention to the smallest daily moments of life on this earth.

Forrest has been described as having "an undoubted gift for writing beautiful music...that is truly magical." Written in 2012-2013, REQUIEM FOR THE LIVING is a prayer for the living. (Requiem generally is considered a prayer for the dead.) Forrest sees this prayer as "grant US rest" more than "grant THEM rest."

The five movements include texts from Scripture and the Mass, dealing with grief, pain, sorrow, destruction, transcendent power, and ultimately praying for peace. Each movement delves deeply into the text of that movement and reflects in music the nature of the text. In some cases, the traditional texts of the REQUIEM have been re-arranged slightly. Some extra-liturgical texts have been interpolated, and the traditional Dies Irae has been replaced with a biting essay on the vanity and pain of existence, juxtaposed against an ethereal Pie Jesu hovering over "Vanitas," as if "Blessed Jesus" is present in the midst of "Vanitas." The two movements which then follow have been inverted from their usual order: The Agnus Dei is offered as a prayer to the Lamb of God for an answer to pain and sorrow, and the Sanctus then follows as an awe-inspired response. The wonder of heaven and earth inspired by pictures from the Hubble Telescope and the International Space Station, and the teeming energy of life - these ideas offer deep drama in the Sanctus. Quoting the composer: "It's a daunting task to set these ancient texts in a modern setting."

# -Arlene Long

#### **PROGRAM**

#### **ABIDE**

Forgive me if I forget with the birdsong
And the day's last glow folding into the hands of the trees,
Forgive me the few syllables of the autumn crickets,
The year's last firefly winking like a penny in the shoulder's weeds,
If I forget the hour, if I forget the day as the evening star
Pours out its whiskey over the gravel and asphalt I've walked for years alone,
If I startle when you put your hand in mine,
If I wonder how long your light has taken to reach me here.

# **REQUIEM**

# 1. Introit - Kyrie

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, Et lux perpetua luceat eis. Exaudi orationem meam, Ad te omnis caro veniet. Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, And let perpetual light shine upon them. Hear my prayer, for unto Thee all flesh shall come. Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

### 2. Vanitas Vanitatum

Vanitas vanitatum, omnia vanitas! Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem. Lacrimosa, Et locutus est, pereat dies in qua natus sum.

Vanity of vanities, all is vanity! (from Ecclesiastes) Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest. Full of tears, (from the Dies Irae) He said, Let the day perish wherein I was born. (Job 3:2-3)

# 3. Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, Miserere nobis, dona eis requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, Dona nobis pacem, miserere nobis, Dona eis requiem.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, Have mercy on us; grant them rest. Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, Grant us peace; have mercy on us; grant them rest.

#### 4. Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis!

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest!

#### 5. Lux Aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine: Cum sanctis tuis in aeternum: quia pius es. Et lux perpetua luceat eis.

May light eternal shine upon them, O Lord, In the company of Thy saints forever: For Thou are merciful. Let perpetual light shine on them.

(Tenor solo)
Come unto me,
All ye who labor and are heavy laden,
And I will give you rest. (Matthew 11:28)

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, Et lux perpetua luceat eis. Dona nobis pacem.

Rest eternal grant to them - O Lord, And let perpetual light shine upon them. Grant us peace.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Jennifer Anderson\* Yvonne Avila\*

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Emily Ball†

Samuel Ball Nan Borden\*

Lilo Burda Elvia Carranza

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Joseph Cecil\*† George Clower

Susan Comer Lisa Comparini\*

Susan Cothran Amy Crow-Hawes†

Janis Crowe Marissa Cummings†

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Hector De Leon George DeVera Linda Diaz

Patsy Durham Scott Elliff

Roxanne English Iris Felden

Alexis Garcia Anika Garcia

Rick Garciat Carla Gardiner

Ada Godley Michele Graham

Beth Grav Kiki Hart

Ryan Higgins Pat Huwel\*

Diana Ivy\* Becky Brooks Jackson

Abby Janca Wieland\*

Becky Johnson

Craig Jones

Katie King<sup>†</sup>

Jason Louis\* Lisa Louis

Linda Markert\* Amber Martinez

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Mindy Trevino Connie Trice Alex Votral Wendy Walker

