



# PRO ARTE CHORALE

Bryan Zaros, Music Director

## Water Night

*Music inspired by water and night*

Sunday, March 24, 2019 / 4pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
155 Linwood Avenue, Ridgewood, NJ



Bryan Zaros, *Music Director*

Janet Montgomery, *Principal Accompanist  
and Assistant Conductor*

Catherine Guinard, *Chorale Administrator*

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Ridgewood, NJ

# Water Night

## Pro Arte Chorale

Bryan Zaros

*Music Director*

Janet Montgomery

*Accompanist*

## PROGRAM

### SONGS OF THE WATER

Vidi Aquam	Gregorian Chant 6th Century
New Year Carol	Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
Sicut Cervus	Giovanni Pierluigi de Palestrina (1525-1594)
At the River	Aaron Copland (1900-1990)
The Water is Wide	adapted Luigi Zaninelli (b. 1932)
Ol' Man River	Jerome Kern (1885-1945)
	<i>Andrew Jurden, baritone</i>
Deep River	H.T. Burleigh (1866-1949)
	<i>Andrew Jurden, baritone</i>
Let the River Run	arr. Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962)

### SONGS OF THE WATERNIGHT

Water Night	Eric Whitacre (1756-1791)
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### SONGS OF THE NIGHT

Laudate Dominum	W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)
Vesperae solennes de Confessore	
	<i>Monica Conesa, soprano soloist</i>
Sure on this Shining Night	Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)
Sehnsucht	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Wade in the Water	arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)
	<i>Rachel Sink, soprano soloist</i>
	<i>Ilana Brodzki, soprano soloist</i>

*This concert is sponsored in part by Gilseman & Company, Ridgewood, NJ*

# About Pro Arte Chorale

**Pro Arte Chorale**, an all-volunteer chorus now celebrating its 55th season, is one of the Northeast's most prominent choral organizations! The Chorale has appeared in major concert venues across the region including the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Avery Fisher Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, and the South Orange Performing Arts Center. In addition to its own subscription series, the Chorale has appeared with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, American Symphony Orchestra, Westfield Symphony Orchestra, and the Mark Morris Dance Company. In May 2008 the Pro Arte Chorale traveled to Liverpool, UK to perform with the Liverpool Welsh Choral at Mossley Hill Church, as part of Liverpool's celebration as Cultural Capital of Europe. In May 2009 the Liverpool Welsh Choral traveled to the U.S. to join the Pro Arte Chorale and Westfield Symphony Orchestra in performances of Verdi's Requiem in Ridgewood and Westfield, NJ.

The Chorale has been conducted by William Memmott, John Nelson, Roger Nierenberg, Bart Folse, David Crone, Joshua Greene and Steven Fox. In addition, the Chorale has sung under the batons of Nicholas McGegan, Zubin Mehta, Julius Rudel, Hugh Wolff, Zdenek Macal, Yuri Temirkanov, Leon Botstein, Gerard Schwartz, David Wroe, and is now currently conducted by Bryan Zaros.



Conductor **Bryan Zaros** is a young American conductor recognized for his "strong musical imagination" and "deep sense of musicality and communication." He is the Associate Choirmaster at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine and made his conducting debut with the cathedral choirs at Westminster Abbey, London. He is also

the Music Director of the Pro Arte Chorale, an ensemble with a 55-year legacy specializing in the performance of choral/orchestral masterworks. Recent conducting engagements have included invitations with choirs and orchestras in England, Italy, Switzerland, Canada, Sweden, Argentina, Greece, Slovenia, Ireland and Romania. Most

notably he has conducted concerts at Alice Tully Hall-Lincoln Center, the American Choral Director's Association Conferences and recently led the United Nations Orchestra in a ceremony commemorating the opening of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly. He is a recipient of several conducting awards including an American Prize award in Conducting. A native New Yorker, Bryan began his professional musical training as a member of the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus and as a boy chorister at The Church of the Transfiguration NYC. He has served on the faculties of The Hartt School at the University of Hartford, Avon Old Farms School and as the Conductor of the Archdiocesan Choir and Orchestra at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Hartford, Connecticut. Bryan received a Bachelor of Music in Sacred Music from Westminster Choir College, a Master of Music in Conducting from the University of Michigan and is currently a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting at the Manhattan School of Music where he is also a lecturer in music. For more information about Bryan, visit [www.bryanzaros.com](http://www.bryanzaros.com)

