

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Commencement **CONCERT**

7:30 PM AUDITORIUM

**FRIDAY,
MAY 12, 2023**

MARTIN
LUTHER
COLLEGE



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

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PROGRAM

Chorale

Prof. Jonathan Laabs, Conductor

Animal Crackers

Vol. I The Panther, The Cow, The Firefly

Vol. II The Canary, The Eel

Ogden Nash
Eric Whitacre

The Panther

The panther is like a leopard,
Except it hasn't been peppered.
If you behold a panther crouch,
Prepare to say "ouch".
Better yet, if called by a panther,
Don't anther.

The Cow

The cow is of the bovine ilk;
One end is moo, the other, milk.

The Canary

The song of canaries
Never varies,
And when they're molting
They're pretty revolting.

The Eel

I don't mind eels,
Except as meals.
And the way they feels.

The Firefly

The firefly's flame
Is something for which science has no name.
I can think of nothing eerier
Than flying around with an unidentified glow on a person's posterior.

Piano: Kathryn Carlovsky

Balleilakka

A.R. Rahman
Arr. by Ethan Sperry

Sooriyano, Chandhirano? Yaarivano? Sattunnu Sollu.	Is he the sun or the moon? Who is he? Tell me now!
Sera Paandiya Sooranum Ivano, Sollu Sollu, Satunnu Sollu.	Is he the valorous Cheran or Pandiyan king ¹ ? Tell me, tell me, tell me right now!
Paaradi, Paaradi, Yaaradi Ivano? Paaigira Siruthayin Kaaladi Ivano?	Look at him, look at him, who is he? Is he the legs of the pouncing leopard?
Kooradi, Kooradi, Yaaradi Ivano? Kettathai Pattana Suttidum Sivano?	Tell me, tell me, who is he? Is he the Sivan ² who scorches the wrong in an instant?
Aey Balleilakka Balleilakka, Salethukka, Maduraikka, Madrasukka, Thiruchikka, Thiruthanikkaa.	<i>“Aey Balleilakka” means nothing, the rest is a list of city names.</i>
Aey Balleilakka Balleilakka, Ottu Motha Makkalukka, Anna Vandhaa, Tamil Nadu America.	For all the people from all of these places, if the respectful Annan comes, Tamil Nadu ³ will become America itself.
Kaaviri Aarum Kai Kuthal Arisiyum Maranthu Poguma?	Can we ever forget the river Cauvery and the hand-pounded rice ⁴ ?
Oh Thaavani Pengalum Thoothu Vidum Kangalum Tholainthu Pogumaa...?	Will the girls in the traditional dhaavani ⁵ and the eyes that transmit hundreds of messages ever be lost?
Namma Kalathu Medu, Kamma Karai Karisa Kaadu, Semman Alli Thelikkum Roadu.	Our ploughing fields and the woods on the side of the creek, and the rustic roads that shower red mud.
Aey, Sadugudu Aadiya Marathadi, Padu Padu Paduvena Porthiya Pulveli.	The tree (trunk) around which we played sadugudu ⁶ , the lush green of the grasslands that look as if the earth has been blanketed,
Thoda Thoda Thoda Thoda Udaikira Pani Thuli, Suda Suda Suda Suda Kidaikkira Idli,	The dew drop that breaks as you slightly touch it, the idli ⁷ which is served hot, really hot,
Thada Thada Thada Thadavena Athirkira Rayiladi, Kada Kada Kadavena Kadakkira Kaaviri,	The railroads that shudder with the passing train, the river Cauvery which flows quickly, very quickly,
Viru Viru Viruvena Madikkira Vetrilai, Muru Muru Murnuvena Murukkiya Meesaikal...	The real fresh crisp betel leaves that are folded with vigor, the mustache that is curled with vivacity...
Manathil Irukkuthu Mei Mei Mei...	These are all in my heart truly, truly, truly...

Soloists: Eli Krueger, Sandra Toyoda-Bell, Joseph Schultz

¹The kings that ruled the south of India before the British occupation.

²An incarnation of the Hindu god Shiva.

³Tamil Nadu is the largest province in Southern India, where people speak the Tamil language, which is the language of this piece.

⁴The pounding separates the husks from the rice; this labor-intensive practice produces the best rice in India.

⁵A half sari, alluring Indian clothing.

