



Winter's Passing

DIRECTED BY BRIAN STONE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016
7:30 PM
STEWART AUDITORIUM
LONGMONT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2016
2:00 PM
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
BOULDER

PROGRAM

PROGRAM

A Winter Ride	Misty L. Dupuis (b. 1972)
Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind	John Rutter (b. 1945)
Song for Snow	Florence B. Price (1887 - 1953)
Mid-Winter Songs	Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)
I. Lament for Pasiphaë	
II. Like Snow	
III. She Tells Her Love While Half Asleep	
IV. Mid-Winter Waking	
V. Intercession in Late October	

INTERMISSION

Six Chansons	Paul Hindemith (1895 - 1963)
I. En Hiver	
II. Printemps	
Komm, Holder Lenz	Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809)
Sehnsucht	Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897)
Gala Del Día	Carlos Gustavino (1912 - 2000)

A WINTER RIDE

Text by Amy Lowell

Who shall declare, declare the joy of running!
Who shall tell of the pleasures of flight!
Springing and spurning the tufts of wild heather,
Sweeping, wide-winged, through the blue dome of light.
Everything mortal has moments immortal,
Swift and God-gifted, immeasurably bright.

So with the stretch of the white road before me,
Shining snow crystals rainbowed by the sun,
Fields are white, stained with long, cool, blue shadows,
Strong with the strength of my horse as we run.
Joy in the touch of the wind and the sunlight!
Joy! With the vigorous earth I am one.

BLOW, BLOW, THOU WINTER WIND

Text by William Shakespeare

Blow, blow, thou winter wind,
Thou art not so unkind
As man's ingratitude;
Thy tooth is not so keen,
Because thou art not seen,
Although thy breath be rude.

Heigh-ho! sing, heigh-ho! unto the green holly:
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly:
Then, heigh-ho, the holly!
This life is most jolly.

Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky,
That does not bite so nigh
As benefits forgot:
Though thou the waters warp,
Thy sting is not so sharp
As friend remembered not.

Heigh-ho! sing, heigh-ho! unto the green holly:
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly:
Then, heigh-ho, the holly!
This life is most jolly.

SONG FOR SNOW

Text by Elizabeth Coatsworth

The earth is lighter than the sky,
 The world is wider than in spring,
 Along white roads the sleighs go by,
 Icily sweet the sleigh-bells ring.

The birds are gone into the south,
 The leaves are fallen to the ground;
 But singing shakes each sleigh-bell's mouth,
 And leaf-like ears turn towards the sound.

MID-WINTER SONGS

Texts by Robert Graves

I. Lament for Pasiphaë

Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!
 My eye, dazzled with tears, shall dazzle yours,
 Conjuring you to shine and not to move.
 You, sun, and I all afternoon have laboured
 Beneath a dewless and oppressive cloud—
 A fleece now gilded with our common grief
 That this must be a night without a moon.
 Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!
 Faithless she was not: she was very woman,
 Smiling with dire impartiality,
 Sovereign, with heart unmatched, adored of men,
 Until Spring's cuckoo with bedraggled plumes
 Tempted her pity and her truth betrayed.
 Then she who shone for all resigned her being,
 And this must be a night without a moon.
 Dying sun, shine warm a little longer!

II. Like Snow

She, then, like snow in a dark night,
 Fell secretly. And the world waked
 With dazzling of the drowsy eye,
 So that some muttered 'Too much light,'
 And drew the curtains close.
 Like snow, warmer than fingers feared,
 And to soil friendly;
 Holding the histories of the night
 In yet unmelted tracks.

III. She Tells Her Love While Half Asleep

She tells her love while half sleep,
 In the dark hours,
 With half-words whispered low:
 As Earth stirs in her winter sleep
 And puts out grass and flowers
 Despite the snow,
 Despite the falling snow.

