A Note from the Director...

Welcome to *Side by Side*, the spring musical celebration of the Seattle University Choirs! We are thrilled to welcome Composer-in-Residence Karen Marrolli and instrumental guests Serena Chin (piano), Sarah Johnson (cello) and Randy Zhang (violin). I encourage you to read about these artists within the program. Tonight we offer music around the themes of *hope*, *healing after a period of adversity*, and *unity through community*. You'll hear these themes expressed in a wide range of repertoire; featured in particular are the compositions of Karen Marrolli, whom we commissioned to write a new work for us this spring. This stirring new piece – *Let Us Sing One Another* - receives its world premiere tonight. In rehearsal, singers shared thoughtful insights about what this text means to them. Below is a sampling of responses when asked, **what does "singing one another" mean to you?**

To me, "singing one another" means that even something as simple as singing the same song can bring people together so closely, even in really hard times. – Kathryn Pursell

Telling other people's stories is a beautiful way to carry on memory, but singing each other invokes new ways in which we can connect. Not only can we represent each other with words, but with motion, melody and expression as well which is what makes choir such an inspiring group to be a part of. – Hope Onstad

Singing one another means to me singing all together as one. It is the feeling you get when you are unified as a choir. – Piper Danis

This evening we honor and celebrate **thirteen graduating singers** – a bittersweet occasion! Additionally, we pay tribute to incomparable **Dr. Lee Peterson**, who retires this summer after 24 years of invaluable service to the Seattle University Music Program as Assistant Director of Choirs and Pianist in Residence. Lee, words cannot adequately express our gratitude for the contributions you have made to the life and community of our program. You will be deeply missed, and your many good works here live on!

I'd like to express our immense gratitude to the Pigott Endowment for the Arts, which has graciously underwritten this composer residency, commission, and numerous other projects as part of our 2022-2023 season, *The Creative Voice*. Throughout the year, singers have had truly unique opportunities to engage with world-class guest artists, workshops and interactive projects around the themes of creativity, composition and songwriting. It has been deeply inspiring.

Most of all, thank *you* for joining us this evening as we celebrate this beloved community. At the end of this program you'll find concert dates for our upcoming 2023-2024 season, as well as information about how to join this musical community and even an invitation to sing with us in New York City next May! We hope you'll keep coming back as a member of the audience or even as part of the choir. Please enjoy the performance.



Composer-in-Residence Karen Marrolli

Lim Caloft

Dr. Leann Conley-Holcom, Director of Choral & Vocal Activities & Interim Director of Music

The Seattle University Choirs Present

SIDE BY SIDE

Featuring Composer-In-Residence Karen Marrolli With Serena Chin, Piano | Randy Zhang, Violin | Sarah Johnson, Cello

Please silence all cell phones and noise-emitting devices. This performance is being professionally recorded and live-streamed, and personal photography & videography is prohibited.

Thank you and enjoy the show!

OPENING REMARKS

David Powers | Dean, Seattle University College of Arts and Sciences

COMBINED CHOIRS

to inspire emotion and channel our own sense of the story: creating an image of individual and collective humanity. – Chloe Platt

To me, to "sing one another" means to uplift each other's stories, which is particularly important during such divided times. – Cullin Egge

To me, singing one another means harmony. It is when our differences make up a collective force that sustains each of us. – Andrew Kambwiri

TREBLE CHORALE

Awake, My Soul, And Sing!Judith Herrington (b. 1950)

The sacred Latin text, Cantate Domino, canticum novum (Psalms 95 vs1-2), translating to, "Sing to the Lord a new song" opens this composition. Set in mixed meter, the singer conveys the desire to look to the day with joy and optimism through song. The composition shifts to an introspective look at the creative process that comes from and inspired by our personal experiences and awareness of nature's beauty that fills our world. The composition closes with the return of the original theme and a reminder to 'awake my soul, and sing.'

- Judith Herrington

Come Unto Me......Karen Marrolli (b. 1975)

This Little Light of Mine.....Traditional Spiritual, Arr. Robert T. Gibson (b. 1989)

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Sing Gently.....Eric Whitacre (b.1970)

Eric Whitacre was the first to create virtual choir performances on a mass scale. This piece, written and released in 2020 during the Covid pandemic lockdown, was performed by 17,572 singers from 129 countries. It is offered as a tribute to the beauty of collective singing.

