All Saints' Episcopal Church

CONCERT SERIES

 $\frac{2020}{2000}$

2021

SEASON

Music lies at the very heart of who we are as a community of faith.

Friday, November 13, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Songs of Struggle and Hope with Bradley Howard, Tenor





634 West Peachtree Street NW + Atlanta, Georgia 30308-1925 telephone: 404-881-0835 + facsimile: 404-881-3796

allsaintsatlanta.org

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For more information about the Concert Series or becoming a financial contributor, please contact Dr. Kirk M. Rich at krich@allsaintsatlanta.org.

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Songs of Struggle and Hope

Kirk M. Rich, piano and organ Bradley Howard, tenor

"Comfort ye" and "Ev'ry valley" from Messiah	George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)
"A Letter" from Five Poems of Emily Dickinson	Lee Hoiby (1926–2011)
"Ich grolle nicht" from Dichterliebe	Robert Schumann (1810–1856)
Here and Gone "Because I liked you better" "Stars"	Jake Heggie (b. 1961)
"Il mio Tesoro" from Don Giovanni	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756–1791)
Canticle II: <i>Abraham and Isaac</i> Benjamin Britten (1913–1976) Nathan Medley, <i>countertenor</i>	
"Minstrel Man"	Margaret Bonds (1913–1972)
"Somewhere" from West Side Story	Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990)
"L'amourAh! Léve-toi, soleil" from Roméo et J	Tuliette Charles Gounod (1818–1893)
"Misalliance"	Michael Flanders (1922–1975) and Donald Swann (1923–1994)
"Sometimes I feel like a motherless child"	traditional Spiritual arr. Moses Hogan (1957–2003)
"He's got the whole world in his hands"	traditional Spiritual arr. Hogan
"Over the rainbow"	Harold Arlen (1905–1986)

Artist Biographies



With a career spanning classical and modern choral works, solo recitals, and opera roles, tenor, Bradley Howard has gained recognition as a multi-faceted performer, performing under the batons of renowned conductors Seiji Ozawa, William Fred Scott, Christian Badea, Riccardo Muti, Joesph Flummerfelt, Yoel Levi, John Mauceri, and Robert Spano.

A passionate educator, he joined the faculty of Emory University as Director of Vocal Studies in 2011.

Mr. Howard began his career as a fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center, when his performance of Bob Boles in the 50th Anniversary of Benjamin Britten's Peter Grimes brought him to the attention of famed conductor Seiji Ozawa. Further operatic successes include Tamino in The Magic Flute, Ferrando in Cosi fan tutte, Rodolfo in La Boheme, Beppe in I Pagliacci, Count Almaviva in I Barbiere di Siviglia, and Peter Quint in Britten's Turn of the Screw and Albert in Albert Herring. He has performed at various festivals including Spoleto, Chautaugua Opera, The Ohio Light Opera, Tanglewood Music Festival, and Breckenridge Music Institute.

Mr. Howard brings depth and excitement of an expansive repertoire to his solo recitals, handling the florid style of Bach and the fragmented tonalities of Britten and Menotti with equal aplomb. This season he will be touring with pianist Dr. Lee D. Thompson performing the recital "Songs of Struggle and Hope" featuring songs by various composers. In addition to the recital, Howard will perform concerts on Emory's campus including "The Bach Bowl" in February and a concert with the Emory voice and piano faculty in a concert at Emory's Carlos Museum.

Mr. Howard's concert engagements have included a longtime collaboration with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. As soloist with the ASO, Weill's Seven Deadly Sins, Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, Christmas with the ASO, and, most recently, Saint Saëns' Samson and Dalila are among these performances. Recording credits include the ACA Digital production of the Atlanta Opera's Mozart Requiem and Telarc's La bohème with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Among other recent works he has performed are Mozart's Requiem, Haydn's Creation, Handel's Messiah, and Bach's St. John's Passion.

