



Masterworks Singers

conducted by Dr. H. Morris Stevens, Jr.

*The Face of
Eternal Light*

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 7:00 PM

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH



BEAUTIFUL SACRED CHORAL MUSIC

FEATURING THE PREMIERE OF

O VOS ANGELI

Program

Omnia Sol (Let Your Heart be Staid)

Z. Randall Stroope

Missa Brevis in D

Johann Pachelbel

Kyrie eleison

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Agnus Dei

Robert H. Young

Brief intermission

Toccata in F Major (BuxWV 157) - Dietrich Buxtehude

Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist (BuxWV 208) - Dietrich Buxtehude

Mark Stern—Organist

A portion of today's Free Will Offering will go towards World Central Kitchen, helping to provide fresh meals to communities in need, especially those in the Ukraine.

To learn more about this organization go to <https://wck.org>

O Vos Angeli

Z. Randall Stroope

Commissioned by the Edward D. Anderson Choral Scholars Fund

Audience Q & A with Dr. Z. Randall Stroope

Reprise of O Vos Angeli

Were You There

Kyle Pederson

Deep Peace

Elaine Hagenberg

For This Joy

Arr. Susan LaBarr

Texts & Translations

Omnia Sol

Omnia sol temperat, absens in remota

The sun warms everything, even when I am far away.

Ama me fideliter, fidem meam nota

Love me faithfully, and know that I am faithful

Missa Brevis in D

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Et in terra pax
hominibus bonæ voluntatis

Glory be to God in the highest.
And in earth peace
To men of good will.

Laudamus te; benedicimus te;
adoramus te; glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam

We praise Thee; we bless Thee;
we worship Thee; we glorify Thee.
We give thanks to Thee
for Thy great glory.

Domine Deus, Rex, coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris

O Lord God, Heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.
O Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father.

Qui tollis peccata mundi
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dextram Patris,
O miserere nobis

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father,
Have mercy upon us.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris.

For thou only art holy,
thou only art the Lord,
thou only art the most high, Jesus Christ.
Together with the Holy Spirit
In the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Amen

Texts & Translations (cont.)

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
Miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei
Dona nobis pacem

Lamb of God,
Who takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God.
Grant us peace.

O Vos Angeli

O vos angeli
O vos virtutes,
potestates,
principatus
dominations et troni,
qui estis computati
in quantum secretum numerum
O vos
cherubin
et seraph,
sigillum secretorum Dei:

O angels,
O virtues,
powers
Government,
dominations and thrones,
you've reckoned
in the mystic fifth;
O you
cherubim
and seraphim
the seal upon God's mysteries.

Praise to those who drink the fount of eternal time;

Those who feel celestial pulse from the Divine heart,

Praise to those who see the face of eternal light.

Special Notes from Conductor—"Were You There"

"Were You There" is one of the most prominent and popular of the African-American spirituals. It was borne not from the pen of a single composer. The origins are from the communal slave experience.

This re-membring of the cross allowed slaves to claim the Christ who knew their suffering and stood with them in their oppression. The spiritual thus equated the suffering of Christ to the suffering of the African-American community. The hope and promise inherent is of God's presence and resurrection power.

This song borne from the crucible of suffering continues to speak to any and all around the world who face oppressions of every kind, especially in our current trying times.

Commissioned Composer—Bio

Dr. Z. Randall Stroope

Z. Randall Stroope is an American composer and conductor. He has had recent conducting engagements in Hong Kong, Rome, Barcelona, Singapore, Canterbury Cathedral, Berliner Dom, Salzburger Dom, St. John (Canada), Chicago Orchestra Hall, Carnegie Hall and performed music for mass at the Vatican on 11 different occasions. He is also the Artistic Director for two summer music festivals in Europe and taught composition for FENIARCO (Italy choral conductors) in 2017 and 2018. Randall's composition teachers were Cecil Effinger and Normand Lockwood, both students of the famous French teacher/composer, Nadia Boulanger (student of Gabriel Fauré).