CHAMBER SINGERS

Ad Astra (To the Stars)	Jacob Narverud (b. 1986)
Be Still and Know	Karen Marrolli (b. 1975)
Fly Away Home	PinkZebra

SONGS BY KAREN MARROLLI (Guitar, Piano & Voice)

Be the Change

This Present Darkness

Firefly

You Can

Beautiful

Honoring Dr. Lee Peterson, Assistant Director of Choral Studies & Pianist in Residence

Celebrating Our 2023 Graduates

COMBINED CHOIRS

CONDINED CHOILD				
Blessing	Lee Peterson	(b. 1956)		
Dedicated with gratitude to Dr. Lee Peterson and the Seattle U Choirs 2023 graduates. SU Choirs Alumni are invited to join come forward and join in song.				
I Lift My Voice	Andrea Ramse	y (b.1977)		
Undivided	Karen Marroll	i (b. 1975)		

Our 2023-2024 Season - Save the dates!

8:00pm at Seattle First Baptist Church on **December 1, 2023, March 8, 2024 and May 17, 2024**

Monday May 27, 2024 | Carnegie Hall, New York City

Seattle University Choirs perform Taylor Scott Davis' Magnificat with choirs from around the country under the direction of Dr. Leann Conley-Holcom. Interested in singing with us in NYC? All members of the Seattle U community are welcome to participate, no audition required. Email conleyholcol@seattleu.edu for more info. Final registration deadline is October 1, 2023.

Honoring Dr. Lee Peterson

A message from Dr. Lee...

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve our department, Music Division, and Choral-Vocal program for the past twenty-four years. What an eventful, glorious journey it has been!

I began working with the choirs as a "gigger," playing for end-of-quarter rehearsals and concerts. This quickly evolved into full-time work; in 2006 I was named Assistant Director of Choral Music, a position I held until the fall of 2022. During that time, I served in many ways: playing piano for rehearsals and performances, composing/arranging/transcribing music for the choirs, conducting, implementing and planning and logistics for choir events and performances on- and off-campus, playing solo recitals, collaborating with students and colleagues in a variety of musical programs, and helping build and strengthen our choir community.

In the fall of 2022, I was appointed Pianist-in-Residence at Seattle University, a position change that provided the opportunity to further help our department serve and benefit music students and faculty. During the past year, it's been a privilege to return to the studio and to devote time and focused attention to the care of our department's fleet of pianos.

I've been blessed to work with two wonderful Choral/Vocal program directors: Dr. Joy Sherman (ret. 2018) and Dr. Leann Conley-Holcom. They have truly been the wind beneath my wings.

Thank you for the music and the memories!

-Dr. Lee

A native of Richmond, Virginia, Lee Peterson has BM and MM degrees from Hardin-Simmons University, Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Michigan State University, and MA in Transforming Spirituality from Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry. Before coming to Seattle University, they taught at Hardin-Simmons *University, Michigan State University, the University of Mary* Hardin-Baylor, and Baylor *University* (serving as Assistant Professor of Piano, director of the Baylor-in-Vienna summer study program, and Accompanying Program Coordinator).



Gratitude for Dr. Lee from our singers...

"Dr. Lee is an inspiring musician and teacher. I am so grateful to have been with them for all my time at SU. Whether in their capacity as a pianist, conductor, or mentor, Dr. Lee brings so much warmth and joy to their work." – Ally King

"Thank you so much Dr. Lee for your dedication to SU Choirs and us singers all these years, we love and appreciate you!" – Kat Pursell

"There are not enough words to express how much Dr. Lee is loved and appreciated by the SU choir community. Thank you so much for sharing your talent and art, for your tireless work for the program, and for your contagious laughter all these years. You are and will always be loved by many!" – Cullin Egge

"Dr. Lee represents the best of us. They are the personification of light and spiritual connectivity - I have been irrevocably blessed to have known them and shared in their effervescence.