IV. Mid-Winter Waking

Stirring suddenly from long hibernation
 I knew myself once more a poet
 Guarded by timeless principalities
 Against the worm of death, this hillside haunting;
 And presently dared open both my eyes.
 O gracious, lofty, shone against from under,
 Back-of-the-mind-far clouds like towers;
 And you, sudden warm airs that blow
 Before the expected season of new blossom,
 While sheep still gnaw at roots and lambless go—
 Be witness that on waking, this mid-winter,
 I found her hand in mine laid closely
 Who shall watch out the Spring with me.
 We stared in silence all around us
 But found no winter anywhere to see.

V. Intercession in Late October

How hard the year dies: no frost yet.
 On drifts of yellow sand Midas reclines,
 Fearless of moaning reed or sullen wave.
 Firm and fragrant still the brambleberries
 On ivy-bloom butterflies wag.
 Spare him a little longer, Crone,
 For his clean hands and love-submissive heart.

SIX CHANSONS

Texts by Rainer Maria Rilke

I. En Hiver

En hiver, la mort meurtrière
 entre dans les maisons ;
 elle cherche la sœur, le père,
 et leur joue du violon.

I. In Winter

In Winter, murderous Death
 comes into the houses,
 seeks out sister and father
 and plays to them on the fiddle.

Mais quand la terre remue
sous la bêche du printemps,
la mort court dans les rues
et salue les passants.

II. Printemps

Ô mélodie de la sève
qui dans les instruments
de tous ces arbres s'élève -,
accompagne le chant
de notre voix trop brève.

C'est pendant quelques mesures
seulement que nous suivons
les multiples figures
de ton long abandon,
ô abondante nature.

Quand il faudra nous taire,
d'autres continueront...
Mais à présent comment faire
pour te rendre mon
grand cœur complémentaire?

KOMM, HOLDER LENZ

Text by Gottfried, Freiherr van Swieten

Komm, holder Lenz,
Des Himmels Gabe, komm!
Aus ihrem Todesschlaf
Erwecke die Natur!

Er nahet sich, der holde Lenz;
Schon fühlen wir den linden Hauch,
Bald lebet alles wieder auf.

Frohlocket ja nicht allzufrüh!
Oft schleicht, in Nebel eingehüllt,
Der Winter wohl zurück und streut
Auf Blüt' und Keim sein starres Gift.

Komm, holder Lenz,
Des Himmels Gabe komm!
Auf unsere Fluren senke dich,
Komm, holder Lenz, o komm!
Und weile länger nicht!

But when the earth turns
under Springtime's spade
Death runs through the streets
and greets the passers-by.

I. Spring

O melody of the sap
that rises in the instruments
of all these trees,
accompany the song
of our too-short voices.

It is only for a few measures
that we follow
the manifold figurations
of your long abandon,
O abundant nature.

When it comes time for us to fall silent
others will carry on ...
But for now what can I do
to make my whole heart
a complement to you?

COME, FAIR SPRING

Come, fair Spring,
thou gift of Heaven, come!
Awaken nature
from her deathlike sleep!

Fair Spring is drawing nigh,
We can feel her gentle breath already,
Soon everything shall return to life.

Do not celebrate too soon;
For oft, mist-enshrouded,
Winter creeps back,
And spews his poison over bud and shoot.

Come, fair Spring,
thou gift of Heaven, come!
Come! Upon our meadows set thy foot!
Oh come, fair Spring, oh come
And tarry no longer!

SEHNSUCHT

Text by Franz Kugle

Es rinnen die Wasser Tag und Nacht,
Deine Sehnsucht wacht.
Du gedenkest der vergangenen Zeit,
Die liegt so weit.
Du siehst hinaus in den Morgenschein
Und bist allein.
Es rinnen die Wasser Tag und Nacht,
Deine Sehnsucht wacht.

GALA DEL DÍA

Text by Arturo Vazquez

Amo la luz del alba
porque te besa
Y te devuelve viva
viva y traviesa
Erguida espiga al viento
del mediodía
Amo el sol que te dora
madura y mía

¡Ay! corazón de la noche
Gala del día, gala del día
Mi vida estoy quemando
por tu alegría

Cuando la tarde llora
su luz perdida
Amo el trino que prendes
sobre mi vida
Quiero tanto a la noche
que es infinita
Como tu hora dulce
obscura y tibia

¡Ay! corazón de la noche
Gala del día, gala del día
Mi vida estoy quemando
por tu alegría

LONGING

The waters run day and night,
your longing lies awake.
You think about a vanished time
that lies so far away.
You look out into the morning light
and you are alone.
The waters run day and night,
your longing lies awake.

