

Africa **Words and Music: Paich/Porcaro, arr. by Philip Lawson**
Percussion: Rick Folston and Amber Tripp
Soloists: Cain Braveheart and Kelli Bee

Laughing Song **Words: William Blake, Music: Lloyd Pfautsch**
Flute: Erin Walker
The Sopranos and Altos of Reprise Choir

Hope for Resolution (A Song for Mandela and de Klerk)
Based on an ancient hymn and a South African Freedom Song
Arranged by Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory
Flute: Erin Walker, Percussion: Bob Barrett

Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace **Words: St. Francis of Assisi, Music: Mary McDonald**

Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord **Traditional Spiritual, arr. by Undine Moore**
Soloists: Bryce Pollock, tenor, Justin McLeod, bass

The Awakening **Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin**



SINGERS

Sopranos

Racheal Alexandria
Shannon Anderson*#
Kelli Bee
Jeanine Clark
Lauren Garcia
Alicia Helm
Lonnie Lathrop*
Julia Watson

Altos

Beth Borgstede
Sarah Brizek
Katie Hebner*#
Shayna Luu*
Lori Thomas
Adelaine Thunen*
Ambree Tijerina*
Amber Tripp*
Erin Walker

Tenors

Jeffrey Cannon#
Tristan Colo
Theo Easley
Gary Gross
Mitchell Kelly
Dakota Luu*
Bryce Pollock
Joseph Tijerina
David Tripp

Basses

Bob Barrett
Cain Braveheart
Rick Folston*
Jim Galbraith
Colby Hagen
David Kinch
Bradford Law
Justin McLeod#
Nathan Weiss*

#Section Leaders

***Board Members, plus Robin Brown and Benito Tijerina**

Directors' Notes

When the theme of this year's concert was selected by the Reprise Board, we were thrilled! Between the two of us, we have taught and conducted thousands of choral works. Some of those pieces are ones we revisited through our careers, but we had yet to program any of them for Reprise Choir.

We both thought back to which pieces we truly love. Pieces that we love either for their texts, the music, or because of the past choirs that sang these pieces who made wonderfully positive, lasting memories for us. We chose our list of songs individually over the summer. We met in late August 2025 to share our lists, only to find that we had several choral works in common on both our lists. We had quite a musical wrestling match over which pieces were non-negotiable for each of us. We played through all the songs, decided which would make a balanced, interesting, and musically edifying program for our singers and the audiences, and presented our final program to the board. The concert presents a balance of challenges for the choir, and something for everyone to love. We hope you will love these pieces as much as we do!

Program Notes

Tambur, or Old Hungarian Dancing Song, is based on the folk tune "Ungaresca" which dates to 1583. It was arranged by Lajos Bárdos (1899-1986). The lyrics refer to the cymbals, drums, stringed instruments, and invites us to "come to the dance and gladden our hearts with singing."

Shenandoah is an American Folk Song, arranged by James Erb. It originated as a sailor song or sea shanty. It later became the most popular song on the Oregon Trail from about 1845 to about 1860. It incorporates another American Folk Song called "Across the Wide Missouri" which expresses deep longing and nostalgia, often portraying themes of love, adventure, and farewell.

Capturing the essence of rainy night, Canadian composer Sid Robinovitch (b. 1942) skillfully brings **Noche de Lluvia** to life with a definite Latin American flavor. Juana di Ibarbourou (1845-1979) was a Uruguayan poet writing in the regional Rioplatense Spanish. Her poetry, the earliest of which is highly erotic, is notable for her identification of her feelings with nature around her.

With a text from Song of Solomon, the accomplished American composer and director, René Clausen, wrote **Set Me As a Seal** after the tragic death of his unborn child. It is beautiful in its simplicity of words, and complexity of notes and harmonies. Like a plea from a grieving heart, the song is about God's love overcoming all things, even the most devastating thing in your life.

In 1848, Joseph Brackett wrote "Simple Gifts" in his Shaker community in Maine. The Shakers were a small group that left England to find religious tolerance in North America. They believed in simplicity and equality and some very similar ideas about music bringing the community together that we share in Reprise Choir. Chilcott's arrangement, **The Gift to Be Simple**, is one of the King's Singers favorite American folksong settings.

Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves (**Va, pensiero**) from Verdi's opera "Nabucco" is inspired by Psalm 137. While set in ancient Babylon, the chorus became a powerful anthem for the *Risorgimento* (the movement for Italian unification) in the 19th century. It served as a patriotic song for Italians under Austrian rule and is widely recognized as a hymn of freedom against oppression. It is still frequently performed and culturally significant in Italy today, often sung spontaneously, symbolizing Italian unity.