## *About the Artists*



Janet Montgomery has won acclaim as a pianist, organist, coach, and conductor. She has appeared in concert at venues ranging from Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center to Washington National Cathedral, and the Juilliard School. She has accompanied such groups as the New York Choral Society, the Gregg Smith Singers, Musica Sacra, and the Masterwork Chorus. She is a founding member of the Serafini Brillanti Trio; the group has recorded a CD and has performed extensively in New Jersey, Florida, and the Chicago area. Ms. Montgomery is the director of music at the Community Church of Glen Rock and is the accompanist and keyboard assistant at the Barnert Temple of Franklin Lakes. She is also on the music faculty of the Dwight Englewood School. Ms. Montgomery graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory with a bachelor's degree in piano performance and has a master's degree in accompanying from the Manhattan School of Music. She also holds the AAGO certification from the American Guild of Organists.



Kansas native, **Andrew Jurden** sings in a number of musical mediums, from the Bass solo in Mozart's Requiem with the Manhattan School of Music Symphonic Chorus to backing up Madonna at the Met Gala music performance with Clarion Choral Society. He performed in The Metropolitan Opera Guild's *Masterly Singing Series: Don Giovanni* Masterclass and the baritone solo for Brahms: *Ein Deutsches Requiem* with Ensemble NYC. He has appeared in three opera films: **Something Blue: l'Opera Del Bachelor** (Scott Joiner) and **Someone Like Me: l'Opera di Facebook** (Nathan Fletcher), **RumsprinaWakening** (Nathan Fletcher) all of which were written and directed by Adam Taylor. He premiered the baritone solo of Michael Brinzer's new arrangement of Charles Ives' "General William Booth Enters Into Heaven" for piano, bass drum and saxophone orchestra with The Manhattan School of Music Sax Ensemble. In opera, he sang *Schaunard* with the Vienna Summer Music Festival's production of **La Bohème**, *Forrester* in Janáček's *Cunning Little Vixen* and a Gypsy chorister in Johann Strauss' **Der Zigeunerbaron**. He has sung with a variety of New York City's opera companies, such as: Martina Arroyo's *Prelude to Performance*, The Bronx Opera, International Masters' Academy of Opera, and William Remmers' *Utopia Opera*.

Floridian native, **Monica Conesa** discovered her love for singing when she joined the Sarasota Youth Opera. Through their program, she was cast in various roles including the role of Rowan in Benjamin Britten's *Little Sweep*. Since then, Monica has sung Kupava in Rimsky-Korsov's *The Snow Maiden* and performed scenes from operas such as *Don Giovanni*, *La finta di Giardinera*, *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, and *Die Fledermaus*. Last summer, she had the opportunity perform the role of Maxine in the world premier of Scott Joiner's *Bridesmaids* with the Vienna Summer Music Festival.

In 2017, Monica made her concert debut singing a Valentine's Day themed program with the Venice Symphony Orchestra in Florida. After learning of the devastation Hurricane Harvey brought her family, friends, and community, she jumped to perform in the Hurricane Harvey and Irma Benefit Concert later that year.

Conesa has competed in various competitions, winning second place in both the Artist Series Competition and Schmidt Competition, and then first place in the Schmidt Competition the following year.



## **Soprano**

Ilana Brodszi

Linda Costa

Jane Dougan

Yelena Etkin

Marie Griffo

Enid Hayflick

Shakeh McMahon

Denise Michaud

Elisabeth Ann McGrath

Hyesuk Oh

Ksenija Kostic-Pecaric

Jaime Roberts

Maria Stamas

Kate Wilding

## **Alto**

Susan Aster

Patricia Bradley

Dorothy Dey

Catherine Guinard

Nancy Malinoski

Dianne McKinnon

Janet Salisbury

Rachel Sink

## **Tenor**

Michael Battiston

Howard Gruber

Hewitt Jeter

Sam Moschella

Richard Schachter

Michael Stella

Harry Sink

## **Bass**

Moshe Arad

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# Program Notes

This afternoon's concert brings together an unusual grouping of choral and vocal pieces that are inspired by two natural phenomena of our world – the water and the night. Apart from a few obvious capturable features – that water is soft and flowing, and that nighttime is quiet – music by itself has only a limited capability to depict or portray these two subjects.