FINERY OF THE DAY

I love the light of dawn
because it kisses you
And makes you alive
alive and fanciful.
Straight tassel
to the wind of noon
I love the sun that gilds you
ripe and mine.

Alas! Heart of the night
finery of the day!
My life, I am longing
for your happiness!

When the afternoon cries
for its lost light,
I love the song
you put in my life.
I love so much the night
that is infinite
As your sweet hour
dark and warm.

Alas! Heart of the night
finery of the day!
My life, I am longing
for your happiness!

PROGRAM NOTES

In considering the timing of this program, I immediately noted the rarity of having a choral concert in the winter that wasn't taking place in the month of December. Following this, my first thought was about the bevy of music that emphasizes the visual beauty and metaphorical depth associated with the seasons. Even more specifically, the transition between seasons drips with meaning and room for artistic interpretation. Early February is an ideal time to program these ideas.

Add to this starting place an essential element of every choral conductor's dream: a sensitive, talented, determined, and passionate collaborative pianist. Cantabile is fortunate to have the amazing pianist, Stella Pradeau, among its membership. She has been my musical partner and support during my first season as a member of Cantabile. I am confident in every rehearsal's success knowing she will be there. I have thanked her as often as I can in person, but it will never be enough. In this spirit, I also sought pieces that would feature her artistry on the piano. The result has been what you will hear today.

The poetry set in the first half of the program is full of vivid imagery. From the thrill of a horseback ride through the snow (Dupuis, *The Winter Ride*), to the bitter cold of winter (Rutter, *Blow thou Winter Wind*) and the beauty of the ice-covered landscape that comes with it (Price, *Song for Snow*). The final piece before intermission is the five-movement work by Morten Lauridsen, *The Midwinter Songs*.

According to musicologist, composer and choral conductor Byron Adams, "[Lauridsen] has testified that he was 'much taken with the elegance, richness and extraordinary beauty of [Graves's] poetry and his insights regarding the human experience.' Lauridsen chose verse inspired by the poet's obsession with his colorful mistress and muse Laura Riding, as well as poetry that reflected the measure of tranquility that Graves attained with his second wife, Beryl."

With romance and relationship as the subtext under the stark imagery of the changing fall season, Graves's poetry has given Lauridsen a bountiful source of artistry to draw upon for his composition. Lauridsen's music is at times angular and icy and at others warm and lush.

After intermission, two movements from Hindemith's Six Chansons entitled *En hiver* (in winter) and *Printemps* (Spring) transition us out of winter and allow us to pass to the renewing season of spring. The program continues with a chorus from Haydn's *Die Jahreszeiten* (The Seasons) *Komm, holder Lenz* (Come, lovely Spring) that confirms that we have indeed arrived in spring. Brahms's "Sehnsucht," an ode to an ever-unfulfilled and unrequited love, awakens as the season shifts. The ebullient dancing of Guastavino's *Gala del Dia* sends us off thrilled for the "finery of the day," the blossoming of spring, and the return of life after nature's rest.

Thank you for attending our performance. I hope you will join us again for our May performance of Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms. Until then, a joyful spring to you all!



BRIAN STONE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

Music Director Brian Stone arrived in Colorado by way of the Pacific Northwest in 2008 to attend graduate school at CU Boulder. Since finishing his Master of Music in choral conducting, Brian has been teaching choirs in public high schools. This fall, he began his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in choral conducting and literature at CU Boulder.