A noted educator, Mr. Howard's students have been accepted to undergraduate and graduate programs in voice performance and musical theater at The Julliard School, Manhattan School of Music, Oberlin, University of Cincinnati (CCM), The University of Michigan, The Florida State University, Elon College, Carnegie Mellon, NYU, Roosevelt, Bard College, Indiana University, and many others. They have been accepted and participated in young artist programs such as Interlochen, CCM Opera Boot Camp, Amalfi Coast Music Festival, Houston Grand Opera's YAVA, Castleton Festival, and many other local and international summer opera programs. His students consistently place as finalists in young artist competitions such as NATS auditions. Recently, he taught at the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Maiori, Italy.

Mr. Howard's Bachelor's and Master's degrees in music and voice from Baylor University and The University of Cincinnati opened the doors to America's musical stage. At UC he earned his M.M. in voice working with Professor William McGraw, and B.M. in voice at Baylor working with Dr. Joyce Farwell. Mr. Howard is an active adjudicator and clinician and presents master classes and clinics nationally.



Dr. Kirk Michael Rich is the Director of Music at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia. A native of Kentucky, Kirk has served as a liturgical organist for over two decades. He holds degrees in organ performance from the Oberlin College Conservatory, the Jacobs School of Music

at Indiana University, and a doctorate from the University of Houston's Moores School of Music. Additional study has been with Francesco Cera in Italy and Ludger Lohmann in Germany. Kirk has performed in England, France, Italy, and across the U.S. in venues such as St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue (New York City), the Kennedy Center (Washington, DC), and three national conventions of the American Guild of Organists. Most recently, he served as organist for the RSCM America National Choir residency at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland, under the direction of Bruce Neswick. Kirk's performances have been broadcast nationally on American Public Media's Pipedreams program.



Countertenor Nathan Medley has emerged in recent years as one of the leading younger-generation countertenors, with notable success internationally in concert and opera. He has sung at some of the major stages of the world including the English National Opera and Barbican Centre in London.

La Salle Pleyel in Paris; Palais de Musique, Strasbourg, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, The Lucerne Festival; Avery Fisher Hall in New York, and Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. Recent performances have brought him to the Boston Early Music Festival, the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Chicago Ravinia Festival, Opera Omaha, Pacific MusicWorks, Mercury Baroque, Seraphic Fire, Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra, Cincinnati Collegium, Miami Bach Society, and Dayton Bach Society. He is a member of Echoing Air, an ensemble focused on music of the baroque and modern eras composed for countertenor.

Song Lyrics and Translations

"Comfort ye" from Messiah

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, Saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, And cry unto her, That her warfare is accomplished, That her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; Prepare ve the way of the Lord; Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

-Isaiah 40:1-3

"Ev'ry valley" from Messiah

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low;

The crooked straight and the rough places plain.

-Isaiah 40:4

"A Letter" from Five Poems of Emily Dickinson

You ask of my companions. Hills, sir, and the sundown, and a dog large as myself, that my father bought me. They are better than beings because they know, but do not tell; and the noise in the pool at noon excels my piano.

I have a brother and sister; my mother does not care for thought, and father, too busy with his briefs to notice what we do. He buys me many books, but begs me not to read them, because he fears they joggle the mind. They are religious, except me, and address an eclipse, every morning, whom they call their "Father."

But I fear my story fatigues you. I would like to learn. Could you tell me how to grow, or is it unconveyed, like melody or witchcraft?

-Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)

"Ich grolle nicht" from Dichterliebe, Op. 48

Ich grolle nicht, und wenn das Herz auch bricht, Ewig verlornes Lieb! Ich grolle nicht. Wie du auch strahlst in Diamantenpracht, es fällt kein Strahl in deines Herzens Nacht, das weiß ich längst. Ich grolle nicht, und wenn das Herz auch bricht, Ich sah dich ja im Traume, und sah die Nacht in deines Herzens Raume, und sah die Schlang', die dir am Herzen frißt, ich sah, mein Lieb, wie sehr du elend bist. Ich grolle nicht.