The world is better to have known Dr. Lee, and so am I." – Chloe Platt

"Dr. Lee is a force to be reckoned with. Although I only knew them and sang with them for one quarter, they showed so much strength, love and laughter to not only our choir but anyone that crossed their path. I am truly grateful to have met Dr. Lee and have them be a part of my musical journey." – Hope Onstad

"Lee Peterson has been an essential part of the Seattle University Choirs and her many contributions too many to list. Thank you, Lee, for every note." – Patty Lott

"Every time I complete a crochet project now, I think of how I learned because you taught me how to make tiny hearts. Thank you so much for everything you have done!" -Tess McDowell

"Dr Lee has been a rock during my four years at SU and far beyond that. They truly embody the heart of SU Choirs." – Anabel Pinto

"I appreciate Dr. Lee's passion for music and the warm and relaxed energy she brings to the choir."

– Andrew Kambwiri

"Dr. Lee is such a wonderful soul and has always made me feel welcome within this program. Their encouragement and support truly makes you feel like the most special person in the room."

-Masami Carpenter

"Dr. Lee has been pillar of this community for many years and will continue to have a lasting impact on many of us for years to come. We will miss them dearly and wish them a peaceful and prosperous future in whatever they pursue next." – Jessica Albert

Congratulations to our 2023 Graduates!

Jessica Albert - BS Cell and Molecular Biology

"I have loved the community that choir has built, even through the online period, and the friendships that I have formed. Everyone is always so supportive and accepting and has been a grounding presence during my time at SU and hopefully into the future."

Rachel Bentfield - BA, Design, Spanish

"SU Choirs has been my touchstone throughout my four years at SeattleU. SU Choirs provided me with a space to enjoy my love of music and make friends while doing so. Having this space to express myself and be part of a community has been an invaluable part of my undergraduate experience at Seattle University."

Sydney Caba - BA Film and Media

"It's been a joy and a pleasure to sing with all of these beautiful people throughout my time here. The choir has served as my window into the greater campus community, which had been an invaluable connection during our return to campus. Thanks for making music together, y'all ""

Cullin Egge - Social Work, BA Spanish

"Over the last four years, choir has offered me community and an outlet for expression. No matter how challenging or busy my life got, I always looked forward to creating music with the SU choirs!"

Kelsey Hinton - BS Cell and Molecular Biology

"With the support of my choirmates and Dr. C I have been able to grow, not only as a singer but as a person. The program has fostered such a warm environment in which mistakes are encouraged as places to learn and improvements are celebrated. I am so glad that I was convinced to join and hope to have the chance to return as an alum."

Andrew Kambwiri - Masters, Non-Profit Leadership

"The SU Choirs experience gave me the joy of connecting with fellow singers, enjoying memorable music selections, and improving my singing."

Alexandra King - BA Interdisciplinary Arts in Music, Philosophy

"SU Choirs has always been a space where I could sing, laugh, and build community, even during the toughest of times. I've grown so much here as a singer and leader, and will cherish this time."

Calia Lockey – BA Psychology

Carly Nirschl - BA Anthropology

"SU choirs has, to me, meant self-discovery. Through these last three years I've felt welcome and encouraged every step of the way, from first (virtually) entering the program, to discovering many new ways to embody leadership. I'll be forever grateful for the connections."

Naomi Olson - BA Film Studies

"It is hard to narrow it down to a few sentences but I will try! Choir has brought me so much joy. It is a place of community where I can come as I am and have a break from academics. Singing helps me to express my emotions and this group has felt like a safe space. There is also such joy from a piece being worked through and ultimately coming together."

Anabel Pinto - BS Psychology, Arabic, Data Science

"SU choirs has always been a time and space to check in with myself and take a step back from getting caught up in the rest of my classes, and create something that allows me to feel connected with others who are here for the same. Being a part of this welcoming and talented community for the last four years has been such a gift."

Kathryn Pursell - BA Communications, Journalism

"Singing in U Singers has given me so many new friends and a wonderful community to make music with! I will never forget my time here!"

