



Oregon
Repertory
Singers

SERGEI RACHMANINOFF

All-Night Vigil

OCTOBER 21 & 22, 2023 | 4 PM

Patricia Reser Center for the Arts
12625 SW Crescent Street, Beaverton, OR 97005

ORSingers.org



Oregon Repertory Singers performs world-class music accessible to all. Our professional-caliber adult choir of over 100 members was recently lauded as “the city’s finest large choir.” Our education and performance-based youth choir program, serving children grades K-12, is one-of-a-kind in the Portland area. We are committed to world-class performances, exceptional education, and nurturing the singers, listeners, and supporters of this generation and the next.

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* Singer with Oregon Repertory Singers † Parent of ORS Youth Choir singer



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FOLLOW ORS



WELCOME

It is with immense joy and pride that I welcome you to the Oregon Repertory Singers' 50th Anniversary Season—a milestone that truly deserves to be celebrated with great enthusiasm and gratitude!



There's so much to celebrate; a new album recorded right here in the Patricia Reser Center for the Arts titled "50," a special commission to be premiered in the Spring, *Finding Light*, featuring Camerata from the Portland Youth Philharmonic (celebrating their 100th anniversary), and the growing ORS Youth Choir will present and perform at the prestigious NW ACDA conference in January, showcasing the success of their one-of-a-kind Composer-in-Residence program. Not to be forgotten, ORS Youth Choir is also celebrating a milestone anniversary this year, their 30th!

For half a century, Oregon Repertory Singers has been a beacon of choral excellence and artistic achievement in our community. What began as a shared passion for music among a few dedicated individuals in 1974 has blossomed into an organization that has touched the hearts and souls of countless people through the power of song.

As we embark on this journey to celebrate five decades of beautiful choral music, I want to acknowledge all of you—our patrons and supporters—that show up for us, concert after concert, and continue to show your generosity, season after season. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to Oregon Repertory Singers and your passion for the art of choral music. I encourage you to mark your calendar with the season's concert schedule and I hope you will consider making a gift to commemorate ORS' long legacy and invaluable contribution to the arts and cultural landscape of our community. The arts, in general, need your support now more than ever!

Thank you for being a part of our journey. We can't wait to share the magic of music with you throughout this special year.



With thanks and excitement,

Lauren Bryan, She/Her
Executive Director
Oregon Repertory Singers

P.S. Celebrate the 50th anniversary season in style! ORS has a brand new merchandise store; grab your windbreaker, tote bag, coffee mug, and so much more. These stylish items are available only for a limited time. Visit ORSingers.org for details.



All-Night Vigil

Concert Program

Dr. Ethan Sperry, Artistic Director & Conductor

Lisa Riffel, Assistant Conductor

Brendan Tuohy, tenor soloist

Eric Alatorre, bass soloist

This concert will be digitally recorded. Please no flash photography.

The concert today will be approximately 90 minutes in length with no intermission.

**All-Night Vigil ("Vespers"), Op. 37.....Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)**

- I. Priiditye, poklonimsya (Psalm 95: Come, Let Us Worship)
- II. Blagoslovi, dushe moya, Gospoda (Psalm 104: Bless the Lord, O My Soul)
- III. Blazhen muzh (Psalms 1, 2 & 3: Blessed is the Man)
- IV. Svete tikhiy (O Gladsome Light)
- V. Nyne otpushchayeshi (Nunc Dimittis: Lord, Now Lettest Thou)
- VI. Bogoroditse Devo (Ave Maria: Rejoice, O Virgin)
- VII. Slava v vyshnikh Bogu (The Six Psalms)
- VIII. Khvalite imya, Gospodne (Psalms 135 & 136: Praise the Name of the Lord)
- IX. Blagosloven yesi, Gospodi (Blessed Art Thou, O Lord)
- X. Voskreseniye Khristovo videvshe (Having Beheld the Resurrection)
- XI. Velichit dusha moya Gospoda (Magnificat: My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord)
- XII. Slavosloviye velikoye (Gloria: The Great Doxology)
- XIII. Dnes' spaseniye (Troparion: "Today Salvation is Come")
- XIV. Voskres iz groba (Troparion: "Thou Didst Rise from the Tomb")
- XV. Vzbrannoy voyevode (To Thee, the Victorious Leader)

2023-2024 Season Partners



HONORING

Vladimir Minin

A number of singers in today's concert had the honor and thrill of performing Rachmaninoff's *All-Night Vigil* under the baton of Maestro Vladimir Minin. Minin is one of the most celebrated Russian choral conductors of his generation. He founded and directed the Moscow Chamber Choir and helped bring many pre-Soviet choral works including the *Vigil*, back from obscurity in the 1980s. In 1993 Gil Seeley, ORS' music director, persuaded Minin to come to Portland to conduct one of the first West Coast performances of the Rachmaninoff.