Randall has his own publishing entity (www.zrstroope.com). He has written commissions for orchestras, soloists, choral ensembles, and works for combined forces. Recent commissions include the Raffles Singers (Singapore), Michigan Choral Conductors Consortium, Arlington Master Chorale, West Point Military Academy, Müller Chamber Choir (Taiwan), among others. His works are also published by Oxford University Press, Alliance Music Publications (Houston), Carl Fischer, Santa Barbara Music Press (California) and others. His shorter choral works — best known of which are *Conversion of Saul*, *Lamentations of Jeremiah*, *Christi Mutter*, *We Behold Once Again the Stars*, *Go Lovely Rose*, *The Pasture*, *Revelation*, *Homeland*, *I Am Not Yours*, *Caritas et Amor*, *Song to the Moon*, *Inscription of Hope* and *In Paradisum* — have sold four million copies. His choral cycle — *Four Sonnets of Garcilaso* (which contains “Amor de mi alma”) is also one of his most performed works. Extended works include *Hodie! (This Day)* for mixed chorus, brass/organ/percussion, *Carmina Pax* (a 30' work premiered in 2018), for mixed chorus, orchestra, boy soloist, and baritone, *American Rhapsody* for mixed chorus and brass quintet or strings, and his solo song cycle, *Love's Waning Seasons*. Recordings of his works can be heard through Spotify, YouTube and his website (www.zrstroope.com).

Randall has been a Professor of Music at Rowan University (New Jersey), Oklahoma State University and the University of Nebraska (an Endowed Professor at two). He has conducted 24 international choral tours and performed twice at the ACDA National Convention. He now guest conducts and composes full time from his studio in Florida and in New Mexico.

Randall completed a Master of Music (Voice Performance) degree at the University of Colorado Boulder, and Doctor of Musical Arts (Choral Conducting) degree at Arizona State University. He did post graduate work with Margaret Hillis, Chorus Master of the Chicago Symphony. As a recipient of the Australian-American Fulbright, he has also done work in western Australia. He and his wife, Cheryl, love to travel and spend time with family.

Conductor & Accompanists

Dr. H. Morris Stevens, Jr.—Conductor

Dr. H. Morris Stevens, Jr., is the Director of Music Ministry at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Austin, Texas. In May 2020, he retired from St. Edward's University where he served for 13 years as Head of the Music Department. While at St. Edward's University, he founded the Masterworks Project, which became a leading Community Outreach Music program consisting of a large Chorus and full Orchestra. During those 13 years, the Masterworks toured every two years, and gave concerts in such countries as Ireland, Scotland, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland.

Dr. Stevens is recognized as a clinician/conductor of Honor Choirs in many states and adjudicates choral competitions nationally. Throughout his career he has commissioned many new choral works from outstanding composers. The Masterworks Singers have so far, commissioned four major works with the support of the Edward D. Anderson Fund.

Dr. Stevens is most proud of his wonderful family, his wife Polly, his children, Sarah, Patrick and Rebekah, their wonderful spouses, and his six grandchildren, Ruaridh, Genevieve, Bernadette, Margot, Murray & Ruby.

Susan Neff, Pianist

Susan Neff spent 32 years in the music/choral classroom retiring from public school teaching in 2014. Her next three years she accompanied choirs in various school districts and supervised music student teachers at the University of Texas. She returned to the private school classroom for 3 years as the choral/piano teacher at Hyde Park High School. She now continues to accompany and consult for school choir programs. She is also a pianist for the 9am choir at St. Theresa Catholic Church in Austin, Tx. She lives in Pflugerville where she loves spending time with her grown sons David and Mark, daughter in law Lindsey, and special Mimi time with her 7-year-old grandson Dylan.