Stephanie Walter - BS Cell and Molecular Biology

"My SU choir experience has meant the world to me. It has been the only consistent thing about my college experience, and I am truly grateful for all of the wonderful friends and memories (and music!) I have made here!"

The Seattle University Choirs

Soprano

Rachel Bentfield '23 – BA Design, Spanish| *Minneapolis, MN* ◊ Jessica

Chacko '24 – BS Nursing | Seattle, WA • ∞

Fern Creson '26 – BFA Photography, Creative Writing | Salt Lake City, UT ∞

Piper Danis '24 – BA Communications, Women and Gender Studies | Kirkland, WA • Lauren

Ghrist '26 – BA Environmental Studies | *Spokane, WA* װ

Alice Gilson '25 – BA Environmental Studies, Biology | Redmond, WA ◊

Sophia Hampton '25 – BA Environmental Studies, Public Affairs | *McMinnville, OR* ∞

Calia Lockey '23 – BA Psychology | Walnut Creek, CA ∞

Julia Lugos '24 – BA Design, Environmental Studies, Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies | Sunnyvale, CA•

Tira McGavin '19 - BA English Literature, Spanish | Boise, ID ∞

Hadley Miller '26 – BA Psychology | Minneapolis, MN ◊† Carly

Nirschl '23 – BA Anthropology | *Puyallup, WA* •∞

Naomi Olson '23 – BA Film Studies | San Francisco, CA ∞

Chloe Rose Platt '25 – BA Journalism, Art History, Creative Writing | Silverton, $OR \propto \uparrow \sqrt{\langle\langle}$

Betty Qian '24 – BA Business Analytics and Business Economics | Beijing, China • Ω «

Stephanie Walter '23 – BS Cell and Molecular Biology | Renton, WA • ∞ † Δ \int

Alto

Jessica Albert '23 – BS Cell and Molecular Biology | Mandeville, LA $\bullet \lozenge \infty \dagger \Delta \approx$ Sydney

Caba '23 – BA Film and Media | San Francisco, CA • ∞ Δ Ω

Dana Carlson '25 – BS Criminal Justice, Forensic Psychology | San Luis Obispo, CA ◊≈

Masami Carpenter '24 – BA Creative Writing | *Oklahoma City, OK* ◊∆

Brittney Deutsch '24 - MS Clinical/Mental Health Counseling | Sammamish, WA∞

Kaitlyn Dunham '26 – BA Criminal Justice, Criminology | Rocky Hill, CT ◊

Liz Budd Ellmann '98 – M.Div. Seattle U School of Theology and Ministry | Seattle, WA ∞

Sarah Griffin '24 – BS Kinesiology | Snoqualmie, WA ◊

Kelsey Hinton '23 – BS Cell and Molecular Biology, Psychology | Bettendorf, IA ∞

Darien Khan '26 - BA Film Studies | Portland, OR ◊

Alexandra King '23 – BA Interdisciplinary Arts in Music, Philosophy | Newport Beach, CA • †

Liliana Milani Alvarez McClain '20 – BS Biochemistry | *Portland, OR* ∞ Tessa

McDowell '25 – BA Psychology, Japanese | Federal Way, WA ◊

Dale Mittelstaedt '26 – BS Mechanical Engineering | *Portland, OR* ∞

Hope Onstad '26 – BA Creative Writing, Music | *Seattle, WA* נ Miko

Ouano '20 – BS Chemistry, Mathematics, Music | Mesa, $AZ \infty$

Anabel Pinto '23 – BS Psychology, Arabic, Data Science | Hillsboro, OR • J

Abbygail Poe '25 – BA Psychology | Federal Way, WA ◊ ≈

Kathryn Pursell '23 – BA Communications, Journalism | San Jose, CA ∞

Sandy Renner '80 – MA Counseling, Music Therapy (University of Kansas) | Seattle, WA ∞ Susan