He returned to conduct it again with ORS in 1995 and 1997, and ORS produced a recording of the work. His final time with the choir was in 2001, when he led a concert of Russian choral masterpieces. During those years and after, Minin reaped award after prestigious award in Russia. Just last week the Moscow Chamber Choir presented a concert celebrating his 95th birthday.

With gratitude, Oregon Repertory Singers dedicates this weekend's performances of the Rachmaninoff *All-Night Vigil* to Maestro Vladimir Minin.



Commitment to Health and Safety

ORS is dedicated to creating a safe environment as we return to in-person rehearsals, performances, and events.

Covid Policy

ORS is dedicated to creating a safe environment for our singers, patrons, volunteers, contractors/vendors, and staff during in-person rehearsals, performances, and events.

- As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve and be a presence in our community, we will periodically update and review our policy.
- ORS will adhere to, at minimum, current Federal, Oregon Health Authority, and Multnomah and Washington County Guidelines regarding masks, vaccinations and distancing.
- Patrons may be required to wear masks, show proof of vaccination or negative test, and/or distance depending on the regulations at the time of performance.
- ORS will adhere to venue policies for all rehearsal and performance spaces.
- The policy for the Patricia Reser Center for the Arts is can be found here: <https://thereser.org/visit/covid-19/>.
- ORS reserves the right to require masks and social distancing and update/modify the policy at any time to implement stricter standards.

IN MEMORIAM

Gordon Lindbloom
(October 31, 1941 - August 30, 2023)

Oregon Repertory Singers acknowledges the recent passing of a dear friend and singer of long-standing, Gordon Lindbloom. Gordon joined Oregon Repertory Singers in 1999, and sang with us until 2012. He retired from Lewis & Clark College, where he had served as Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology. His quiet, affirming persona was a stabilizing force with all whom he came in contact with, and he will be very missed. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Fran Page, sons, Marcus (Dr. Robin Stalcup), Derek, daughter, Colleen, sisters, Esther Lindbloom, and Dr. Hannah Bell (Rodney), and seven nieces and nephews. A memorial is planned for this coming spring.



On the day he passed, he listened to the Durufle's *Requiem* and Rachmaninoff's *Vespers*. Gordon's hearing never failed him. Music was one of his greatest joys.

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32ND SEASON

OUT OF THE ASHES OF SMYRNA

Catch a musical glimpse of the culture of Smyrna (İzmir) that exists today only in the memory of its diaspora, infused with joy and transcendent beauty.

Sat. Nov. 11, 8pm
ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL
Sun. Nov. 12, 3pm
HOLY TRINITY GREEK
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THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS IN THE EAST

A joyful program of music from the Greek Orthodox tradition sung during the Twelve Days of Christmas. From Medieval Byzantine chant to ethereal choral works and Christmas carols.

Sat. Dec. 30, 8pm
ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL



Simply, beautiful.

NEW YORK TIMES

cappellaromana.org

PROGRAM NOTES

Welcome to tonight's performance of the Rachmaninoff *All-Night Vigil*, also known as the *Vespers*. Composed by Sergei Rachmaninoff in 1915, this masterpiece stands as one of the most significant choral works of the 20th century. Despite its initial success, the *All-Night Vigil* faded into obscurity as the Soviet Union suppressed religious practices including the performances of Orthodox Church Music in 1918. The work was revived in Russia in 1988 to celebrate the 1,000th Anniversary of Russia's conversion to Orthodox Christianity. In 1990, Robert Shaw recorded the work here in the United States. Shortly thereafter ORS gave one of the first West-Coast performances of the work and then recorded it under the baton of Vladimir Minin, the conductor of Russian State Academic Choir who had led the 1988 revival performance in the Soviet Union. We are thrilled to present the work again to begin our 50th Season.