In addition to his days of teaching and conducting choral music, Brian is active as a professional singer, appearing with St. Martin's Chamber Choir, the Evans Choir, and the newly formed Anima Chamber Ensemble, an elite 13-voice ensemble. As a director, Brian leads the CU Vocal Jazz ensembles, the CU Collegiate Chorale, and serves as the Choir Director at First Unitarian Society of Denver. In the summers, Brian has worked and studied at the Oregon Bach Festival as a conductor, singer, and most recently as the Chorus Manager for the Stangeland Family Youth Choral Academy, an honor choir for aspiring and talented high school singers. Additionally, Brian has appeared as a choral adjudicator and clinician across Colorado. In his free time, Brian enjoys getting outside skiing, hiking, and fishing with his beautiful wife Emily and their lovable yet handful of a dog, Bear.



STELLA PRADEAU, COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

A native Arkansan, Stella grew up surrounded by the sounds of gospel and bluegrass in a family of self-taught musicians. She began study of the piano at the age of 10 with a local church pianist. Lessons took place in the broom closet at the local high school. After a few years, Stella began lessons with a classically focused teacher located in a nearby town. She immediately fell in love with the sounds, colors and beauty of classical music. By the age of 14 Stella accompanied all music at her church and at the age of 18, she performed the second piano concerto by Saint Saëns with the University of Arkansas Concert Orchestra.

Currently a private teacher and popular choral collaborator in the Boulder area, Stella is a graduate of the University of Colorado where she studied with pianists Angela Cheng and Alvin Chow and successfully completed her Masters Degree in Piano Performance. While at CU, Stella was a graduate assistant and winner of the Norris Piano Award.

CANTABILE SINGERS

SOPRANO

Roxanne Bailin
Jennifer Burks
Abby Hulser
Linda Johnson
Marilyn Kruegel
Annie Larner
Katie Malzbender
Kathleen McCormick
Carol Nielsen*
Mary O'Brien
Audrey Windolph

ALTO

Hari Baumbach
Mary Chapin
Durling
Michelle Fitzgerald
Cathy Frye
Linda Haertling
Joanne Karpinski
Lucy Kelly
Debbie Kullby
Pam Malzbender
Kay Norris
Cindy Pierce
Maddie Pluto
Katja Stokley

TENOR

Aloke Guha
Ben Herbert
Bill Horst
David Norris
Julien Salmon
Jeremy Skelton

BASS

Mike Callan
Jonathan Dings
John Kitching
Tim O'Brien
Phil Rice
Bruce Stout*
Benjamin
Tarasewicz
Brian Underhill
Tom Voll
Greg Werner
Dick Van Pelt

MUSIC DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Robert Farr

MEMBER EMERITUS

Doug Burger

*Indicates Cantabile member not singing in this concert.



Cantabile is an auditioned choral ensemble in Boulder County, Colorado, dedicated to performing a wide range of music, including classical, jazz, gospel, folk music from many lands, and other international works. Our members are volunteers from a variety of ages, backgrounds, and musical experience, and include trained musicians as well as skilled amateurs. Cantabile performs three programs each year.

Join our mailing list to learn about upcoming performances. We send out periodic reminders (no more than 6 per year) and we will never share your information. Join our mailing list at cantablesingers.org.

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GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DONATIONS

Cantabile receives funding from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District to continue bringing art to our community.



Funds were also received from The Community Foundation serving Boulder County.

Cantabile is 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax deductible. If you are interested in making a contribution to Cantabile, please contact Carol Nielsen at president@cantabilesingers.org or visit cantabilesingers.org/support.

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CHICHESTER PSALMS | MAY 5 AND 7

Leonard Bernstein is celebrated as the composer of masterworks such as *West Side Story*, *Candide*, and *Mass*. Standing easily next to these works is his Chichester Psalms, composed in 1965 for a festival at Chichester Cathedral. Cantabile's performance of this work will feature the reduced orchestration arrangement for Organ, Harp, and Percussion. Bernstein set six of the psalms in the three movements of the *Chichester Psalms*. Also on the program will be other settings of the same psalms that Bernstein used. This concert is sure to be full of variety and fascinating comparisons based around one of the United States' most celebrated composers.

THANK YOU!

It is our pleasure to bring choral music to the community. Thank you for your support of local music and of Cantabile. We look forward to sharing more music with you!