

PRO CORO CANADA
choral experiences 20.21

new s p @ c e s

CONCERT PROGRAM

A ↔ PART SONGS

OCTOBER 18, 2020
Between 2:30 and 5:00pm

 **40th** anniversary
season
PRO CORO CANADA

Pro Coro Canada acknowledges that we gather on Treaty 6 territory, the traditional gathering place of many indigenous nations whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our community.

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Program

A ⇌ PART SONGS

Michael Zaugg, conductor

Early Part-Song in England

Annette Martens, soprano

Erin Craig, alto

Anthony Wynne, tenor

Michael Kurschat, bass

It was a lover and his lass

George Alexander Macfarren
(1813-1887)

The land of wonders

Henry Thomas Smart
(1813-1879)

Under the greenwood tree

George Alexander Macfarren

How Good Will It Feel**

Allan Gilliland**

The Second English Generation

Jessica Wagner, soprano

Kimberley Denis, alto

Ian Bannerman, tenor

Graeme Climie, bass

Shall we go dance?

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

Love

Edward Elgar
(1857-1934)

Music, when soft voices die

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry
(1848-1918)

My Mother's Body**

Stuart Beatch**

Program

Moving Across the Channel

Dawn Bailey, soprano
Jessica Robertson, alto
Caleb Nelson, tenor
Adam Robertson, bass

Dieu! qu'il la fait bon regarder!

Claude Debussy
(1862-1918)

Spring Night

Colin Eatock**

O Happy Eyes

Edward Elgar

Droplets**

laura hawley**

The French Style

Catherine Kubash, soprano
Adrienne Sitko, alto
Oliver Munar, tenor
Peter Malcolm, bass

Singing In The End**

Jane Berry**

Des pas dans l'allée

Camille Saint-Saëns
(1835-1921)

Ronde

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Nicolette

Maurice Ravel

Program

The German Style

Sara Brooks, soprano
Sable Chan, alto
Sascha Adler, tenor
Christian Maxfield, bass

Herbstlied

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Ruhetal

Felix Mendelssohn

How soft the shades of evening

Henry Smart
(1813-1879)

A prayer to bring you home**

John Estacio**

Traditions and Reinterpretations

Sarah Schaub, soprano
Jane Berry, alto
Michael Zaugg, tenor
Jihwan Cho, bass
Roger Admiral, piano

Ich hab' die Nacht geträumet

Max Reger
(1873-1916)

Der Mond ist aufgegangen

Traditional

Evening Song*

Allan Bevan**

*indicates world premier
**indicates Canadian composer
+commissioned by Pro Coro Canada

Pro Coro Canada

Founded in 1981 by Canadian Michel Marc Gervais, Pro Coro Canada has performed at the Toronto International Choral Festival (1994 and 2002), the 1988 Olympic Arts Festival, and Canadian Voices (2003 landmark series of concerts celebrating 50 years of professional choral singing in Canada and R. Murray Schafer's 70th year). The choir has commissioned dozens of new works, the majority by Canadian composers. Pro Coro Canada produced the second Edmonton International Choral Festival from May 30th to June 2nd, 2019.

The twenty-four voices of Pro Coro Canada have been shaped by some of the finest choral conductors in the world, including Gervais, Anders Eby (Sweden), Søren Hansen (Denmark), Agnes Grossmann (Austria), and Richard Sparks (USA). Guest conductors have included Frieder Bernius, Eric Ericson, Gary Graden, Maria Guinand, Bo Holten, Elmer Iseler, Tönu Kaljuste, Diane Loomer, Leonard Ratzlaff, Ward Swingle, Ivars Taurins, Jon Washburn, and Erik Westberg. In early 2012 Michael Zaugg was announced as Pro Coro's new Artistic Director and Principal Conductor.

Under the direction of Swiss-born Michael Zaugg, the choir is widely recognized as one of this country's finest. The choir is particularly proud of its composer-in-residence program with internationally renowned composer Alberto Grau; its appointment as Faculty in the Choral Art program at the Banff Centre; and critically acclaimed tours of four provinces. Pro Coro Canada believes strongly in community partnerships and over the past few years has collaborated with many community choirs as well as mentoring young choral artists through their Emerging Artist Program.



Our Conductor

Michael Zaugg, Artistic Director & Principal Conductor

Swiss-native Michael Zaugg has distinguished himself as an innovative and versatile conductor, pedagogue and clinician. Currently in his 7th season as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the professional chamber choir Pro Coro Canada in Edmonton, Michael also previously led other notable Canadian choirs including, in Montreal, the St. Lawrence Choir (2008-2013) and voces boreales (2006- 2015), and the Cantata Singers Ottawa (2005-2014).

As Chorus Master of the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal (2006-2011), Michael successfully prepared groups of up to 1500 singers for OSM Artistic Director Kent Nagano, including the award- winning production Saint François d'Assise by Messiaen. Michael also prepared the Cantata Singers Ottawa for their appearances with the National Arts Centre Orchestra under conductors such as Franz- Paul Decker, Trevor Pinnock, and Helmuth Rilling.