I bear no grudge, even when my heart is breaking, eternally lost love! I bear no grudge. Even though you shine in diamond splendor, there falls no light into your heart's night, that I've known for a long time. I bear no grudge, even when my heart is breaking. I saw you, truly, in my dreams, and saw the night in your heart's space, and saw the serpent that feeds on your heart, I saw, my love, how very miserable you are. I bear no grudge.

-Heinrich Heine (1797–1856), from Lyrisches Intermezzo (1822–23) "Because I Liked You Better"

Because I liked vou better Than suits a man to say,

It irked you, and I promised To throw the thought away.

To put the world between us We parted, stiff and dry; 'Good-bye,' said you, 'forget me.' 'I will, no fear', said I. If here, where clover whiten The dead man's knoll, you pass, And no tall flower to meet you Starts in the trefoiled grass, Halt by the headstone naming The heart no longer stirred, And say the lad that loved you Was one that kept his word.

-A.E. Housman (1859–1936)

"Stars"

Stars, I have seen them fall, But when they drop and die No star is lost at all From all the star-sown sky. The toil of all that be Helps not the primal fault; It rains into the sea, And still the sea is salt.

-A.E. Housman (1859–1936)

"Il mio tesoro" from Don Giovanni

Il mio tesoro intanto andate a consolar, E del bel ciglio il pianto cercate di asciugar. Ditele che i suoi torti a vendicar io vado; Che sol di stragi e morti nunzio vogl'io tornar.

My treasure, meanwhile, Go and console. And from her beautiful eyes, the tears, Try to wipe away. Tell her that the wrongs against her, I'm going to avenge, That only of killing and death As announcer will I return.

-Lorenzo Da Ponte (1749-1838)

Canticle II: Abraham and Isaac

God speaks (tenor and alto together):

Abraham, my servant, Abraham, Take Isaac, thy son by name, That thou lovest the best of all, And in sacrifice offer him to me Upon that hill there besides thee. Abraham, I will that so it be, For aught that may befall.

Abraham:

My Lord, to Thee is mine intent Ever to be obedient. That son that Thou to me hast sent Offer I will to Thee. Thy bidding done shall be.

Here Abraham, turning him to his son Isaac, saith:

Make thee ready, my dear darling, For we must do a little thing. This woode do on thy back it bring, We may no longer abide. A sword and fire that I will take, For sacrifice behoves me to make: God's bidding will I not forsake, But ever obedient be.

Here Isaac speaketh to his father, and taketh a bundle of sticks and beareth after his father, and saith:

Isaac:

Father, I am all ready To do your bidding most meekely, And to bear this wood full bayn am I, As you commanded me.

Here they both go to the place to do sacrifice

Abraham:

Now, Isaac son, go we our way To yonder mount if that we may.

Isaac:

My dear father, I will essay To follow you full fain.

Abraham being minded to slay his son Isaac, lifts up his hands, and saith the following:

Abraham:

O! My heart will break in three, To hear thy words I have pitye; As Thou wilt, Lord, so must it be, To Thee I will be bayn. Lay down thy faggot, my own son dear.

Isaac:

All ready, father, lo it is here. But why make you such heavy cheer? Are you anything adread?

Abraham:

Ah! Dear God! That me is woe!

Isaac:

Father, if it be your will, Where is the beast that we shall kill?

Abraham:

Thereof, son, is none upon this hill.

Isaac:

Father, I am full sore affeared To see you bear that drawne sword.

Abraham:

Isaac, son, peace, I pray thee, Thou breakest my heart even in three.

I pray you, father, layn nothing from me, But tell me what you think.

Abraham:

Ah! Isaac, Isaac, I must thee kill!

Isaac:

Alas! Father, is that your will, Your owne child for to spill Upon this hilles brink? If I have trespassed in any degree With a yard you may beat me; Put up your sword, if your will be, For I am but a child. Would God my mother were here with me! She would kneel down upon her knee, Praying you, father, if it may be, For to save my life.

Abraham:

O Isaac, son, to thee I say God hath commanded me today Sacrifice, this is no nay, To make of thy bodye.

