

The Department of Performing Arts Presents...

**University Chorus and Chamber
Singers Concert:**

In the Bleak Midwinter

Sunday, December 10, 2023

3:00 PM

Great Court I Main Building

**3141 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia, PA**



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Letter from the Department

Welcome to this concert presentation by the Music Program in the Department of Performing Arts. We are delighted to have the wonderful support of great families and friends. A very special welcome goes out to our visitors from the community who may not have any affiliation to our students, and simply come to hear spectacular musical performances by these talented student musicians. We hope everyone in our audience is pleased with the musical selections; and proud of the achievement of the students involved.

The students you will hear at this performance are not music majors. They do this for their love of music and dedicate their time and energy to cultivating their passion for this art form. They are as dedicated to their studies and career pursuits as they are to this intrinsic passion they have within them. The program is fortunate to have a bounty of students with this yearning. We would not exist without them!

The Music Program and Department of Performing Arts is dedicated to providing robust opportunities in

Letter from the Department

the performing arts while students are at Drexel. Our goal is to provide a positive and supportive environment for our students. It is our hope that students and audiences alike feel they are represented in the selections being performed. The human connection is most important to us all.

Thank you for attending this performance. Being here is the greatest show of support for the students, the Music Program, and the Department of Performing Arts. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of the faculty ensemble directors and staff, we are pleased to present you with the following program.

Sincerely,

Luke Abruzzo, Music Program Director

Miriam Giguere, PhD, Department Head, Performing Arts



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Upcoming Performing Arts Events

CONCERT BAND

December 10, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Mandell Theater

FRESHDANCE

February 8, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

February 10, 2024 | 2:00 PM | Mandell Theater

DREXEL DANCE ENSEMBLE

February 9-10, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

DREXEL THEATRE: NO WAY, JOSE!

February 17, 2024 | 3:30 PM & 7:00 PM | URBN Annex Black Box

[Learn more about our upcoming events:
drexel.edu/performingarts](https://drexel.edu/performingarts)



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Acknowledgements

The Drexel University Chorus and Chamber Singers would like to thank everyone in the Performing Arts office: Esteban Reina Soto, Galen Blanzaco, LaShanetta Harris, and our fearless leaders, Luke Abruzzo & Dr. Miriam Giguere.



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Mike Moss Memorial Fund



The Myron "Mike" Moss Memorial Fund supports Drexel University students pursuing projects in music or collaborative projects in the performing arts, including further study and support

for performances. Dr. Moss, the Music Program Director and Drexel Concert Band Conductor, passed away suddenly in 2012. The fund in his name seeks to assist students in the tradition of his passionate support for student involvement in the Performing Arts.

Student applications are due January 20, 2024. If you are interested in donating towards this fund or want more information, please click the link below.

drexel.edu/performingarts/scholarships/moss-memorial-fund/



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Music

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Program

University Chorus and Chamber Singers

Dr. Daniel Spratlan, Director

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming ----- Michael Praetorius
(1995) (1571-1621) / Jan
Sandström (b. 1954)

First Snow (1996) ----- Bo Holten (b. 1948)

Hermit Peak (1996) ----- Bo Holten (b. 1948)

The Little Match Girl Passion ----- David Lang (b. 1957)
(2007, winner of the 2008
Pulitzer Prize for Music)

1. Come, daughter
2. It was terribly cold
3. Dearest heart
4. In an old apron
5. Penance and remorse
6. Lights were shining
7. Patience, patience!
8. Ah! perhaps
9. Have mercy, my God
10. She lighted another match

Program

The Little Match Girl Passion-----David Lang (b. 1957)
(2007, winner of the 2008
Pulitzer Prize for Music)

11. From the sixth hour
12. She again rubbed a match
13. When it is time for me to go
14. In the dawn of morning
15. We sit and cry

O Magnum Mysterium (1994)----- Morten Lauridsen
(b. 1943)

Northern Lights (2012) ----- Ēriks Ešenvalds
(b. 1977)

Golden Hour, #4 from ----- Ayanna Woods
Infinite Light (2023) (b. 1992)



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About the Ensemble

The Drexel University Chorus is an auditioned, 60-voice group for experienced choral singers which performs music from the Renaissance to today, with and without instrumental accompaniment. The ensemble has a particular goal to present newly-composed works that react to the natural, social, and political worlds in which we live. The ensemble typically performs one major on-campus program at the end of each quarter, with occasional service and off-campus concerts

Drexel University Chamber Singers is an advanced choral ensemble of 24 singers that are drawn from the University Chorus. The ensemble performs at the University Chorus concerts at the end of each term and may have additional on and off-campus performances. Repertoire is generally drawn from early and modern sources, focusing of Baroque cantatas and the work of living composers.