Sommer '96 – BS Business Administration | Foster City, CA ∞

Olivia Vasquez '24 – BS Mathematics | Riverside, CA ∞

Claire Wiener '24 - BA International Studies, Spanish | Phoenix, AZ •

Tenor

Giancarlo Agogliati '24 – BS Finance | Sammamish, WA $\lozenge \infty \approx \int$ Cullin Egge '23 –BA Social Work, Spanish | Litchfield, MN $\infty \approx$ Jaime Lambey '26 – BA Interdisciplinary Studies, (theatre, music) | Mill Creek, WA $\lozenge \infty$ Doug Young – BS Mathematics, UNC Chapel Hill | Eden, NC ∞

Bass

Matthew Belshan '26 – BS Biochemistry | *Omaha, NE* $\Diamond \infty$ † Noah Jacobsen '20 – BA Japanese | *Monroe, WA* ∞ Andrew Tshepo Kambwiri '23 – MA Non-Profit Leadership | *Blantyre, Malawi* ∞ Daniel Matus '25 – BS Computer Engineering | *Saratoga, CA* ∞ David Spindel '22 – Masters in Teaching | *Portland, OR* ∞

KEY

•	Treble Chorale
◊	Chamber Singers
∞	University Singers
†	Section Leader
	Social Media Manager
*	Stage Crew
Δ	Choral Librarian
ſ	Attendance Officer
**	Communications Team
Ω	Concert House Manager

Special Thanks to our Student Leadership Team

Our student leaders provide invaluable service and leadership throughout the year. Thank you for all you do!

Section Leaders | Giancarlo Agogliati, Jessica Albert, Matthew Belshan, Alexandra King, Hadley Miller, Hope Onstad, Chloe Platt & Stephanie Walter

Social Media Manager | Chloe Platt

Choral Librarians | Jessica Albert (Lead), Giancarlo Agogliati, Sydney Caba, Masami Carpenter, Carly Nirschl & Stephanie Walter

Communications Team | Chloe Platt & Betty Qian

Attendance Officers | Stephanie Walter (Lead), Giancarlo Agogliati & Anabel Pinto

Concert House Managers | Sydney Caba & Betty Qian

ARTIST BIOS

Serena Chin (Piano) is an active accompanist, vocal coach and chamber musician in the Seattle area. She has as a great love for the human voice and has accompanied choirs from numerous organizations, including the American Boychoir, Children's Chorus of Washington (DC) and the Interlochen Arts Camp as well as state, regional and national honor choirs for ACDA, OAKE and NAfME. She currently serves as accompanist for the University of Washington, Ballard High School and Choral Arts Northwest. Serena received her Bachelor of Music in piano from Wheaton College and Master of Music in coaching and accompanying from Westminster Choir College.

Dr. Leann Conley-Holcom has held the positions of Director of Choral & Vocal Activities at Seattle University since 2018 and Interim Director of Music since July 2022. Prior to her appointment at SU, Dr. Conley-Holcom was Director of Choral Activities at Chabot College and led choirs for the GRAMMY awardwinning Pacific Boychoir Academy and the renowned Tacoma Youth Chorus. She presents workshops and masterclasses in schools throughout the region and is in demand as a clinician, adjudicator, presenter, and guest conductor. Recent guest conducting highlights include the Seattle Men's & Women's Choruses and the Shaoxing Philharmonic Children's Chorus in China. She directed the 2023 WMEA All-State Treble Choir in February 2023, and looks forward to her upcoming conducting debut at Carnegie Hall with MidAmerica Productions in May 2024 leading professional orchestra and mass choirs in Taylor Scott Davis' Magnificat. Dr. Conley-Holcom has toured the country and the world as a freelance professional choral singer and soprano soloist with many of the nation's top ensembles, including the Oregon Bach Festival, Vox Humana, Bach Ensemble Helmuth Rilling, Bach Academy Stuttgart, and True Concord Voices and Orchestra (appearing on their GRAMMY award-winning album *Far in the Heavens*). Solo appearances include Mountainside Baroque, the symphonies of Tacoma, Flagstaff and Coeur D'Alene, and her solo debut at Carnegie Hall with the NYC Chamber Orchestra. Dr. Conley-Holcom is cofounding director of the treble ensemble MUSING, serves on the Board of renowned Seattle-based early music organization Pacific MusicWorks and is Chair of College and University Repertoire and Resources for the Washington State chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. An active member of the National Collegiate Choral Organization, the College Music Society, and the National Association of Teachers of Singing, she holds degrees in voice and conducting from Pacific Lutheran University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Washington.