Ching Wang Ian Wickham\*

Jennifer Wickham<sup>†</sup> Chuck Wilson

Sarah Wood

† Soloist

Theodore Woods IV<sup>†</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> Chorale Board Member

#### **INSTRUMENTALISTS**

Mia Hagarty Carrie Pierce Evelyn McCarty Diana Sipes Kenneth Iyescas Matthew McClung Sangmi Kim Mike Mazzatenta

## THANK YOU

The Corpus Christi Chorale is deeply grateful for the sustaining support of Texas A & M University - Corpus Christi, including the following:

Dr. Kelly Quintanilla, President

Dr. Mark Hartlaub, Dean, College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Diana Sipes, Assistant Dean, School of Arts, Music, and Communication

Courtney Noe, Administrative Assistant

Dr. James Moore, Director, Performing Arts Center

Special thanks to First United Methodist Church and Brad Kisner, Music Director, for their warm welcome!

The Corpus Christi Chorale is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization supported generously by TAMU-CC and donations from our listeners. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, our mailing address is:

Corpus Christi Chorale Music Department, Unit 5720 TAMU-CC 6300 Ocean Drive Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5720





# Why Music?

Music is a science.

Music is mathematical.

Music is a foreign language.

Music is history.

Music is physical education.

Music develops insight and demands research.

Music is all of these things, but most of all, music is art.

That is why we teach music. Not because we expect you to major in music and not because we expect you to play or sing all your life, but so you will be human. So you will recognize beauty. So you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world. So you will have something to cling to. So you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, and more good – in short, more life.

#### -Anonymous



Music is God's gift to man, the only art of Heaven given to earth, the only art of earth we take to Heaven."

-Walter Savage

"If I should ever die, God forbid, let this be my epitaph: 'The only proof he needed for the existence of God was music.'"

-Kurt Vonnegut

#### **REMAINING SEASON**

Saturday, December 8 Performing Arts Center, TAMU-CC

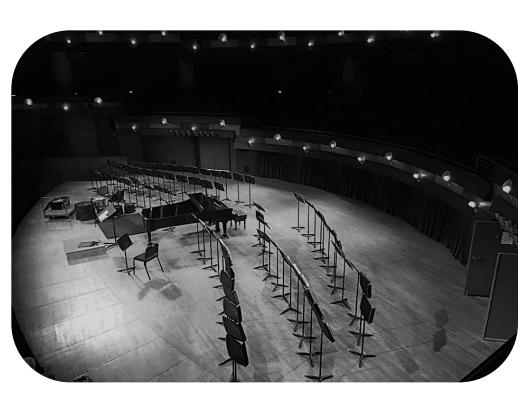
Home for the Holidays with the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra and our friends, the Del Mar Master Chorus

Saturday, March 23 Performing Arts Center, TAMU-CC

Mozart's Great Mass in c minor

Saturday, May 4 Performing Arts Center, TAMU-CC

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#### IN MEMORIAM: NAOMI SANTANA



We dedicate this concert to the loving memory of Naomi Santana, a longtime member of the Corpus Christi Chorale, who passed away May 9, 2018, after a long illness. A number of fellow singers have woven together their thoughts about Naomi.

Naomi had this great smile. She made you feel good by just being in her presence, mainly because that smile conveyed her lovely, warm spirit.

Naomi was one of the kindest, most cheerful persons that I ever knew. I miss her mischievous smile and positive nature. She convinced me

so many times to not get discouraged with the music but to persevere.

Naomi loved music! In addition to singing in Chorale, she was active in music-making at her church, Kelsey Memorial United Methodist. She sang in the annual Boar's Head Festival as well as various presentations of Handel's Messiah.

In 2001, Naomi and husband Hank traveled with a group of singers, many from the Chorale, to Paris on a musical tour, singing at Notre Dame Cathedral, La Madeleine, and the American cemetery at Normandy Beach. What fun she and Hank were on the trip!

My other favorite thing about Naomi was her commitment to Chorale - her steadfastness. She sang with us for many years, lending her wonderful alto voice to more performances than I can count.

May she ever sing with that heavenly choir in Joy and Love.

Rest in peace, friend, knowing that we miss you and are better for having known you.