Performance Scholarships are available for this ensemble. Scholarship auditions are typically held

About the Ensemble

during Accepted Students Weekends in April.
Contact the director for audition requirements and scheduling. For more information email Dr. Daniel Spratlan at dms542@drexel.edu.



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Music

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Ensemble Members

Dr. Daniel Spratlan

Music Director

Soprano

Molly Angelov

Hannah Bashore

*Rea Chroneos

Alisha Fazal

*Brittany Hood

Wriley Katcoff

*Gabby Olsen

Alyssa Mascuilli

*Schell Podoll

Natalie Sager

Julia Saginario

April Sandner

Jessica Urwiler

*Caitlin Van Berkel

Soprano (Cont'd)

*Caroline Van Pelt

*Zoë Warren

Delaney Weaver

Aly Witt

Hannah Woodbury

Alto

*Dilys Attram

*Katy Avery

Sumita Bhattacharyya

Divina Boko

Sophia Coulopoulos

*Kira Daubert

*Lily Girard

Designations

* Chamber Singers

Ensemble Members

Alto (Cont'd)

Julia Gerberish

*Senta Johnson

Abigail Jordan

Madeline Keane

Bethany Lierenz

Zoe Mathes

Katie Nguyen

Martina Ross

Joanna Scorese

*Rose Xu

Tenor

*Cooper Fischbeck

*Ryan Flynn

*Stephen Lang

Michael O'Neill

*Jordan Singer

Tenor (Cont'd)

*Michael Smith

*Alexander Thomas

Danny Vitelli

Bass

Jack Sheridan

*Ethan Utterback

*Nathaniel Warren

Accompanists

Benjamin D'Annibale

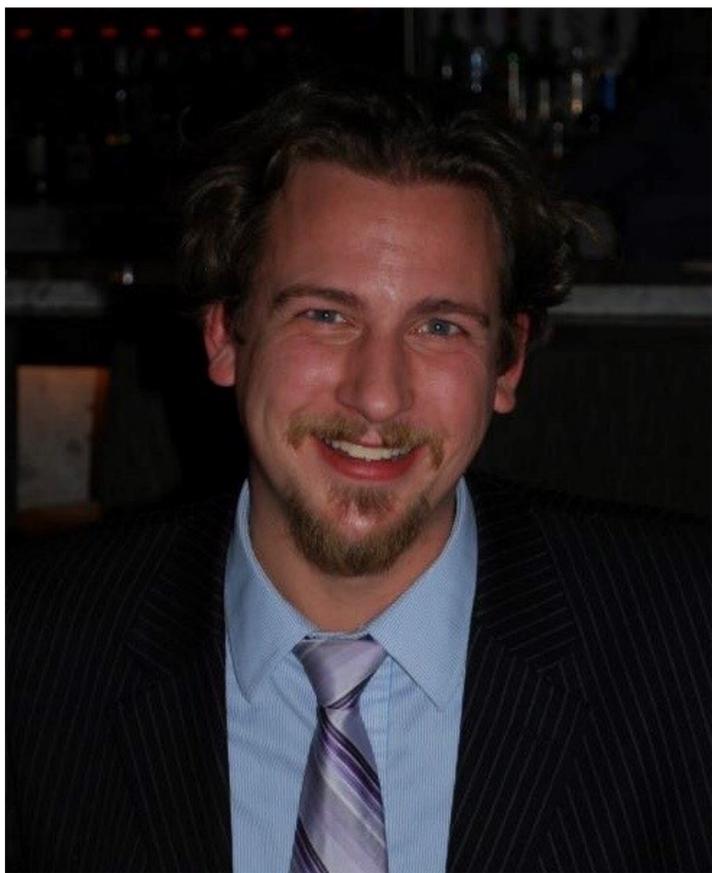
Sira Jittapirom

Designations

* Chamber Singers

Dr. Daniel Spratlan

University Chorus and Chamber Singers Director



Dr. Daniel Spratlan is currently in his 3rd year at Drexel University, where he conducts the University Chorus and Chamber Singers. He is in his 12th year as Director of Music at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill, where he leads a

vibrant music program of resident and visiting artists in one of Philadelphia's best acoustical churches. He has previously served on the conducting faculties at Haverford College, Temple University, and Rutgers University. Daniel earned his DMA in choral conducting from the Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, his MM in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College, and BA in music from Earlham College.