Sarah Johnson (Cello) is an undergraduate cello performance student studying with Sarah Rommel at the University of Washington. She was recently awarded first alternate in the University of Washington Concerto Competition and serves as principal cellist in the university's top symphony orchestra. Sarah is originally from Vancouver, Washington, where she first discovered her love for the cello. When not performing, Sarah enjoys teaching her students and can often be found trying new recipes in her home's kitchen.

Karen Marrolli (Composer-in-Residence) is the Director of Music Ministries at Central United Methodist Church in Albuquerque, NM. She has previously served as Director of Music Ministries at Trussville First United Methodist Church in Trussville, AL, as Director of Choral Ministries at the United Church of Santa Fe in Santa Fe, NM, and as the Artistic Director of the Zia Singers, the Cantu Spiritus Chamber Choir, and the Santa Fe Men's Camerata. Marrolli holds the DMA degree in Choral Conducting from Louisiana State

University (2010), where she studied Choral Conducting with Dr. Kenneth Fulton. She earned her BM in Music Theory and Composition (1997) and her MM in Choral Conducting and Sacred Music (2000) from Westminster Choir College before relocating to Charleston, SC, where she lived for seven years prior to pursuing doctoral studies. While in Charleston, she founded Lux Aeterna, a chamber choir who presented candlelight concerts in honor of such events as World AIDS Day, the September 11th attacks, and Child Abuse Awareness Month. These concerts always consisted of readings, often written by survivors of traumatic events, interspersed with choral music. The concerts progressed from a sense of darkness to light and were meant to give hope to those who were in a process of healing. In addition to being a classically-trained composer and conductor, Karen is a prolific singer-songwriter who can be seen performing her own songs at various events in and around Albuquerque. Called "provocative" and "powerful" by listeners, her songwriting is autobiographical and stems from influences that range from piano-driven singer-songwriters such as Tori Amos and Regina Spektor to the acoustic folk sounds of Americana and Irish Traditional Music. Karen's choral music is published independently as well as through the ECS Publishing Group.

Violinist and violist **Randy Zhang**, 21, hails from Portland, Oregon where he started his instrumental studies at the age of 5. He has been extensively recognized throughout his musical career on both instruments; notable soloist opportunities include performing Pablo de Sarasate's Zigeunerweisen with the University of Washington Campus Philharmonic Orchestra in May 2022 and winning the 2020 University of Washington Concerto Competition (strings division). Honors for his playing include placing second in both 2017-2018, and first in 2019, at the Oregon Music Education Association (OMEA) State Solo viola division, along with placing fifth in 2019 in the violin division. Outside of the competition room, Randy has served as principal violist for numerous high-level ensembles over the years, such as the 2020 Mediterranean Opera Studio & Festival in Italy, and the Kennedy Center's National Symphony Orchestra in 2017 and 2018. Randy is currently in his final year at the University of Washington, having obtained his Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in fall of 2022, along with a music minor. After graduating, he is pursuing a Masters of Science in Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University while still participating in the music programs of Pittsburgh. Outside of music and academics, Randy spends much of his time with his two shelter cats Riley and Sheba.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Aly Bedford, Academic Program Coordinator, Department of Performing Arts & Arts Leadership
Bill McNamara, Seattle University Campus Ministry
Karen Bystrom, Director of Marketing & Communications

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With appreciation for the guest artists & clinicians who worked with us this quarter: Dr. Jennifer Rhyne (Pacific Lutheran Univ.) & Dr. Timothy Westerhaus (Northern Arizona Univ.)

Join the choir!

Chorale and Chamber Singers are auditioned ensembles of students that meet Tuesdays and Thursdays during the day. University Singers meets Wednesday evenings, is non-auditioned and is open to students, alumni, staff, faculty, & community members. We accept new singers at the beginning of each term, and it's not too early to sign up for Fall 2023! Follow us on social media and/or email below to sign up for auditions this spring, and begin singing with us in the fall.

Learn more & join the choir Email conleyholcol@seattleu.edu