Rachmaninoff's setting of the *All-Night Vigil* is without a doubt the best-known piece of music written for the Russian Orthodox Church. This has always surprised me as Rachmaninoff was neither a religious man, nor a choral composer. Rachmaninoff composed almost exclusively for piano: both solo piano music and concertos. The *All-Night Vigil* was only his second choral composition. His approach to choral writing is so unique that, when the piece re-emerged in 1988, it was just as ground-breaking in the choral world as it was in 1915.

Rachmaninoff's vocal writing in the *All-Night Vigil* is highly demanding. Unlike his predecessors, Rachmaninoff sees each section of the choir as its own musical unit, rather than as one large instrument. He writes for sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses much as other composers would write for strings, woodwinds and brass. Each voice part is given intricate melodies and harmonies, each part is pushed to the extremes of their vocal ranges, and each part is divided at times into two or three parts. The choral textures range from ethereal and delicate to powerful and exuberant, showcasing the full range and capabilities of the human voice.

In his preparation for writing the *All-Night Vigil*, Rachmaninoff spent several years studying the various styles of chanting used in the Russian Orthodox Church. The *All-Night Vigil* incorporates traditional Znameny chants that date back to the 10th century, Kievan Chants from 11th-13th centuries, Byzantine Chants from the Greek Orthodox Church, and his own melodies written seamlessly in these older styles.

Rachmaninoff chose the texts for the *All-Night Vigil* in a similar way to how Handel crafted *The Messiah* and Mendelssohn did *Elijah*; he selected pre-existing religious texts from various sources, including the Russian Orthodox liturgy, and the Book of Psalms. Some are drawn from the evening Vespers service, others from the Matins, and some are unique to this work. Thus, this piece was never intended for liturgical use but rather for concert performances like ours this weekend. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do.

Ethan Sperry, Artistic Director & Conductor

THANK YOU

The concerts in the 2023-2024 season are generously supported by:

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Those listed above gave \$2,500 or more during the 2022-2023 season (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023).

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TEXT & TRANSLATIONS —

No. 1 Priidite, poklonimsya

Amen. Come, let us worship God, our King.

Come, let us worship and fall down
before Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down
before the very Christ, our King and our God.

Come, let us worship and fall down before Him.

No. 2 Blagoslovi, dushe moya, Gospoda

Amen. Bless the Lord, O my soul,
Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

O Lord my God, Thou art very great.
Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

Thou art clothed with honor and majesty.
Blessed art Thou, O Lord.

The waters stand upon the mountains.
Marvelous are Thy works, O Lord.

The waters flow between the hills.
Marvelous are Thy works, O Lord.

In wisdom hast Thou made all things.
Glory to Thee, O Lord, who hast created all!

No. 3 Blazhen muzh

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Serve the Lord with fear
and rejoice in Him with trembling.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salvation belongs to the Lord,
and Thy blessing be upon Thy people.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Glory to Thee, O God!

No. 4 Svete tikhii

Gladsome Light of the holy glory of the Immortal One—
the Heavenly Father, holy and blessed—
O Jesus Christ!

Now that we have come to the setting of the sun,
and behold the light of evening,

we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—God.
Thou art worthy at every moment

to be praised in hymns by reverent voices.

O Son of God, Thou art the Giver of Life;
therefore all the world glorifies Thee.

No. 5 Nyne otpushchayeshi

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace,
according to Thy word.

For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation, which Thou hast prepared
before the face of all people:

A light

A light to enlighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of Thy people Israel.

No. 6 Bogoroditse Devo

Rejoice, O Virgin Mother of God,
Mary full of grace, the Lord is with Thee.

Blessed art Thee among women,
and blessed is the Fruit of Thy womb,

for Thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

No. 7 Slava v vyshnih Bogu

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
good will among men.

O Lord, open Thou my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim Thy praise.

No. 8 Khvalite imya, Gospodne

Praise the name of the Lord. Alleluia.

Praise the Lord, O you His servants. Alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord from Zion,
He who dwells in Jerusalem. Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, Alleluia.

For His mercy endures forever. Alleluia.

O give thanks unto the God of Heaven. Alleluia.

for His mercy endures forever. Alleluia.

No. 9 Blagosloven yesi, Gospodi

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

The angelic host was filled with awe,
when it saw Thee among the dead.

