

VOCES NOVAE

presents

In Her Voice



Sunday
March 2, 3pm

St. Albert the Great
1395 Girard Drive, Louisville, Kentucky 40222

Angela Vaughn Hampton – *Artistic Director*
Deborah Dierks – *Collaborative Artist*
Frank A. Heller, III – *Artistic Director Emeritus*

**WHEN EVERYTHING
IS ON THE LINE,
YOU WANT THE BALL
TO GO TO YOUR **MOST**
DEPENDABLE PLAYER.**

In printing, we'd like to be that for you. Hitting last second shots and coming through when you need us the most. For 23 years, that's been Welch Printing Company.



350 Boxley Avenue • Louisville, Kentucky 40209
502.636.3511 • 502.634.1414 fax
www.welchprinting.com

VOCES NOVAE
A CHORAL RENAISSANCE

In Her Voice
CELEBRATING FEMALE COMPOSERS

I Should Be Glad	Susan LaBarr
Seasons of Gratitude	Faith Zimmer
By an' By	Alice Parker
	<i>Shabnam Mockon, soprano</i>
O Magnum Mysterium	Sally Herman
Psalm 134	Rachel Grimes
As the Deer Pants	Rosephanye Powell
Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me	Gwyneth Walker
In Remembrance	Eleanor Daley
Lux Aeterna Domine	Patti Drennan
Light of a Clear Blue Morning	Dolly Parton/ arr. Craig Hella Johnson
	<i>Elizabeth Weaver, soprano</i>
Measure Me, Sky!	Elaine Hagenberg

Safety & Courtesy

If you need special assistance, please see an usher.

Please silence all electronic devices before the performance. This includes watches, cell phones, pagers, and texting devices.

Latecomers are asked to wait to be seated until an appropriate time during the performance.

The use of any recording devices is strictly prohibited.

In the unlikely event of an emergency please walk, not run, to the nearest exit.



All programs, activities, and services will be provided equally without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

Program Notes

Today, we celebrate the work of female composers from our lifetime. Frequent VN audience members will be familiar with the music of Alice Parker, Susan LaBarr, Eleanor Daley, Elaine Hagenberg and Gwyneth Walker from their previous appearances on our programs. We are delighted to introduce to you the music of Faith Zimmer, Rachel Grimes and Patti Drennan. The lyrics in our program vary from ancient, sacred texts to contemporary poetry, while the music offers a mixture of traditional a cappella choral writing, American spiritual and gospel, popular music idioms and even a re-imagined country song.

NWHA NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY ALLIANCE

Each year, the National Women's History Alliance selects a theme for Women's History Month. This year's theme is **"Moving Forward Together! Women Educating & Inspiring Generations."**

It is fitting that several of the composers featured in this concert currently teach or have spent many years teaching music composition. Our first three composers are connected by that bond. Both Susan LaBarr and Faith Zimmer studied composition under Alice Parker. One of the most influential choral composers and arrangers of the last century, Alice Parker was revered by the choral community as a master teacher and conductor until her death in 2023. She most certainly inspired generations of singers, conductors and composers. Sally Herman, Rosephanye Powell and Patti Drennan also have enjoyed long careers as music educators.



United
Real Estate
Louisville

Judy Zabenco
REALTOR®

Cell: 502-338-1158
judy.zabenco@yahoo.com

101 Bullitt Ln., Suite 110
Louisville, KY 40222

I Should Be Glad

Susan LaBarr is a composer and choral editor living and working in Springfield, Missouri. She writes...

"I Should Be Glad" is a work that attempts to capture the gratitude that many of us feel as we live and work as artists. The poem expresses the sentiment that our hard work is worth the long hours if it means that we are able to put art into the world and make a difference in the lives of others.

Beginning with a simple two-voice texture, LaBarr expands to four and then eight parts "symbolizing how music grows and changes as we touch more and more singers and audience members."

The text is from Sara Teasdale's poem, *Compensation*.

*I should be glad of loneliness
And hours that go on broken wings,
A thirsty body, a tired heart
And the unchanging ache of things,*

*If I could make a single song
As lovely and as full of light,
As hushed and brief as a falling star
On a winter night.*

Seasons of Gratitude

The youngest composer on our program, Faith Zimmer is a choral composer, singer/songwriter, poet, illustrator and worship leader in Springfield, Missouri. In addition to composing and writing poetry, Faith paints visual art, weaves tapestries, and teaches voice and songwriting lessons.