But since vocal composition importantly includes a text, composers throughout history have been able to use liturgical and secular sources to provide us with musical experiences that capture these two broad human experiences across the centuries of Western art. Indeed, the pieces selected for this concert span fifteen centuries, from the sixth-century Gregorian chant **Vidi Aquam** – whose text refers to the words of the prophet Ezekiel, who saw the waters gushing forth from the Temple as a sanctifying flood – to **Let the River Run**, a song Carly Simon wrote for the 1988 film *Working Girl* (presented today in Craig Hella Johnson's choral arrangement).

Between these two compositions, a variety of styles and genres are offered here in the representation of water in the first half of the program. From the Renaissance comes Palestrina's motet **Sicut Cervus**, which likens the soul's longing for God to a deer's attraction to a flowing stream. From the twentieth century we have Benjamin Britten's **New Year Carol**, whose chant-like melody comes from an English/Welsh folksong that tells of well-water brought to worship God as the New Year begins; and Aaron Copland's **At The River**, his arrangement of the traditional Christian hymn that dates from 1864.

Also included, from the popular domain, are the English/Scottish folksong **The Water Is Wide**, in a choral version by Luigi Zaninelli; the traditional spiritual **Deep River**, in H.T. Burleigh's arrangement; and the ever-famous Jerome Kern song from *Show Boat*, **Ol' Man River**.

Finally, **Water Night**, Grammy-winning composer Eric Whitacre's setting a poem by

Octavio Paz, joins our two main images. Regarding the poem, Whitacre himself said that “the music seemed to sing itself out into the air, as if it were part of the poetry itself.” The music expresses the eternal quality of love and the cycle of renewal, seen through the poem’s metaphors of the water and the night. The evocative last line - “Night brings its wetness to the beaches in your soul” - captures the theme of the poem perfectly.

Whitacre’s piece, combining the two themes, is a perfect bridge to the next set of pieces, dealing with nighttime. Mozart’s **Laudate Dominum**, a movement from a sacred choral work intended for evening prayer, is a setting of Psalm 117. And from Brahms we have **Sehnsucht**, whose Hungarian folksong text, set in German, reflects on how the water runs continuously, through the day and the night, and the feelings of yearning it awakens. A poem by James Agee supplies the text for Morten Lauridsen’s **Sure on this Shining Night**.

We end our program with an energetic performance of Moses Hogan’s arrangement of the spiritual **Wade in the Water**.

## *Text & Translations*

### **Vidi Aquam – Gregorian Chant**

Vidi aquam egredientem de templo,  
a latere dextro, alleluja:  
Et omnes, ad quos pervenit aqua ista,  
salvi facti sunt et dicent, alleluja.

Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et  
semper, et in saecula saeculorum.

I saw the water flowing out from the  
temple from the side on the right, praise  
the Lord and all to whom there came  
the water there, saved were they and  
they shall say, praise the Lord.

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

As it was in the beginning, is now,  
and will be forever, Amen

## **New Year Carol – Benjamin Britten**

Here we bring new water from the well so clear  
For to worship God with, this happy New Year  
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;  
The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.  
Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe,  
Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.  
Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin,  
Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.

## **Sicut Cervus – Giovanni Palestrina**

Sicut cervus desiderat ad  
fontes aquarum:

As a deer longs for springs of water,  
so longs my soul for thee, O God.

Ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.  
Sitivit anima mea ad Deum fortem  
vivum: quando veniam et apparebo  
ante faciem Dei?

My soul has thirsted for the strong  
living God: when shall I come and  
appear before the face of God?

Fuerunt mihi lacrymae meae panes  
die ac nocte, dum dicitur mihi quotidie:  
Ubi est Deus tuus?

My tears have been to me bread day  
and night, while it is said to me daily:  
Where is your God?

## **At the River – Aaron Copland**

Shall we gather by the river,  
Where bright angel's feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?  
Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.  
Ere we reach the shining river  
Lay we every burden down,  
Praise our spirits will deliver  
And provide our robe and crown.  
Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

## **The Water Is Wide – adapted by Luigi Zaninelli**

The water is wide and I can't cross over

And neither have I wings to fly

Build me a boat that can carry two

And both shall row My love and I

There is a ship and it sails on the sea

loaded deep as deep can be

But not as deep as the love I'm in

I know not if I sink or swim

I leaned my back up against an oak

Thinkin' it was a trusty tree

But first it bent and then it broke

just like my own false love to me

Oh love is gentle and love is kind

Gay as a jewel when first it's new

But love grows old and waxes cold

And fades away like the morning dew

## **Ol' Man River – Jermone Kern**

Ol' man river	We sweat and strain
That ol' man river	Body all aching
He don't say nothing	And wracked with pain
But he must know something	Tote that barge
Cause he just keeps rolling	Lift that bale
He keeps rolling along	Get a little drunk
Rollin' along	And you land in jail
He don't plant tators	I gets weary
He don't plant cotton	Sick of trying
Them that plants 'em is soon forgotten	I'm tired of living
But ol' man river	Feared of dying
He keeps rolling along	But ol' man river
You and me	He's rolling along