By destroying the power of death, O Savior,
Thou didst raise Adam, and save all men from hell!

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

"Why do you women mingle myrrh with your tears?"
cried the radiant angel in the tomb to the myrrhbearers.

Behold the tomb and understand!
The Savior is risen from the dead!"

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

Very early in the morning
the myrrhbearers ran with sorrow to Thy tomb,

but an Angel came to them and said:
"The time for sorrow has come to an end!

Do not weep; announce the resurrection to the apostles!"

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

The myrrhbearers were sorrowful as they neared Thy tomb,
but the Angel said to them:

"Why do you number the living among the dead?
Since He is God, He is risen from the tomb!"

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

We worship the Father, and His Son, and the Holy Spirit:
the Holy Trinity, one in essence!

We cry with the Seraphim:
"Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou, O Lord!"

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Since Thou didst give birth to the Giver of Life, O Virgin,

Thou didst deliver Adam from his sin!
Thou gavest joy to Eve instead of sadness!

The God-man who was born of Thee
has restored to life those who had fallen from it!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God!

No. 10 Voskreseniye Khristovo videvshe

Having beheld the resurrection of Christ,
let us worship the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One.

We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ,
and we hymn and glorify Thy holy resurrection,

for Thou art our God, and we know no other than Thee;
we call on Thy name.

Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's holy resurrection.
For, behold, through the cross joy has come into all the world.

Ever blessing the Lord, let us praise His resurrection,
for by enduring the cross for us, He has destroyed death by death.

No. 11 Velichit dusha moya Gospoda

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

Refrain:

More honorable than the Cherubim
and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim,
without corruption Thou gavest birth to God the Word,
true Theotokos, we magnify Thee.

For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden.
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Refrain.

For He who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is His name, and His mercy is on those
who fear Him from generation to generation....

Refrain.

He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
and has exalted those of low degree;
He has filled the hungry with
good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

Refrain.

He has helped His servant Israel, remembering His mercy,
as He spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his posterity forever.

Refrain.

No. 12 Slavosloviye velikoye (The Great Doxology)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
Good will toward men.

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

O Lord, Heavenly King, God the Father almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
who takest away the sin of the world have mercy on us.

Thou who takest away the sin of the world, hear our prayer.
Thou who sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For Thou alone art holy, Thou alone art the Lord, Jesus Christ,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Every day I will bless Thee and praise Thy name forever and ever.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, God of our fathers,
and praised and glorified is Thy name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, teach me Thy statutes.

Lord, Thou has been our refuge from generation to generation. I said:
Lord, have mercy on me, heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.

Lord, I flee to Thee, teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God;
for with Thee is the fountain of life, and in Thy light we shall see light.

Continue Thy mercy on those who know Thee.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
both now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

No. 13 Dnes' spaseniye

Today salvation has come to the world.
Let us sing to Him who rose from the dead,

The Author of our life. Having destroyed death by death,
He has given us the victory and great mercy.

No. 14 Voskres iz groba

Thou didst rise from the tomb, bursting the bonds of Hades.

Thou didst destroy the condemnation of death, O Lord,
releasing all from the snares of the enemy.

Thou didst show Thyself to Thine Apostles,
and didst send them forth to proclaim Thee;

and through them didst grant Thy peace to the world,
O Thou Who art plenteous in mercy!

No. 15 Vzbrannoy voyevode

To Thee, the victorious Leader of triumphant hosts,
we Thy servants, delivered from evil, offer hymns of thanksgiving,

O Theotokos! Since Thou dost possess invincible might,
set us free from all calamities, so that we may cry to Thee:

“Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!”

*Transliterations and translations copyright Musica Russica, 2005.
Special thanks to Dr. Vladimir Morosan.*

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Please consider a tax-deductible gift today so we can continue to enrich the community with remarkable choral music and music education during this milestone 50th anniversary season.