Seasons of Gratitude was commissioned by Kickapoo High School, Zimmer's alma mater. The text was written by Mr. Loren Broaddus, a history teacher at the school. She writes, "I hope that this piece reminds singers that gratitude allows us to transcend our circumstances, and that practicing gratefulness in every season can help calm anxious minds and hearts."

By an' By

Born in 1925, Alice Parker began composing in high school. She studied under and worked closely with Robert Shaw. Until her death in 2023, Parker was highly sought as a master teacher of all things musical. An expert in American vocal forms, she arranged over 200 American folk songs, hymns and spirituals. Her music is frequently performed by high school, university, community and professional choirs all over the world.

By an' By presents the themes of hope for freedom, resilience and perseverance, and heaven as a place of rest and reward, The soprano soloist leads call and response sections contrasting sections of four voice imitative counterpoint.

O Magnum Mysterium

Another master teacher-composer, Sally Herman has "inspired generations" of musicians from elementary to college level. She has conducted festival and All-State choirs across the U.S. and has authored texts on music education. Her best known piece, *O Magnum Mysterium*, juxtaposes contemporary cluster harmonies with chant-like melodies honoring the ancient text of the birth of Christ. Astute listeners will notice a reference to Randall Thompson's *Alleluia* at the end.

*O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger!
O blessed is the Virgin, whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.
Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you.
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.
Alleluia!*

Psalm 134

Rachel Grimes is a pianist, composer, and arranger based in Kentucky. Local audiences may have heard her music performed by the Louisville Orchestra. With a wide range of musical involvement, she has toured worldwide as a solo pianist and performed at some of the world's most diverse music festivals.

Psalm 134 was written in 1997 for the ensemble EvenSong at the Chapel of St. Philip Neri (Louisville). This short psalm is a call to praise God at all times, particularly at night, by lifting hands and seeking His blessings.

Behold now, praise the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord.

Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord,

Even in the courts of the house of our God.

Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.

The Lord that made heaven and earth, give thee blessing out of Zion.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

As the Deer Pants

Rosephanye Powell is one of the most prolific African-American female composers of our lifetime. Her pieces are widely performed by top choral ensembles and festival choruses across the nation. A singer, editor and teacher, Dr. Powell has earned wide acclaim and is commissioned by choruses all over the world. She is respected for her research in the music of William Grant Still, the African-American Spiritual and vocal health.

The text is based on the first four verses of *Psalm 42* in which David expresses his deep longing for God. Powell's dramatic setting is infused with jazz harmonies in the piano and voices.

As the deer pants for streams of water so my soul pants for You, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Where can I go to meet with God?

My tears have been my food day and night,

While men say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

*These things I remember as I pour out my soul, how I used to go with the multitude,
With shouts of joy and with thanksgiving, leading the procession to the house of God.*

Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me

Dr. Gwyneth Walker is a renowned American composer known for her diverse musical output, including orchestral works, chamber music, choral compositions, and vocal pieces. Her music is celebrated for its accessibility, emotional depth, and incorporation of various styles, often drawing inspiration from American folk traditions and poetry. Walker's works have been widely performed and commissioned by orchestras, ensembles, and festivals throughout the United States.

Of *Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me* she writes ...

The message of this memorial song is simple and honest. When my days are done ("when I come to the end of the road"), let my actions, my friendships, my struggles and my caring speak for me. There is no need for embellishment or praise. The truth, a plain-yet-beautiful truth, will suffice. The musical arrangement presents a similarly direct language. Harmonies, such as the final cadence, are open and transparent. The unadorned melody will speak for itself.

Let the life I've lived speak for me.

When I come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heavy load,

Let the life I've lived speak for me.

Let the friends I've made speak for me.

When I come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heavy load,

Let the friends I've made speak for me.

Lay down your burden, and rest with the setting sun.

All the beauty of your life will shine when your day is done.

Let the love I've shared speak for me.