⁶A children's game.

⁷A South Indian bread.

Women's Choir
Prof. Jonathan Laabs, Conductor

Five Hebrew Love Songs

Hila Plitmann
Eric Whitacre

In the spring of 1996, my great friend (and brilliant violinist) Friedemann Eichhorn invited me and my girlfriend at the time, Hila Plitmann (a soprano), to give a concert with him in his home city of Speyer, Germany. We had all met that year as students at The Juilliard School, and were inseparable.

Because we were appearing as a band of traveling musicians, 'Friedy' asked me to write a set of troubadour songs for piano, violin, and soprano. I asked Hila (who was born and raised in Jerusalem) to write me a few 'postcards' in her native tongue, and a few days later she presented me with these exquisite and delicate Hebrew poems. I set them while we vacationed in a small skiing village in the Swiss Alps, and we performed them for the first time a week later in Speyer.

Each of the songs captures a moment that Hila and I shared together. "Kalá Kallá" (which means 'light bride') was a pun I came up with while she was first teaching me Hebrew. The bells at the beginning of "Éyze Shéleg!" are the exact pitches that awakened us each morning in Germany as they rang from a nearby cathedral.

These songs are profoundly personal for me, born entirely out of my new love for this soprano, poet, and now my beautiful wife, Hila Plitmann.

-Eric Whitacre

I. Temuná (A Picture)

A picture is engraved in my heart;
Moving between light and darkness:
A sort of silence envelops your body,
And your hair falls upon your face just so.

II. Kalá Kallá (Light Bride)

Light bride
She is all mine,
And lightly
She will kiss me!

IV. Éyze Shéleg! (What Snow!)

What snow!
Like little dreams
Falling from the sky.

V. Rakiút (Tenderness)

He was full of tenderness;
She was very hard.
And as much as she tried to stay thus,
Simply, and with no good reason,
He took her into himself,
And set her down
In the softest, softest place.

Piano: Kathryn Carlovsky
Violin: Lydia Meyer

For Good from *WICKED*

Stephen Schwartz
Arr. by Mac Huff

I've heard it said that people come into our lives for a reason, bringing something we must learn;
And we are led to those who help us most to grow if we let them, and we help them in return.
Well, I don't know if I believe that's true;
But I know I'm who I am today
Because I knew you.

Like a comet pulled from orbit, as it passes a sun.
Like a stream that meets a boulder halfway through the wood.
Who can say if I've been changed for the better but, because I knew you,
I have been changed for good.

It well may be that we will never meet again in this lifetime,
So let me say before we part, so much of me is made of what I learned from you.
You'll be with me like a handprint on my heart.
And now whatever way our stories end,
I know you have rewritten mine by being my friend.

Like a ship blown from its mooring by a wind off the sea.
Like a seed dropped by a skybird in a distant wood.
Who can say if I've been changed for the better but, because I knew you,
I have been changed for good.

And just to clear the air, I ask forgiveness for the things I've done you blamed me for.
But then, I guess we know there's blame to share, and none of it seems to matter anymore.

Like a comet pulled from orbit, as it passes a sun.
Like a ship blown from its mooring by a wind off the sea.
Like a stream that meets a boulder halfway through the wood.
Like a seed dropped by a bird in the wood.
Who can say if I've been changed for the better?
I do believe I have been changed for the better.
And because I knew you,
I have been changed
For good.

Piano: Kathryn Carlovsky

College Choir
Prof. Adrian Smith, Conductor

Little Jazz Madrigals

Bob Chilcott

This dynamic collection presents four jazzy settings of favorite madrigals by Thomas Morley (1557-1602), John Bennet (c. 1575-after 1614), and Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625). The first, 'Sing we and chant it,' is a relaxed jazz waltz with a compelling melody and "fa-la" refrain typical of the Renaissance balletto. Singers and audience members will especially enjoy the rich harmonies of the expressive 'Weep, O mine eyes' setting that follows. 'Learned Poets' has a bossa nova feel with a strong rhythmic groove and characterful syncopations. The urgent rolling tempo of the fourth movement captures the text's intensity and titular call of 'Fire, fire!'—also expressed by a walking bassline that continually drives toward the work's emphatic conclusion. The stylistic piano part, together with string bass and drums, provides a classical jazz trio sound to accompany Chilcott's settings.