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Oregon Repertory Singers is a premier choral arts nonprofit organization founded in 1974. The Oregon Repertory Singers adult choir, established in 1974, involves over 100 singing members who are committed to presenting world-class music experiences accessible to all, through programming of music from the newest generation of great composers alongside celebrated choral masterworks. ORS performs three major concerts each season. Dr. Morten Lauridsen, internationally acclaimed composer said, "This is the finest amateur large chorus I've heard anywhere in the world." (2018)

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Laurel Barnum
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Debbie Benke
Aliyah Bristol
Tina Bull
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Rachel Consenz
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Mary Bradbury
Amy Brittan
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Paula Creamer
Alison Ellsworth
Linda Galante
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Kaya Hellman
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Mark Mercier
Paul Neese *
Justin Peters *
David Peterson
Doug Rank
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Patrick Rowley
Mark Solon
Tom Swafford *
Ian Timmons *
Jamie Troy *
Joshua Weir
Ryan Wickman
Mark Woodward

Bass

Dennis Baumgardner
Curtis Brooks
Charles Coughlin
John Dabritz
Cliff Davidson
Stuart Farmer
Richard Frye
John Herr
Dan Hunter *
John Gladen
Joel Godbey
Bruce Gulliver
Rick Jones
Joshua Kauffman
Andrew Kent
Jacob Lundgren
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Richard Murphy
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Steve Oliver
Luis Ortiz-Rodriguez
Paul Plett
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Greg Prosser
Ken Ray
Ed Reeves
Miles Rigby
Gary Ritter *
Mark Rozanski *
VJ Satharaj
Evan Shenk
Tim Siess
Rich Vanderwal
Cole Weber
Roy Wilkinson

*Not singing this concert

GUEST SOLOISTS

Eric Alatorre | Bass

Eric Alatorre is the Bass best associated with Chanticleer, where he was a member for nearly 30 years, and is well known for his deep and rich voice. During his tenure with Chanticleer he saw the ensemble grow from a group known best in the United States to an internationally acclaimed ensemble. He has performed in many of the world's major concert venues on 6 continents, and made nearly 60 recordings which have garnered 3 Grammy awards. Since then he continues to be engaged with many exceptional groups such as Seraphic Fire, Skylark, Conspirare, the Thirteen, and the Leonids.



Brendan Tuohy | Tenor

Tenor Brendan Tuohy has been praised by The Cincinnati Post for his “big, bold tenor edged with silver” and he continues to move audiences both in the States and overseas. Brendan is a Tacoma, WA native and loves performing for Pacific Northwest audiences. He actually began his professional opera career as a Studio Artist with the Portland Opera. Tuohy last sang with the Oregon Repertory Singers in 2019 in Joan Szymko's *Shadow and Light*.



Brendan most recently sang Don José in Bizet's *Carmen* with the Tacoma Opera. Last season, Brendan returned to Portland to sing the Mayor in Josh Ragland's new opera *Beatrice* with the Portland Opera. Other roles last season included the Italian Tenor in *Rosenkavalier* with PNW Opera, Tenor Soloist in Mozart's *Requiem* with Bellingham Symphony, Tenor Soloist in Mendelsohn's *Lobgesang* with the Northwest Symphony Orchestra and Tenor soloist in *Beethoven's 9th Symphony* with Harmonia Seattle.

Upcoming projects include singing the Stuermann in *Tristan und Isolde* with the Eugene Symphony, Mitch in *Streetcar Named Desire* with Tacoma Opera, making his San Diego Symphony debut singing Michael in Nicolás Leñ Benavides' new opera *Tres Minutos*, and singing the tenor soloist in Britten's *War Requiem* with the US Naval Academy Orchestra and Choir in Washington DC.

ARTISTIC STAFF



Dr. Ethan Sperry | Artistic Director & Conductor

Hailed by The Oregonian for providing “the finest choral concerts in Portland in recent memory,” Dr. Ethan Sperry has been the Artistic Director and Conductor of Oregon Repertory Singers since 2011. Dr. Sperry began studying conducting at the age of eight, cello at the age of twelve, and singing at the age of eighteen. He has earned a bachelor’s degree in Philosophy from Harvard College and Masters and Doctoral degrees in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. Ensembles under his direction have toured to Argentina, Bermuda, Canada, Chile, China, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guadeloupe, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Puerto Rico, Portugal, Russia, Spain, and Taiwan, and have performed at major venues in the United States including The Hollywood Bowl, The Kennedy Center, The Washington National Cathedral, St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City, The Nassau Coliseum, Cincinnati’s Music Hall, Boston’s Symphony Hall, and the United Nations. He recently led the Portland State Chamber Choir to victory as the first American choir ever to win the prestigious Seghizzi International Competition for Choral Singing in Italy and the Bali International Choral Festival in Indonesia, and led Oregon Repertory Singers to place second in the folk music category at the International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales, the oldest choral competition in the world. A prolific arranger of World Music for choirs, Dr. Sperry is the editor of the Global Rhythms series for Earthsongs Music, one of the best-selling choral series in the country. Dr. Sperry is also a frequent collaborator with film composer AR Rahman and has appeared as a guest conductor for him numerous times including at Bollywood Night at the Hollywood Bowl and the 2008 Filmfare Awards, the Indian equivalent of the Oscars. He is a co-host for Sounds Choral on WWFM, the only weekly radio show devoted to choral music in the United States. Dr. Sperry was the 2016 Distinguished Artist at the Civitella Ranieri in Italy. He is also Director of Choral Activities at Portland State University, where he conducts the world-renowned Chamber Choir and University Choir and leads undergraduate and graduate programs in conducting.

