

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA: SONGS OF AMERICA

**Sunday, June 2nd, 3:30 pm
Church of the Saviour
2537 Lee Rd., Cleveland Heights**

**David Gilson, Artistic Director
Sara Smith, Accompanist**

From Sea to Shining Sea

Shenandoah

Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit I

Will Make a Way!

Deep River

In the Still of the Night

Marshall Griffith, Sara Smith, piano

Of Love

INTERMISSION

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?

*Treble Ensemble: Karen Bower, Elizabeth Gockel,
Alison Gross, Mary Ann Hile, Leona Jackson, Nancy
Jamieson, Karen Ling, Laura Otis,
Linda Rahal, Elizabeth Spencer*

Long Time Ago

“Sunrise” from *Give me the Splendid Silent Sun*

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord

The Old Mill

Nelly Bly

Unclouded Day

More information about this concert, the chorale, and more can be found in our digital program at WesternReserveChorale.org/Performances

We invite you to enjoy our concerts from the past several years on our YouTube channel: www.YouTube.com/@WesternReserveChorale

THE SINGERS OF WESTERN RESERVE CHORALE WELCOME YOU TO THIS CELEBRATION OF AMERICAN MUSIC

Today's concert features a broad spectrum of songs which only begins to explore the many genres of American music.

Both secular and sacred, these works have texts of American poets/lyricists or are settings of other texts by American composers. You will hear Spirituals arranged by Moses Hogan and William Dawson; traditional Americana songs with *America the Beautiful* (reimagined as *From Sea to Shining Sea*) and *Shenandoah*; *Nelly Bly*, a setting of the minstrel song by the 'Father of American Music', Stephen Foster; and a bit of jazz with Cole Porter's *In the Still of the Night*.

In addition to some very recognizable choral numbers, the program features the diverse musical styles of living composers including Shawn Kirchner's *Unclouded Day* (a setting of a text from a mid-western circuit preacher), *I Will Make a Way!* by Tom Trenney (an organist and composer trained locally at the Cleveland Institute of Music), *The Old Mill* (Kenneth Riggs' setting of 19th century poet/politician Thomas Dunn English), and *Sunrise* (a musical adaptation of Walt Whitman's "Give Me the Splendid, Silent Sun) by Michael Hennagin.

And to paraphrase a line from our piece by Dede Duson, we are glad that you will sit down and rest, allowing life to wait for a few moments to enjoy as we share the love of choral music.

WESTERN RESERVE CHORALE

For over 30 years, the Western Reserve Chorale (WRC) has carried out its mission to enhance the quality of life for Greater Cleveland residents by providing free, high quality choral music performances.

With over 100 singers from across Northeast Ohio, comprising various musical backgrounds, the WRC focuses on traditional choral standards and works for chorus and orchestra. The WRC's repertoire encompasses many periods and styles, from classical to modern and includes newly commissioned compositions. Some highlights from WRC's recent performances are works by Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Mozart, Dan Forrest, Karl Jenkins, Ola Giello, and John Rutter.

New members are welcome. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings, September through May, in Cleveland Heights. Please visit our website for more information.

***Western Reserve Chorale would like to thank those whose contributions
have made the 2023-2024 Season possible.***

Benefactors (\$500+)

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***Your freewill donation is greatly appreciated and can be given to an usher at the door.
Envelopes are available for you to mail in your donation or visit our website Western-ReserveChorale.org to use a credit card.***

Thank You

Friends (\$10-49)

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SINGERS PERFORMING IN THIS CONCERT

SOPRANO

**Julie Denker, Kim Freborg, Rosalyn Gaier, Veronica Gallo, Rosie Gornik,
Alison Gross, Suzanne Harrington, Beth Herchek, Leona Jackson,
Nancy Jamieson, Karen Ling, Virginia Mast, Katherine McCarty,
Stacy Newman, Laura Otis, Linda Rahal, Jane Richmond, Sayli Sant,
Andrea Smith, Elizabeth Spencer, Margo Vinney, Sally Wilson,
Melodie Yates, Pamela Young**