1. Sing we and chant it

Sing we, sing we and chant it
While love doth grant it.

Not long youth lasteth,
And old age hasteth.
Now is best leisure
To take our pleasure.

All things, all things invite us
Now to delight us.

Hence, care, be packing!
No mirth be lacking!
Let spare no treasure
To live in pleasure.

2. Weep, O mine eyes

Weep, O mine eyes, and cease not.
Alas, these your springtides,
Methinks increase not.
O when begin you
To swell so high that I may drown me in you?
Weep, O mine eyes.

3. Learned Poets

O that the learned poets of this time,
Who in a lovesick line so well can speak,
Would not consume good wit in unkind rhyme,
But with deep care some better subject find.

For if their music please in earthly things,
How would it sound if strung with heavenly
strings?

4. Fire, fire

Fire, fire! My heart!
O help! Alas! O help!
I sit and cry me,
And call for help, alas, but none comes nigh me!
O I burn me!
I burn! Alas! I burn!
Will none come quench me?
O cast water on, alas, and drench me.

Piano: Laura Stelljes
String Bass: Noah Ungemach
Drum Set: Zachary Cole

Alumni Recognition

Mark Maurice, Director of Mission Advancement

Intermission & Offering

A freewill offering will be gathered to support student financial aid at MLC. We are offering three options:

- You may contribute at the door.
- You may contribute from your cell phone: Text **AID** to 507-233-4344.
- You may scan the QR code to the right and select the **MLC Financial Aid** designation on the dropdown menu.



Hosanna Ringers

Prof. Craig Hirschmann, Conductor

Good Vibrations

Arr. by Matthew Prins

What a Wonderful World

Arr. by Sandra Eithun

Wind Symphony

Prof. Miles Wurster, Conductor

How to Train Your Dragon

John Powell
Arr. by Ton van Grevenbroek

Combined Choirs and Wind Symphony

Prof. Miles Wurster, Conductor

America, the Beautiful

Katharine Lee Bates
Samuel Augustus Ward

All sing: 1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
Choir: 2. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea!
till self - ish gain no long - er stain the ban - ner of the free!

Piano: Laura Stelljes

Chorale

Soprano

Carissa Avery
Allonna Fick
Alison Foxen
Ruby Freese
Katelyn Gilkey
Lisa Hoffer
Jessica Horn
Elizabeth Kanzenbach
Leah Klammer
Alyssa Mueller
Shawna Pimentel
Katie Rosenau
Grace Russell
Abigail Schewe
Magdalyn Spike
Sandra Toyoda-Bell
Nicole Trapp
Alyssa Walther

Alto

Madeline Abel
Anastasia Alexandrowicz
Emma Arnold
Alaina Bartel
Grace Deck
Demian Gauthier
Chloe Grunewald
Jewel Heiting
Meghan Johnson
Lydia Meyer
Emma Niebuhr
Elise Nolte
Kaitlyn Rodmyre
Zoe Scharf
Rachel Schoeneck
Elena Schroeder

Tenor

Jeremiah Bain
Evan Bargaquast
Garrett Bretschneider
Joseph Brown
Matthew Colson
Joshua Felsing
Harrison Hahm
Connor Heckendorf
Joshua Kallies
Noah Kelly
Eli Krueger
Nathan Rooney
Micah Schibbelhut
Joseph Schultz
Austin Schwab
Joshua Shilling
Jeremiah Stanton
Shawn Zumbach

Bass

Johannes Bourman
Jesse Childress
Matthew Curtis
Joseph Engel
Richard Giese
Micah Gray
Austin Haley
Isaiah Heins
Jared Henning
Joel Kluz
Thomas Koelpin
Blaise Koepke
Paul Kuske
Wenda Liu
Zachary Maedke
Timothy Manning
Matthew Marquardt
Alexander Moldenhauer
Zachary Pausma
Luke Rogotzke
Isaiah Ruddat
Benjamin Schoch
Peter Smith
Stephen Wietzke
Caleb Wolfe

Women's Choir

Soprano 1

Annemarie Backus
Rachel Bohlmann
Michelle Gill
Paige Mathiowetz
Elizabeth Oakland
Macie VanDenHeuvel