An active professional singer, this is Dr. Spratlan's 17th season as a bass in three-time Grammy Award-winning choir The Crossing. This season alone has featured performances in Carnegie Hall, Lincoln

Dr. Daniel Spratlan

University Chorus and Chamber Singers Director

Center, Verizon Hall, the Ventura Festival, Big Sky Montana, NPR Tiny Desk, 2 album releases, and the 3rd Grammy win for Choral Performance in February 2023. As a soloist, professional chorister, and collaborator, he has performed with ensembles such as the New York Philharmonic, New York Choral Artists, Clarion Choir, The Philadelphia Orchestra, Chanticleer, Claire Chase, Los Angeles Philharmonic, International Contemporary Orchestra (I.C.E.), Opera Philadelphia, Dresden Philharmonic, Mark Morris Dance Group, The Cleveland Orchestra, Piffaro, Tempesta di Mare, San Francisco Symphony, and The Rolling Stones.



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Texts/Translations

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.

It came, a floweret bright,
Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the
night.

First Snow

You lucid, lustrous, tender snow,
who paint the landscape all one shade,
the living, dead, ugly, fair,
you colour all things white.

You fled your mother's tender arms
into the air as blueish mist:
Turned home again one blizzard night,
so pure, but grim and cold.

Texts/Translations

Hermit Peak

Hermit, O you Hermit Peak,
towering, soaring far over all
that the heather rags stare at him in terror
and copsewood is giddy from climbing so high
and crag blossoms lose their weak foothold
though cold squalls must piercingly blast hard his
peak

so naked, he nowhere, he nowhere yields.
He stands like the strong, holy image of health.
He stands like the strong, holy image of health and
honesty,
axed in rough granite.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

1. Come, daughter

Come, daughter

Help me, daughter

Help me cry

Look, daughter

Where, daughter

What, daughter

Who, daughter

Why, daughter

Guiltless daughter

Patient daughter

Gone

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

2. It was terribly cold

It was terribly cold and nearly dark on the last evening of the old year, and the snow was falling fast. In the cold and the darkness, a poor little girl, with bare head and naked feet, roamed through the streets. It is true she had on a pair of slippers when she left home, but they were not of much use. They were very large, so large, indeed, that they had belonged to her mother, and the poor little creature had lost them in running across the street to avoid two carriages that were rolling along at a terrible rate. One of the slippers she could not find, and a boy seized upon the other and ran away with it, saying that he could use it as a cradle, when he had children of his own. So the little girl went on with her little naked feet, which were quite red and blue with the cold.

So the little girl went on.

So the little girl went on.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

3. Dearest heart

Dearest heart

Dearest heart

What did you do that was so wrong? What was so
wrong?

Dearest heart

Dearest heart

Why is your sentence so hard?

4. In an old apron

In an old apron she carried a number of matches,
and had a bundle of them in her
hands. No one had bought anything of her the
whole day, nor had any
one given her even a penny. Shivering with cold and
hunger, she crept
along; poor little child, she looked the picture of
misery. The
snowflakes fell on her long, fair hair, which hung in
curls on her
shoulders, but she regarded them not.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

5. Penance and remorse

Penance and remorse

Tear my sinful heart in two

My teardrops

May they fall like rain down upon your poor face

May they fall down like rain

My teardrops

Here, daughter, here I am

I should be bound as you were bound

All that I deserve is

What you have endured

Penance and remorse.

Tear my sinful heart in two

My penance

My remorse

My penance

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

6. Lights were shining

Lights were shining from every window, and there was a savory smell of roast goose, for it was New-year's eve- yes, she remembered that. In a corner, between two houses, one of which projected beyond the other, she sank down and huddled herself together. She had drawn her little feet under her, but she could not keep off the cold; and she dared not go home, for she had sold no matches, and could not take home even a penny of money. Her father would certainly beat her; besides, it was almost as cold at home as here, for they had only the roof to cover them, through which the wind howled, although the largest holes had been stopped up with straw and rags.