Let the love that I've tried to share, and the burdens I've struggled to bear,

All this life of joy and care speak for me

In Remembrance

Eleanor Daley is a Canadian composer of choral and church music, a church choir director, clinician and accompanist. She lives and works in Toronto, Ontario. Among her best-known works are *The Rose Trilogy* and *Requiem*. *In Remembrance* is the fourth movement from *Requiem*. Set to a poem by Mary Elizabeth Frye, it is a poignant and reflective choral work that offers solace and comfort in times of loss and remembrance. Daley's masterful use of vocal textures, expressive harmonies, and evocative melodies creates a tapestry of sound that resonates deeply with both performers and listeners.

*Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glint on snow,
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle morning rain.*

*And when you wake in the morning's hush,
I am the sweet uplifting rush of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.*

Lux Aeterna Domine

Patti Drennan taught secondary choral music for twenty-eight years and served as a church music director. She has composed over 500 choral pieces, as well as vocal and piano arrangements. In addition to composing and teaching, she has enjoyed an extensive performing career.

The antiphon *Lux Aeterna Domine* brings to mind the ancient custom of lighting candles during the Mass for the deceased and is thought to be a symbolic prayer for light.

*Let perpetual light shine upon them, O Lord,
with your saints for ever,
for you are merciful.
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

Light of a Clear Blue Morning

Dolly Parton surely needs no introduction. She wrote *Light of a Clear Blue Morning* as a song of hope and resilience during a difficult time in her life. She had just made the difficult decision to leave her longtime musical and business partner, Porter Wagoner, to pursue her solo career in a more pop-oriented direction. This split was emotionally and legally challenging, and the song became her way of expressing the pain she was going through, but also the hope she had for the future.

Craig Hella Johnson's masterful arrangement of this song places a soloist in the foreground for much of the piece until the climactic moment when the choir joyfully exclaims "I can see the light, brand new day."

Measure Me, Sky

One of VN's favorite composers, Elaine Hagenberg is celebrated as one of today's leading choral composers, with music that "soars with eloquence and ingenuity" (ACDA Choral Journal). Renowned for her ability to seamlessly weave lush harmonic landscapes, captivating melodies, and evocative piano and orchestral accompaniments, she offers a unique blend of artistic sophistication and universal appeal—creating music that resonates with conductors, performers, and audiences alike.

She writes ...

The effect of the poetry in Measure Me, Sky! is instantaneous. It's as if one's arms have been cast wide, and their eyes turned to the heavens to take in the expanse both around and above. By opening with accented arpeggios that immediately rise into billowing triplet figures, I wanted to launch singers into flight and invite listeners into the same breathless exclamation.

I was also inspired to learn that Leonora Speyer first started writing poetry in her forties—not as a young girl. By composing an ascending key change for the final refrain, a new harmonic world is revealed, calling us to venture into the unknown to discover our limitless potential.

*Measure me, sky!
Tell me I reach by a song
Nearer the stars;
I have been little so long.*

*Horizon, reach out!
Catch at my hands,
stretch me taut,
Rim of the world:
Widen my eyes by a thought.*

*Sky, be my depth,
Wind, be my width
and my height,
World, my heart's span;
Loveliness, wings for my flight.*

Members

Soprano I

Danielle Armstrong
Michelle Harbison
Katie Kraft
Shabnam Mockon
Sandra Vaughn
Elizabeth Weaver
Jennifer Weber

Alto I

Sara Alvey
Tamara Becker
Susan Brooks
Patricia FitzGerald
Taylor Hannon
Lisa Holm
Lori Perkins
Hannay Shafer
Christie Tompkins

Tenor I

Brand Austin
Alex Elslager
Zach Hebert
Craig Pedigo

Bass I

Martin Brooks
Chad Burks
Bill Byrne
Noah Hankins
Chris Haulter
Kyle Mankin
Kenney Snell
Paul Stiller

Soprano II

Courtney Bennet
Anne Campbell
Cynthia Christensen
Catherine Cleveland
Stacey Herp
Allison LaRoy
Anissa Marshall
Danielle Revert
Kathy Van Ryzin
Beth Wade