## **Deep River – H.T. Burleigh**

Deep River,  
My home is over Jordan.  
Deep River, Lord.  
I want to cross over into campground.  
Oh, don't you want to go,  
To the Gospel feast;  
That Promised Land,  
Where all is peace?  
Oh, deep River, Lord,  
I want to cross over into campground.

## Let the River Run – arr. Craig Hella Johnson

We're coming to the edge

Running on the water

Coming through the fog

Your sons and daughters

Let the river run

Let all the dreamers

Wake the nation

Come, the New Jerusalem

Silver cities rise

The morning lights

The streets that meet them

And sirens call them on

With a song

It's asking for the taking

Trembling, shaking

Oh, my heart is aching

We the great and small

Stand on a star

And blaze a trail of desire

Through the dark'ning dawn

It's asking for the taking

Come run with me now

The sky is the color of blue

You've never even seen

In the eyes of your lover

It's asking for the taking

Trembling, shaking

Oh, my heart is aching

Let the river run

(let the river run)

Let all the dreamers

(let all the dreamers)

Wake the nation (wake the nation)

Come, the New Jerusalem



## **Water Night – Eric Whitacre**

Night with the eyes of a horse that trembles in the night,

Night with eyes of water in the field asleep

Is in your eyes, a horse that trembles is in

Your eyes of secret water.

Eyes of shadow-water,

Eyes of well-water,

Eyes of dream-water.

Silence and solitude,

Two little animals moon-led,

Drink in your eyes,

Drink in those waters.

If you open your eyes, night opens doors of musk,

The secret kingdom of the water opens

Flowing from the center of the night.

And if you close your eyes,

A river, a silent and beautiful current, fills you from within,

Flows forward, darkens you:

Night brings its wetness to beaches in your soul.

## **Laudate Dominum – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes

Laudate eum, omnes populi

Quoniam confirmata est

Super nos misericordia eius

Et veritas, veritas Domini manet, manet in aeternum

Gloria Patri et Filio, Et Spiritui Sancto

Sicut erat in principio

Et nunc, et semper

Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Praise the Lord, all nations;

Praise Him, all people.

For He has bestowed

His mercy upon us,

And the truth of the

Lord endures forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,

and for generations of generations. Amen

## **Sure on this Shining Night – Morton Lauridsen**

Sure on this shining night of star-made shadows round,  
kindness must watch for me this side the ground,  
on this shining night

Sure on this shining night of star-made shadows round,  
kindness must watch for me this side the ground,  
on this shining night, this shining night

The late year lies down the north

All is healed, all is health

High summer holds the earth, hearts all whole

The late year lies down the north

All is healed, all is health

High summer holds the earth, hearts all whole

Sure on this shining night,

I weep for wonder wand'ring far alone

Of shadows on the stars

Sure on this shining night

## **Sehnsucht – Johannes Brahms**

Es rinnen die Wasser Tag und Nacht,  
deine Sehnsucht wacht.

The waters run day and night;  
your yearning awakes.

Du gedenkest der vergangenen Zeit,  
die liegt so weit.

You think of times past,  
now so far away.

Du siehst hinaus in den Morgenschein  
und bist allein.

You gaze out into the morning light  
and are alone.

Es rinnen die Wasser Tag und Nacht,  
deine Sehnsucht wacht.

The waters run day and night;  
your yearning awakes.

## **Wade in the Water – arr. Moses Hogan**

Wade in the water

Children wade, in the water

God's gonna trouble the water

Who's that young girl dressed in red

Wade in the water

Must be the children that Moses led

God's gonna trouble the water

Wade in the water, wade in the water children

Wade in the water,

God's gonna trouble the water

Who's that young girl dressed in white

Wade in the water

Must be the children of the Israelite

Oh, God's gonna trouble the water

Who's that young girl dressed in blue

Wade in the water

Must be the children that's coming through,

God's gonna trouble the water, yeah

You don't believe I've been redeemed,

Wade in the water

Just so the whole lake goes looking for me

God's gonna trouble the water