Is it God's will I shall be slain?

Abraham:

Yea, son, it is not for to layn.

Here Isaac asketh his father's blessing on his knees, and saith:

Isaac:

Father, seeing you mustë needs do so, Let it pass lightly and over go; Kneeling on my knees two, Your blessing on me spread.

Abraham:

My blessing, dear son, give I thee And thy mother's with heart free. The blessing of the Trinity, My dear Son, on thee light.

Here Isaac riseth and cometh to his father, and he taketh him, and bindeth and layeth him upon the altar to sacrifice him, and saith:

Come hither, my child, thou art so sweet, Thou must be bound both hands and feet.

Isaac:

Father, do with me as you will, I must obey, and that is skill, Godës commandment to fulfil, For needs so it must be.

Abraham:

Isaac, Isaac, blessed must thou be.

Isaac:

Father, greet well my brethren ying, And pray my mother of her blessing, I come no more under her wing, Farewell for ever and aye.

Abraham:

Farewell, my sweetë son of grace!

Here Abraham doth kiss his son Isaac, and binds a kerchief about his head.

Isaac:

I pray you, father, turn down my face, For I am sore adread.

Abraham:

Lord, full loth were I him to kill!

Isaac:

Ah, mercy, father, why tarry you so?

Abraham:

Jesu! On me have pity, That I have most in mind.

Now, father, I see that I shall die: Almighty God in majesty! My soul I offer unto Thee!

Abraham:

To do this deed I am sorrye.

Here let Abraham make a sign as tho' he would cut off his son Isaac's head with his sword: then...

God speaks:

Abraham, my servant dear, Lay not thy sword in no manner On Isaac, thy dear darling. For thou dreadest me, well wot I, That of thy son has no mercy, To fulfil my bidding.

Abraham:

Ah, Lord of heaven and King of bliss, Thy bidding shall be done, i-wiss! A hornëd wether here I see, Among the briars tied is he, To Thee offered shall he be Anon right in this place.

Then let Abraham take the lamb and kill him.

Sacrifice here sent me is. And all, Lord, through Thy grace.

Together:

Such obedience grant us, O Lord! Ever to Thy most holy word. That in the same we may accord At this Abraham was bayn; And then altogether shall we That worthy King in heaven see, And dwell with Him in great glorye For ever and ever. Amen.

- from the Chester Miracle Plays

"Minstrel Man"

Because my mouth Is wide with laughter And my throat Is deep with song, You do not think I suffer after I have held my pain So long? Because my mouth Is wide with laughter, You do not hear My inner cry? Because my feet Are gay with dancing, You do not know I die?

Langston Hughes (1901–1967)

"Somewhere" from West Side Story

There's a place for us Somewhere a place for us Peace and quiet and open air Wait for us Somewhere There's a time for us Someday a time for us Time together with time to spare Time to learn, time to care Someday, somewhere We'll find a new way of living We'll find a way of forgiving Somewhere

There's a place for us

A time and a place for us Hold my hand and we're halfway there Hold my hand and I'll take you there

Somehow Someday, somewhere

- Stephen Sondheim (b. 1930)

"L'amour, L'amour!...Ah! Leve toi soleil" from Roméo et Juliette

L'amour! L'amour! Oui, son ardeur a troublé tout mon être! Mais quelle soudaine clarté resplendit à cette fenêtre! C'est là que dans la nuit rayonne sa beauté!

Ah! lève-toi, soleil! fais pâlir les étoiles, Qui, dans l'azur sans voiles, Brillent aux firmament. Ah! lève-toi! parais! parais! Astre pur et charmant! Elle rêve! elle dénoue une boucle de cheveux qui vient caresse sa joue! Amour! Amour! porte-lui mes vœux! Elle parle! Ou'elle est belle! Ah! je n'ai rien entendu! Mais ses yeux parlent pour elle, et mon cœur a répondu! Ah! lève-toi, soleil!, etc.