Active as a Guest Conductor, Michael Zaugg has worked with notable groups including the Vancouver Chamber Choir, National Youth Choir of Canada, the BBC Singers, Vancouver's musica intima, Thirteen Strings, as well as the Longueuil Symphony Orchestra. Michael's US debut was with the Grammy-nominated Choir of Trinity Wall Street in New York. Over the last three years,



he has led a 60-voice male choir, with singers selected from across Canada, the US and the Ukraine, to perform the Resurrection Liturgy by Fr. John Sembrat (Alberta) in tours across the Prairies and to Toronto, Philadelphia, Rochester and New York City.

Originally an accomplished tenor, Michael became the first Swiss conductor to be accepted to the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, Sweden in its prestigious post-graduate program for Professional Choir Conducting. Mr. Zaugg also holds degrees in voice and music education from the University in Basel. In 2018 he was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Music (Hon DMus) by Scotland's King's College, University of Aberdeen.

Michael Zaugg is strongly committed to his work not only with choirs but also with emerging artists, and is the Program Director of CHORAL ART at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. His work with and support of emerging Canadian composers is presented through Pro Coro Canada's Choral Series, distributed by the Leading Note in Ottawa.

Our Composer-in-Residence

Alberto Grau

Alberto Grau is a renowned composer, conductor, pedagogue from Venezuela, born in Cataluña. He is the founder of professional choral studies in Venezuela.

The Schola Cantorum de Caracas (now de Venezuela), internationally known Venezuelan choir was founded by Grau in 1967 (in 2017 it celebrated its 50th anniversary). He led this famous group to win the Guido D'Arezzo Choral Competition in 1974. He also founded the Movimiento Coral Cantemos, another institution that has participated in the choral movement of Venezuela.

Grau has been Vice President of the International Federation of Choral Music (1982-1996) where he promoted the International Singing Day (World Choral Day), celebrated every year worldwide.

In the choral field, he has composed for mixed choirs and equal voices (female, male and children). His choral works have been premiered by different choirs from diverse continents and published by GGM Ediciones (Venezuela), Earthsongs (USA), À Coeur Joie (France) and Neil A. Kjos Music Co.(USA).



He has been awarded several national and international prizes such as:

- Jose Angel Montero National Music Prize in three categories: *Triptico* (songs for mezzo soprano and piano, 1983 for *Dies Irae*, and 1987 *Pater Noster*, both for mixed choir.
- First Prize, International Choral Singing Day, 1978 (Barcelona, Spain), for *La Doncella*, ballet for mixed choir, narrator and orchestra.
- Fama prize in the Arts, for his *Five Songs for Children*, based on the popular poetry “El San Pedro”.
- Choral Expression and Composition Prize (sixth edition, 1998), Gran Canarias Government (Spain), for his *Operetta Ecológica* in four acts.

In July, 2017 his most recent composition for childrens choir and orchestra was premiered at New York's Carnegie Hall.

Our Honourary Patron



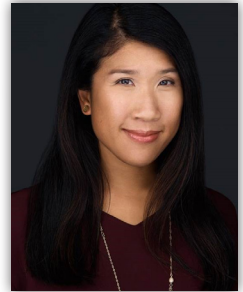
Rt. Hon. Kim Campbell

The Right Honourable Kim Campbell PC CC OBC QC, currently the founding principal of the Peter Lougheed Leadership College at the University of Alberta, has led an exemplary public life, having served as a School Board Trustee and Chair, an MLA for Vancouver-Point Grey and as MP for Vancouver Centre.

While considering the appointment as Honorary Patron, Ms. Campbell reflected on her love of the arts in general and choral music specifically. She spoke of being a singer and chorister while studying at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Ms. Campbell said, “Among my memorable experiences at the LSE was learning to sing the choral music of Britten, Bach, Mozart, Orff and others. Rather than being a distraction from my studies in Soviet Government, my involvement with the choir (as president of the Music Society, no less) enriched my thinking and well-being in the company of other like-minded scholars. I am very happy to support the work of Pro Coro Canada, which represents the highest level of this beautiful art form.”

Sarah Chan
Honourary Director



Sarah Chan MA is a teacher, musician, writerly-type, and mother of Dexter and Alice. She runs a full time private piano studio, and publishes the blog *Girls and Bicycles*. Her current volunteer focus is on the United Way’s youth initiative. Sarah also spends her time with: Big Brothers, Big Sisters; friend of Norquest College; co-chair for The Works Festival Gala; honorary chair for YESS; an advocate for the Edmonton Public Library; Member of the Mentor team at Peter Lougheed Leadership College (UofA); and a board member of Apricity, a not-for-profit that is working with Boyle Street’s HERpregnancy program.

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Run for Music is a fun and easy way to help Alberta choirs raise funds for themselves, and to support the programs offered by Choir Alberta. Designed to provide a much higher percentage of return than most fundraisers, 50 to 75 percent of the funds raised go directly to the choir.



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MOTETS

NOVEMBER 22, 2020

Between 2.30 and 5.00pm

 40th anniversary
season
PRO CORO CANADA

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