Soprano 2

Aubrey Bode
Meghan Braun
Autumn Gosdeck
Emma Griebel
Karissa Holdcroft
Patricia Leckwee
Susan Riedel
Madelinn Romsdahl
Heidi Schmidt
Evelyn Weatherford

Alto 1

Isabel Brown
Maddilyn Holicky
Laura Kopplin
Emma Grace Kramer
Ruby Leins
Anna Plocher
Kay Prigge
Josie Sims
Kayla Sprenger
Eleanor Tomhave
Mary Zellmer

Alto 2

Leah Domke
Lydia Feidt
Naomi Foley
Gretchen Lucht
Ella Schlei
Adeline Wendt

College Choir

Soprano 1

Emma Berg
Faith Blauert
Brooke Flunker
Adia Gabb
Sarah Kramer
Emmalee Mindock
Rebecca Rivera
Nicole Schumann
Alexis Waack
Rebekah White
Alaina Wiedoff

Soprano 2

Carolyn Bauer
Molly Bauer
Samantha Bjerke
Morgan Glowicki
Rebecca Loescher
Lynsey Marohn
Isabel Monday
Abbee Olsen
Emma Pufahl
Bethany Schneekloth
Meg Stangl
Natalie Zirbel

Alto 1

Michaela Albrecht
Jenna Boggs
Lydia Hahm
Leah Kuchenbecker
Ashlee Olsen
Grace Seim
Hope Sulzle
Katie Ungemach
Bethany Valleau
Margaret Zabell

Alto 2

Hannah Gabb
Margaret Gabb
Marissa Marten
Alicia Mengel
Leah Nushart**
Madelyn Plitzuweit
Olivia Robinson
Abigail Schmitz
Sydney Stobb
Lilianne Zimpelmann

Tenor 1

Zachary Cole
Noah Cook
Jason Horn
Joel Sauer
Jacob Schwark
Luke Staude
Noah Uhlenbrauck
Josiah Winkel*

Tenor 2

Caleb Carlovsky
Ethan Coffee
Benjamin Hahm
Isaiah Hahm
Aaron Jobs
Colin Krueger
Matthew Speidel
Noah Ungemach

Bass 1

Joshua Bannick
Corey Deyo
Samuel Eickhoff
Jefferson Heyer
Ethan Mallow
Justin Peter
Jonah Plocher
Robert Reinke
Josiah Smith

Bass 2

Jared Dobberstein
Kyle Doering
Benjamin Foster
Seth Marquardt
Joseph Panning
Aric Reim
Joseph Wessel

*Choir President

** Choir Secretary

Hosanna Ringers

Ethan Coffee
Benjamin Foster
Richard Giese
Emma Niebuhr

Christopher Robbert
Joel Sauer
Bethany Schneekloth
Hannah Schneekloth

Jacob Schwark
Grace Seim
William Shanks
Josiah Smith

Magdalyn Spike
Elijah Wohling

Wind Symphony

Piccolo

Emma Pufahl
Meg Stangl

Flute

Carolyn Bauer
Hannah Ott
Emma Pufahl
Magdalyn Spike
Meg Stangl
Nicole Trapp

Bassoon

Jared Dobberstein

Clarinet

Meghan Johnson
Nicole Schumann

Bass Clarinet

Bethany Schneekloth

Alto Saxophone

Joseph Panning

Tenor Saxophone

Ethan Coffee

Baritone Saxophone

Christopher Robbert

Trumpet

Aspen Bue
Joshua Kallies
Alicia Mengel
Ethan Mallow
Luke Rogotzke
Katie Rosenau
Laura Rossow
Josiah Winkel

Horn

Grant Gawrisch
Jason Horn
Josiah Smith
Katie Ungemach

Trombone

Benjamin Foster
Benjamin Hillmer
Justin Peter
Grace Seim
Bethany Valleau

Euphonium

Brooke Flunker
Aaron Jobs

Tuba

Micah Gray
Isaiah Ruddat
Caleb Wolfe

String Bass

Richard Giese
Timothy Manning

Percussion

James Carter
Chloe Grunewald
Emma Niebuhr
Robert Reinke
Jacob Schwark
Elijah Wohling

Piano

Benjamin Foster

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MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

The mission of Martin Luther College is to train a corps of Christian witnesses who are qualified to meet the ministry needs of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.