Alto II

Jeanie Grosz
Kim Hoover
Karen Jones
Dawn Knapp
Carrie Li
Julie Nichelson

Tenor II

Patrick Haynes
Jesse Johnson
Brian Shaw

Bass II

Chris Baker
Kris Bloos
Kyle Henson
Brian Monsma
Jim Muscutt
Ben Riley

Board of Directors

2024-2025

Lori Perkins, President

Chad Burks, Vice President

Lisa Holm, Treasurer

Kathy Van Ryzin, Secretary

Danielle Armstrong

Patricia FitzGerald

Craig Pedigo

Dawn Knapp

Committee Chairs

2024-2025

Christie Tompkins, Membership

Craig Pedigo, Production

Paul Stiller & Catherine Cleveland, Finance

Kathy Van Ryzin & Allison LaRoy, Development

Zach Hebert, Marketing & Public Relations

Special thanks to:

St. Albert the Great Church, as our concert host

Middletown Christian Church, especially Scott Burress, for hosting our retreat

Nancy Harris of Harris Entertainment, as our agent

Miriam Shir, for art direction

TNT Productions, for audio engineering

Welch Printing, for print support

Our ushers, box office and CD sales volunteers

Acknowledgements

Voces Novae would like to sincerely thank the following individuals and organizations for their support.

Encore (\$1000-\$2999)

Kenneth and Tamara Becker
Jim Haynes
Brian Monsma
Craig Pedigo

Ovation (\$500-\$999)

Joy Gregg
Christie Tompkins

Bravo (\$250-\$499)

Bill Byrne
Thomas and Patricia FitzGerald
Julie Nichelson
Brian Shaw
Jennifer Weber

Applause (\$100-\$249)

Shirley Beck
Lyndsey Becker
Anne Campbell
Cynthia Christensen
Jaclyn Crady
Jean Grosz
Wes and Linda Harris
Zachary Hebert
Kimberly Hoover
Joyce Horrell
George and Jo Ann Kaelin
Dawn Knapp
Jim Muscutt
Mike and Carol Van Ryzin
Kenney and Cathy Snell
Donna Vaughn
Beth Wade

Friend (Under \$100)

Kendra Anderson	John and Susan Haynes	Scheri S. Mullins
Mitchell Becker	Patrick Haynes	Sara Olin
Wanda Becker	Lisa Holm	Lori Perkins
Douglas Bishop	Michael Janok	Tom Quinn
Kris Bloos	Lou and Judy Kelly	Richard Ray
Hilary Braun	Katie Kennedy	Cory and Danielle Revert
Martin and Susan Brooks	Nick Kirby	Ben Riley
Jessica Carner	Kristina Kluesner	Shirley Shaw
Catherine Cleveland	Katie Kraft	Amy Shir
Ted and Susan Covington	Allison LaRoy	Teresa Smith
Debbie Dierks	Paul LaBarbera	Arlen Spicer
Ramsay Dyer	Carrie Li	Benjamin Spicer
Alex Elslager	Corey Logsdon	Kathryn Van Ryzin
Ryan Fischer	Lee Look	Marcia Van Ryzin
Jeanne Groves	Kyle Mankin	Elizabeth Weaver
Cynthia Haas	Kathleen Meehan	Frances Weinstock
Taylor Hannon	Kristina Morgan	Leslie Wilson
Michelle Harbison	Mary Morrow	

We would also like to thank Sam and Sandra Vaughn and our many anonymous supporters for their donations!