Lisa Riffel | Assistant Conductor

Lisa Riffel has been singing in the Oregon Repertory Singers for ten years since moving to Portland from the Los Angeles area. In that time she graduated with a Masters of Music in Choral Conducting at Portland State University and is now in her eighth year of teaching choral music at Lincoln High School. Under her leadership the Lincoln choir program has toured both nationally and internationally and consistently received high scores at local festivals and adjudications. In addition to singing with ORS, Lisa also sang professionally with the Trinity Episcopal Chamber Singers and other choral ensembles in the area. As artistic director Ethan Sperry has said, "Sight singing is her superpower." Lisa, her husband Andy, and her newborn daughter Hazel reside in NE Portland and together they enjoy singing and exploring the beautiful Pacific Northwest.



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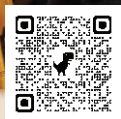
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UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday, December 3, 2023 | 4 PM
Saturday, December 9, 2023 | 4 PM
Sunday, December 10, 2023 | 4 PM

First United Methodist Church
1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland

Oregon Repertory Singers and Youth Choir welcome Union High School's string orchestra for *Glory of Christmas*! This year we're not only celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Oregon Repertory Singers and the 30th Anniversary of ORS Youth Choir, but the 40th year of teaching for Tim Siess, Union High School orchestra director and long-time member of Oregon Repertory Singers! Choir and orchestra will combine for movements of Vivaldi's famous *Gloria*, as well as music by Ola Gjeilo, Randall Thompson, and a new orchestration of *Written for You* by our very own Naomi LaViolette, also celebrating a milestone—20 years with ORS! The choir will also sing holiday favorites including Eriks Ešenvalds' *Stars for choir* and tuned wine-glasses, and Ethan Sperry's unfortunate medley of Hannukah songs.



with Special Guest
Matthew Lyon Hazzard

Saturday, April 27, 2024 | 4 PM
Sunday, April 28, 2024 | 4 PM

Patricia Reser Center for the Arts
12625 SW Crescent St., Beaverton

Oregon Repertory Singers concludes their 50th season with *Finding Light*, a new work for choir and orchestra by Filipino-American composer Matthew Lyon Hazzard. ORS commissioned Hazzard to write a complement to *Lux Aeterna*, commonly considered the most beautiful twentieth-century work for choir and orchestra, composed by National Medal of Arts winner and beloved Oregonian composer Morten Lauridsen. While Lauridsen's oratorio approaches the theme of light from a religious perspective, Hazzard's new work is the ideal companion piece to conclude the concert, with poems by young Chinese-American (and Portlandian!) poet Sophia Mautz about finding light in the darkest of times. Camerata from Portland Youth Philharmonic—celebrating their 100th Anniversary—is collaborating on this performance, along with members of ORS Youth Choir—celebrating 30 years this season! It's a season of milestones! Join us for this celebration of light, life, and longevity!



ORS Youth Choir Spring Concert

with special performance by
Oregon Repertory Singers

Saturday, May 18, 2024 | 4 PM

First United Methodist Church
1838 SW Jefferson St., Portland

Oregon Repertory Singers Youth Choir closes its 30th season with two world premieres! Youth Choir will debut a new combined work for youth and adult choirs from pianist and composer Naomi LaViolette and showcase excerpts from a book of rounds composed specifically for ORS Youth Choir from Composer-in-Residence Stacey Philipps.

Learn More About ORS Youth Choir
Details and tuition available at
ORSingers.org/youth-choir

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