Mark Stern, Organist

Mark Stern joined the Masterworks Singers group during the Fall 2016 season and has been a tenor in the group ever since. He toured outside the country with the group once to the Scandinavia region as a singer and as the organist for the group. In addition to being the occasional organist for the Masterworks Singers, Mark is an accompanist at St. Theresa Catholic Church, where he joined the music ministry in 2008. During this time in the music ministry, Mark developed an excitement for playing the organ and went on to briefly study organ with Dr. John Schmidt at Texas State University as a music major. Though Mark has a passion for music, he realized that music wasn't the career path for him. Mark graduated with a B.A. in Psychology, *Summa Cum Laude*, with a minor in music and later graduated with a M.A. in Psychological Research from Texas State. Mark is now a full-time lecturer teaching in the Psychology department at Texas State.

**Choral Personnel | Dr. H. Morris Stevens, Jr - Conductor
Susan Neff & Mark Stern, Accompanists**

<u>SOPRANO</u>	<u>ALTO</u>	<u>TENOR</u>	<u>BASS</u>
Cheryl Alvarado	Emily Acuña	John Blood	Dave Brown
Audrey Ballish	Jaime Altermann	Wes Collman	Jim Coffman
Alexandra Brown	Emily Burns	Michael Gianotti	John Diaz
Susana Campos	Julia Campos	Dr. Daniel Girardot	Dr. Dan Dickinson
Sylvia Casper	Colleen Cawthon	Tim Hissam	Gary Graser
Martha Cook	Lydia Coffman	Jorge Ibarra	Nigel Jacobs
Elizabeth Danze	Pamela Dowd	Peter Jacobs	Kelan Latimer
Madeline Flores	Jessica Flair	Jackson King	Philip O'Neill
Dr. Lee Frierson-Stroud	Donna Gervase	Jason Kutac	Gary Pyle
Iris Garcia	Mimi Graser	Jerome LeBlanc	Michael Saclolo
Marett Hanes	Cindy Hager	Loren Stell	Robert Straiton
McKenna King	Jillian Horton	Mark Stern	André Trahan
Anne Klock	Patricia Jacobs	Tommy Starnes	
Amanda Koch	Sue Kemp	Dana Taipale	
Martha Kuhl	Dona LeBlanc	Shane Walden	
Lucja Kwiatkowska	Marty Moulthrop	Kenneth Weidaw	
Valerie Maurer	Dr. Megan Robinson	Carl Wiseman	
Lori Mazzurana	Suzanne Rogers		
Amber-Nicole McIntire	Kimberly Sandoval		
Stacey McTaggart	Mary Louise Shack		
Teresa Nguyen	Joydene Ternus		
Dr. AnnMarie Olson	Colleen Webb		
Robyn Pereira	Mattie Whisler		
Amaria Pinnock	Marie White		
Camille Pridgen			
Sara Radebaugh			
Sarah Ramos			
Stephanie Rayl			
Marni Roberson			
Polly Stevens			
Katie Vukovics			
Rose Wiederkehr			
Martha Zornes			

Orchestra Personnel

Violin I	Viola	Trumpet	Clarinet	Percussion
Melissa Ruof	Dr. Robert Radmer	Michael Arnold	Angel Lopez	Dr. Dan Dickinson
Violin II	Cello	Casey Martin		
Deb Weltzer	John Cox			

Acknowledgements

Rev. Larry Covington — Pastor, St. Theresa Catholic Church

The Hospitality Ministry at St. Theresa Catholic Church

Staff of St. Theresa Catholic Church & School

Open Invitation to join Masterworks Singers

The Masterworks Singers organization is a community of individuals who love the best of choral music. Since its beginning, it has never excluded anyone who wished to experience the joy of sharing the exploration of choral music with friends. We have the mission of peace through the beauty of music. We continually invite all individuals who wish to share in this mission and joy of music making to consider joining.

To be included in the Masterworks Singers mailing list, please email Dr. Morris Stevens at

morris_stevens@masterworkssingers.org