*Want to support Voces Novae
at no cost to you?*

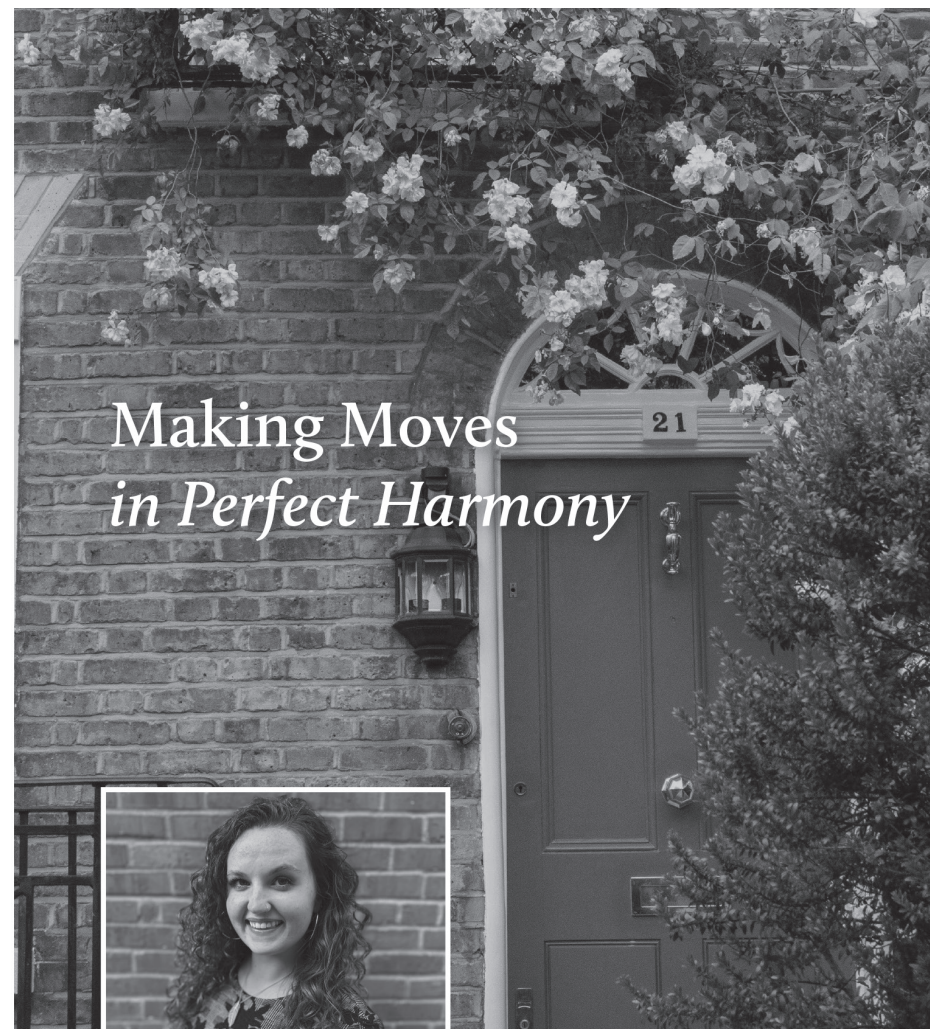


**Enroll in Kroger Community Rewards ...
your purchases earn us \$\$\$!**

All you need is a Kroger Plus card to enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. After enrolling in the program, every time you shop at Kroger and use your card, a small percentage of your purchases go to support VN.

Kroger Community Rewards is a separate program from Kroger Plus Rewards and will NOT affect your fuel points earnings.

**Enrolling in Kroger Community Rewards is easy!
Just click the QR code to get started.**



**Making Moves
in Perfect Harmony**



Hannay Shafer

LICENSED REALTOR® IN KENTUCKY + INDIANA

502.541.5487 | hshafer@kyselectproperties.com





3602 Northgate Ct., #19
New Albany, IN 47150

812-948-7865

www.pacersandraces.com

VOCES NOVAE

A CHORAL RENAISSANCE

Thank you for celebrating our 31st Season with us!

We hope to see you at our next concert:

A Stop on the Underground Railroad

Saturday, May 31 at 3pm

Sunday, June 1 at 7pm

Second Baptist Church, New Albany

HARRIS ENTERTAINMENT



**Professional Representation of Voces Novae
And Other Musical Ensembles and Soloists**

Harris Entertainment

Connecting People Who Want Music With People Who Make Music

Nancy Harris 502.267.0148

HarrisEntertainment.com

TNT PRODUCTIONS

6303 Fern Valley Pass ♦ Louisville, KY 40228

www.tntrecording.com

Audio and Video Recording



Studio Recording



On-Location Recording



CD Replication & Packaging



Adam Copelin
Audio Engineer



Barry C. Johnson, Sr.
President/Owner
Audio Engineer

Phone 🎵 (502) 964-9616

Fax 🎵 (502) 448-6731

Email 🎵 barry@tntrecording.com

PERFECT RANGE.



Blue Grass MOTORSPORT

Built on Performance

is a proud supporter of

Voces Novae

A CHORAL RENAISSANCE



4700 - 4730 Bowling Boulevard
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

www.bluegrassauto.com