Taking A Chance On Love was composed by Duke/Latouche/Fetter. This arrangement is by Dave Barduhn, the former jazz instructor Mount Hood Community College, Edmonds Community College, and current artistic director of Seattle based "Blue Street Voices". This song first premiered in the 1940 Broadway musical "Cabin in the Sky".

How Do You Keep the Music Playing? by Michel Legrand and Alan and Marilyn Bergman was first introduced in the 1982 film "Best Friends", where it was sung by James Ingram and Patti Austin. In 1983, their single reached #5 on the Billboard Hot 100. It was also nominated for the Academy Award for Best Original Song at the 55th Academy Awards. Since then, well-known singers such as Tony Bennett, Barbra Streisand, Melissa Manchester, and Quincy Jones. Dave Barduhn created this arrangement in 2006.

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There'll Be Some Changes Made by Benton Overstreet/Billy Higgins is arranged by Kirk Marcy. Marcy is a former jazz instructor at Edmonds Community College and a former member of "The Four Freshmen". This song, originally published in 1921, was first recorded by Ethel Waters. Others, such as Billie Holiday, Peggy Lee, Benny Goodman, and Fats Waller, also made recordings of this upbeat tune.

The American rock band Toto's 1983 hit **Africa** is a romanticized, stream-of-consciousness narrative about a man's love for the continent and desired romantic encounter there. The composers, who had never been to Africa, created fantastical imagery like Kilimanjaro rising above the Serengeti, a geographical inaccuracy. Lawson's 2006 Kings Singers choral arrangement has been performed by choirs around the world, too numerous to count!

Laughing Song composed by Lloyd Pfautsch (from Songs of Innocence by William Blake, English poet) Blake portrays childhood as a time of innocence and purity, where children are free from the corruption of the world. Blake celebrates the power of laughter to break down barriers, to bring us closer together, and to make us forget our troubles for a while.

Hope for Resolution is a brilliant composition celebrating diversity that combines an ancient European chant melody and an anti-apartheid song from South Africa. Arrangers Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory combine divergent musical styles, creating an example of peaceful coexistence.

Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace (St. Francis of Assisi) composed by Mary McDonald utilizes an anonymous text that is usually called the "Prayer of Saint Francis" or "Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace" is a widely known Christian prayer for peace. This prayer was heavily publicized during both World War I and World War II. It has been frequently set to music by notable songwriters and quoted by prominent leaders, and its broadly inclusive language has found appeal with many faiths encouraging service to others.

The Awakening by composer Joseph M. Martin is a powerful choral piece depicting a journey from the despair of a world without music to a joyful, triumphant celebration of its healing power. Inspired by the tragic loss of his music teacher, it serves as a testament to music as a sanctuary, overcoming darkness and finding renewed hope.

Key elements of the piece's meaning include: **The Nightmare (Silence):** The opening represents a world without music, filled with desperation, silence, and emotional hopelessness. **The Dawn (Renewal):** The middle section symbolizes emerging from the shadows, with music returning as a healing force, bringing light and energy. **The Celebration (Hope):** The finale is a triumphant, energetic, and joyous affirmation of music's power, reflecting a "journey back to joy" and honoring the life-song of a mentor.



Thanks/acknowledgements

Photo of Reprise Choir: Eric Wainwright Photography

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About Reprise

Since its establishment in 2017, Reprise Choir Sings has been led by Founders and Artistic Directors April Duvic and Janet Reiter-Galbraith. The auditioned ensemble comprises 32 local musicians, including music educators, church musicians, and dedicated choral artists, all committed to delivering high-quality choral music. Reprise Choir has a strong history of financially supporting and collaborating with local school choirs and remains dedicated to its mission: presenting a wide array of choral music at the highest artistic level and encouraging student musicians to pursue music throughout their lives.

Our Directors

Acquainted since the early 1990s, Janet and April's musical paths crossed, re-crossed, and aligned, culminating in the creation of Reprise Choir Sings in 2017. Both Washington natives, their musical roots run deep. Each began piano lessons at an early age. Each participated in school music and theatre programs. Both majored in music education, with emphasis on piano, voice, and choral education. Between the two, they have over 100 years of classroom teaching experience from middle school to college. Lives dedicated to music and still going strong, both as friends, co-directors, pianists, and singers, April and Janet are a testament to the power of impassioned, lifelong music-making!

TENTATIVE DATES FOR 2027 CONCERTS:

MARCH 17, 2027

MARCH 20 2027

MARCH 21, 2027