ALTO

**Cynthia Ahern, Deena Barrett,, Brenda Bey, Karen Bower, Lindy Burt,
Marilyn Christian, Sharon Core, Joan Delahay, Linda Frank, Elizabeth Gockel,
Beth Harrod, Kristin Hildebrandt, Mary Ann Hile, Rhona Jacobson, Janice Katz,
Judi Koffman, Christie Leece, Maxine Myers, Barbara Opie, Patti Pinkerton,
Marianne Prebet, Anjali Rao, Margaret Robinson, Carol Steiner, Kelsey Tarase,
Diana Vargo, Summer Watterson, Blossom Williams, Rosemary Woodruff**

TENOR

**Eric Bower, Debbie Boyd-Tressler, Eric Brandt, Bill Davis,
Rick Drake, Alex Jamieson, Karl Kaups, Bryan McGucken, Jim Pintner,
Bob Rittenhouse, John Sherck, Mark Wakefield, Mark Wallach**

BASS

**Aaron Ballonoff, David Bell, John Blackwell, Chris Brandt,
Robert Gaier, Steve Hines, Tom Holmes, Donald Hylton, Dennis Jakse,
Dean Myers, Dave Rainey, Don Robbins, John Rydquist,
Gunter Schwegler, Greg Scruggs, Ed Solem**

From Sea to Shining Sea

Music by Samuel Ward (1848-1903)
Text by Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929)
Paraphrased by Maurice C. Whitney

O beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness.

America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law.

O beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears.
America! America!
God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!



Shenandoah

American Folksong
Arr. by James Erb (1926-2014)

Oh, Shenando', I long to see you,
And hear your rolling river
Oh, Shenando', I long to see you,
'Way, we're bound away, Across the wide
Missouri.

I long to see your smiling valley,
And hear your rolling river,
I long to see your smiling valley,
'Way, we're bound away, Across the wide
Missouri.

'Tis sev'n long years since last I see you,
And hear your rolling river,
'Tis sev'n long years since last I see you,
'Way, we're bound away, Across the wide
Missouri.



Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. by William L. Dawson (1899-1990)

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit Moving in my heart,
I will pray.

Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,
Out of His mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, It looked so fine,
till I asked my Lord if all was mine.

Jordan River is chilly and cold,
It chills the body, but not the soul;
There ain't but one train upon this track,
It runs to heaven and right back.

I Will Make a Way!

By Tom Trenney (b. 1977)
Based on Isaiah 43:19-20 and 2 Corinthians 5:17

Behold! Behold! I will do a new thing!
Everything old has passed away.
See, everything old has become new.

I will make a way in the wilderness.
I will make rivers in the desert.
I will make rivers flow.

Do not remember the former things
or consider the ways of old.
The wild animals will honor me,
The jackals and ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness;
the desert shall be a pool.

Everything old has passed away.
I will make a way!



Deep River

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. by Alice Parker (1925-2023) & Robert Shaw (1916-1999)

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?



In the Still of the Night

Words & Music by Cole Porter (1891-1964)
Arr. Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)

In the still of the night,
As I gaze from my window,
At the moon in its flight,
My thoughts all stray to you.

“Do you love me, as I love you?
Are you my life to be, my dream come
true?”

In the still of the night,
While the world is in slumber,
Oh, the times without number,
Darling, when I say to you:

Or will this dream of mine fade out of sight
Like the moon, growing dim, on the rim of
the hill
In the chill, Still of the night?



Of Love

Music by Dede Duson (b. 1938)
Text by Robert Fulton (1923-2005)

Sit down and rest, life will wait for a few moments.
There's still time to practice love for a little while,
time to let the fresh air of real peace into your life,
be still, be still, and learn again how to live,
raise your eyes and see beyond this narrow life,
learn to love and fill your heart with sunshine.
Be still.