Love! Yes, its intensity has disturbed my very being! (A light comes on in Juliet's window.) But what sudden light through yonder window breaks? 'Tis there that by night her beauty shines! Ah, arise, o sun! Turn pale the stars that, unveiled in the azure, do sparkle in the firmament. Ah, arise! Ah, arise! Appear! Appear, thou pure and enchanting star! She is dreaming, she loosens a lock of hair which falls to caress her cheek. Love! Love, carry my vows to her! She speaks! How beautiful she is! Ah, I heard nothing. But her eyes speak for her and my heart has answered! Ah, arise, o sun! turn pale the stars, etc.

-based on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, libretto by Jules Barbier (1825–1901) and Michel Carré (1821–1872)

"Misalliance"

The fragrant honeysuckle spirals clockwise to the sun, And many other creepers do the same.

But some climb anti-clockwise, the bindweed does, for one,

Or Convolvulus, to give her proper name.

Rooted on either side a door, one of each species grew, And raced towards the window-ledge above.

Each corkscrewed to the lintel in the only way it knew, Where they stopped, touched tendrils, smiled, and fell in love.

Said the right-handed honeysuckle to the left-handed bindweed,

"Oh, let us get married, if our parents don't mind, we'd Be loving and inseparable, inextricably entwined, we'd Live happily ever after" said the honeysuckle to the bindweed.

To the honeysuckle's parents it came as a shock. "The bindweeds," they cried, "are inferior stock! They're uncultivated, of breeding bereft, We twine to the right and they twine to the left."

"Sometimes I feel like a motherless child" Sometimes I feel like a motherless child A long way from home, a long way from home Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone A long way from home, a long way from home.

- Traditional African American Spiritual

Said the anti-clockwise bindweed to the clockwise honevsuckle.

"We'd better start saving, many a mickle macks a muckle, Then run away for a honeymoon and hope that our luck'll

Take a turn for the better" said the bindweed to the honevsuckle.

A bee who was passing remarked to them then, "I've said it before and I'll say it again, Consider your offshoots, if offshoots there be, They'll never receive any blessing from me". "Poor little sucker, how will it learn, When it is climbing, which way to turn? Right, left, what a disgrace, Or it may go straight up and fall flat on its face!"

Said the right-hand-thread honeysuckle to the left-hand-thread bindweed,

"It seems they're against us, all fate has combined. Oh my darling, oh my darling, oh my darling Colombine, Thou art lost and gone forever, we shall never intertwine".

Together, they found them, the very next day, They had pulled up their roots and just shrivelled away. Deprived of that freedom for which we must fight, To veer to the left or to veer to the right!

-Michael Flanders (1922–1975) and Donald Swann (1923-1994)

"He's got the whole world in his hands"

He's got the whole world in his hands,

He's got all the power in his hands,

He's got the whole world in his hands,

He's got the whole world in his hands.

He's got you and me brother in his hands,

He's got you and me sister in his hands,

He's got the little baby in his hands,

He's got the whole world in his hands

He's got mother and father in his hands,

He's got the stars and the moon right in his hands,

He's got everybody in his hands.

He's got the whole world in his hands.

- Traditional African American Spiritual

"Over the rainbow"

When all the world is a hopeless jumble And the raindrops tumble all around Heaven opens a magic lane

When all the clouds darken up the skyway There's a rainbow highway to be found Leading from your windowpane

To a place behind the sun Just a step beyond the rain

Somewhere, over the rainbow Way up high There's a land that I heard of Once in a lullaby

Somewhere, over the rainbow Skies are blue And the dreams that you dare to dream Really do come true Some day I'll wish upon a star and wake up where the clouds are
Far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere, over the rainbow Blue birds fly Birds fly over the rainbow Why then, oh, why can't I?

If happy little bluebirds fly Beyond the rainbow Why, oh, why can't I?

- Yip Harburg (1896–1981)

OUR ANGELIC CHORUS

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For more information about the Concert Series or becoming a financial contributor, please contact Dr. Kirk M. Rich at krich@allsaintsatlanta.org.