INTERMISSION

For over 30 years, the Western Reserve Chorale has carried out its mission to enhance the quality of life for Greater Cleveland residents by providing free, high-quality choral music performances.

Your tax-deductible donations allow us to continue to present concerts that are engaging, accessible, and entertaining.

Please leave your contribution with an usher, take home a pre-addressed envelope to mail in, or use the QR code below to use your credit card.



WRC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in Ohio.
Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Thank you for being an integral part of our harmony!



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Save the dates for our 2024-25 Season:
December 8, 2024 ~ March 16, 2025 ~ June 1, 2025

Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. By Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel,
Then why not every man? Hallelujah!

He delivered Daniel from the lion's den,
Jonah from the belly of the whale,
And the Hebrew children from the fiery
furnace,
And why not every man?

The wind blows east and the wind blows west,
it blows like the judgment day.
And every poor soul that never did pray
will be glad to pray that day.

I set my foot on the Gospel ship,
and the ship, it begin to sail.
It landed me over on Canaan's shore,
and I'll never come back anymore. Hallelujah!



Long Time Ago

By Aaron Copland (1900-1990)
Transcribed for Chorus by Irvine Fine

On the lake where droop'd the willow,
Long time ago,
Where the rock threw back the billow,
Brighter than snow.
Dwelt a maid beloved and cherish'd
By high and low.
But with autumn leaf she perished,
Long time ago.

Rock and tree and flowing water,
Long time ago,
Bird and bee and blossom taught her Love's
spell to know.
While to my fond words she listen'd,
Murmuring low
Tenderly her blue eyes glisten'd
Long time ago.



"Sunrise" from Give Me the Splendid, Silent Sun

Music by Michael Hennagin (1936-1993)
Text by Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

Give me the sunrise when I can walk alone,
Give me the nights perfectly silent on high
plateaus,
And I, looking up at the stars,
Take me away, take me back home again.

Give me a garden of flowers,
give me an arbor, the trellised grape,
Give me an orchard, the bough rich with fruit,
Give me the field, the meadow.
Give me the sunrise, the sunset,
Give me the harvest moon.

Give me to sing my songs,
give me to sing spontaneous songs.
Give me the sunrise when I can walk alone,
Give me the nights perfectly silent on high
plateaus;
Take my back home to primal sanctuaries.
Take me away, take me back home again.
Give me the splendid, silent sun.

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. By Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

My soul's been anchored in the Lord,
Hallelujah!
Before I'd stay in hell one day,
I'd sing an' pray myself away.

Goin' shout an' pray an' never stop,
Until I reach the mountain top.

Do you love him? God almighty. Are you
anchored?
Yes, I'm anchored, my soul's been anchored
in the Lord.

Will you serve him? God almighty. Are you
anchored?
Yes, I'm anchored, my soul's been anchored
in the Lord.

Will you praise Him? God almighty! Are you
anchored?
Oh yes! Lord, I love You. Oh yes! I'll serve
you.
Oh yes! Lord, I'll praise you. Oh Yes!
Hallelujah!
My soul's been anchored in the Lord, God
almighty.



The Old Mill

Music by Kenneth Riggs (b. 1969)
Text by Thomas Dunn English (1819-1902)

Here from the brow of the hill I look,
Through a lattice of boughs and leaves,
On the old gray mill with its gambrel roof,
And the moss on its rotting eaves.
I hear the clatter that jars its walls,
And the rushing water's sound,
And I see the black floats rise and fall
As the wheel goes slowly round.

I rode there often when I was young,
With my grist on the horse before,
And I talked with Nelly, the miller's girl,
As I waited my turn at the door;

And while she tossed her ringlets brown,
And flirted and chatted so free,
The wheel might stop or the wheel might go,
It was all the same to me.

'Tis twenty years since last I stood
On the spot where I stand today,
And Nelly is wed, and the miller is dead,
And the mill and I are gray.
But both, till we fall into ruin and wreck,
To our fortune of toil are bound;
And the man goes, and the stream flows,
And the wheel moves slowly round.



Nelly Bly

By Stephen Foster (1826-1864)
Arr. Jack Halloran (1916-1997)

Hi Nelly! Ho Nelly! Listen, love, to me,
I'll sing for you, play for you a dulcet melody.

Nelly Bly, Nelly Bly, bring the broom along.
We'll sweep the kitchen clean, my dear, and
have a little song!
Poke the wood, my lady love, and make the fire
burn,
And while I take the banjo down, just give the
mush a turn!

Nelly Bly has a voice like a turtle dove,
I hear it in the meadow and I hear it in the
grove.
Nelly Bly has a heart warm as a cup of tea;
And bigger than a sweet potatoe down in
Tennessee.

Nelly Bly, Nelly Bly, never, never sigh;
Never bring a tear drop to the corner of your
eye.

Unclouded Day

By Rev. J. K. Alwood (1828-1909)

Arr. By Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970)

O they tell me of a home far beyond the
skies,
O they tell me of a home far away;
And they tell me of a home where no
storm clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

They tell me of a home where my
friends have gone,
They tell me of a land far away,
Where the tree of life in eternal bloom
Sheds its fragrance through the uncloud-
ed day.

O the land of cloudless days,
O the land of an unclouded sky,
O they tell me of a home where no storm
clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

O they tell me of a King in His beauty
there,
And they tell me that mine eyes shall
behold
Where He sits upon a throne in the city
that is made of gold.

WESTERN RESERVE CHORALE LEADERSHIP

David Gilson, Artistic Director

Stacy Newman, Executive Director

Sara Smith, Accompanist

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A CHORUS OF THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING:

*David Gilson and Sara Smith for making rehearsals
enjoyable and productive.*

Church of the Saviour, Cleveland Heights

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Our wonderful Ushers and Volunteers

*...and to YOU. Thank you for continuing to support
choral music. We hope you enjoyed this concert and
come to future events.*

Please visit our website:

www.WesternReserveChorale.org

to stay informed about our upcoming events.

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community.*

## Western Reserve Chorale 2023-24 Season Survey

Is this your first WRC concert?

In this season have you attended the following:

December – A Classy, Brassy Christmas

March – Brahms' Requiem – Lakewood / Cleveland Heights

Have you watched our livestream or recorded concerts on YouTube?

How did you hear about this performance? (Check all that apply)

☐ Newspaper

☐ Social Media

☐ WRC Postcard/Flyer

☐ Radio

☐ Word of Mouth

☐ Know a WRC Member

☐ Email

☐ Website

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please share any comments about this concert or the season in general.

*Knowing our audience is important for securing grants for special programming.*

Please answer the following:

|      |          |       |       |       |
|------|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Age? | Under 20 | 30-39 | 50-59 | 70-79 |
|      | 20-29    | 40-49 | 60-69 | 80+   |

What gender do you identify as?

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Other

5. Please specify your ethnicity (circle one)

A. Caucasian

D. Asian

G. Two or More

B. African-American

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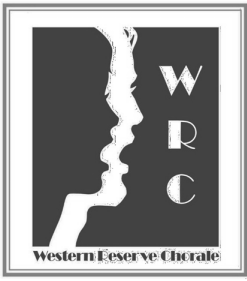
C. Latino or Hispanic

F. Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander I. Prefer not to say

*Thank you for attending our Spring Concert!*

You may hand your completed survey to an usher or Chorale member as you exit or use a pre-addressed envelope available at the exits to mail it in (3014 Corydon Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118)

Please provide your name and mailing/e-mail address to receive future mailings:



# WELCOME

## *TO OUR CONCERT*

We hope you enjoy today's performance.

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Your tax-deductible donations allow us to continue to present concerts that are engaging, accessible, and entertaining.

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Please leave your contribution with an usher, take home a pre-addressed envelope to mail in, or use the QR code below to use your credit card.

Suggested donation \$20

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*A CHORUS OF THANKS*  
FROM THE SINGERS OF THE  
WESTERN RESERVE CHORALE