Her little hands were almost frozen with the cold.
Her little hands were almost frozen with the cold.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

7. Patience, patience!

Patience.

Patience!

8. Ah! perhaps

Ah! perhaps a burning match might be some good, if she could draw it from the bundle and strike it against the wall, just to warm her fingers. She drew one out—"scratch!" how it sputtered as it burnt! It gave a warm, bright light, like a little candle, as she held her hand over it. It was really a wonderful light.

It seemed to the little girl that she was sitting by a large iron stove, with polished brass feet and a brass ornament. How the fire burned! and seemed so beautifully warm that the child stretched out her feet as if to warm them, when, lo! the flame of the match went out, the stove vanished, and she had only the remains of the half-burnt match in her hand.

She rubbed another match on the wall. It burst into a flame, and where its light fell upon the wall it became as transparent as a veil, and she could see

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

8. Ah! perhaps

into the room. The table was covered with a snowy white table-cloth, on which stood a splendid dinner service, and a steaming roast goose, stuffed with apples and dried plums. And what was still more wonderful, the goose jumped down from the dish and waddled across the floor, with a knife and fork in its breast, to the little girl. Then the match went out, and there remained nothing but the thick, damp, cold wall before her.

9. Have mercy, my God

Have mercy, my God.

Look here, my God.

See my tears fall. See my tears fall.

Have mercy, my God. Have mercy.

My eyes are crying.

My heart is crying, my God.

See my tears fall.

See my tears fall, my God.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

10. She lighted another match

She lighted another match, and then she found herself sitting under a beautiful Christmas-tree. It was larger and more beautifully decorated than the one which she had seen through the glass door at the rich merchant's. Thousands of tapers were burning upon the green branches, and colored pictures, like those she had seen in the show-windows, looked down upon it all. The little one stretched out her hand towards them, and the match went out.

The Christmas lights rose higher and higher, till they looked to her like the stars in the sky. Then she saw a star fall, leaving behind it a bright streak of fire.

"Some one is dying," thought the little girl, for her old grandmother, the only one who had ever loved her, and who was now dead, had told her that when a star falls, a soul was going up to God.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

11. From the sixth hour

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour she cried out:
Eli, Eli.

12. She again rubbed a match

She again rubbed a match on the wall, and the light shone round her; in the brightness stood her old grandmother, clear and shining, yet mild and loving in her appearance. "Grandmother," cried the little one, "O take me with you; I know you will go away when the match burns out; you will vanish like the warm stove, the roast goose, and the large, glorious Christmas-tree."

And she made haste to light the whole bundle of matches, for she wished to keep her grandmother there. And the matches glowed with a light that was brighter than the noon-day, and her grandmother

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

12. She again rubbed a match

had never appeared so large or so beautiful. She took the little girl in her arms, and they both flew upwards in brightness and joy far above the earth, where there was neither cold nor hunger nor pain, for they were with God.

13. When it is time for me to go

When it is time for me to go

Don't go from me

When it is time for me to leave

Don't leave me

When it is time for me to die

Stay with me

When I am most scared

Stay with me

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

14. In the dawn of morning

In the dawn of morning there lay the poor little one, with pale cheeks and smiling mouth, leaning against the wall; she had been frozen to death on the last evening of the year; and the New-year's sun rose and shone upon a little corpse! The child still sat, in the stiffness of death, holding the matches in her hand, one bundle of which was burnt. "She tried to warm herself," said some. No one imagined what beautiful things she had seen, nor into what glory she had entered with her grandmother, on New-year's day.

Texts/Translations

The Little Match Girl Passion

15. We sit and cry

We sit and cry

And call to you

Rest soft, daughter, rest soft

Where is your grave, daughter?

Where is your tomb?

Where is your resting place?

Rest soft, daughter, rest soft

Rest soft

Rest soft

Rest soft

Rest soft

You closed your eyes.

I closed my eyes.

Rest soft

Texts/Translations

O Magnum Mysterium

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praesepe!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Jesum Christum.
Alleluia!

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the new-born Lord,
lying in a manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Texts/Translations

Northern Lights

Cik naksnīnas pret ziemeļi redzēj' kāvus karojam
Ē, redzēj' kāvus karojam;
Karo kāvi pie debesu, vedīs karus mūs' zemē;
Ē, vedīs karus mūs' zemē

(Oh how many nights we saw the Northern Lights
fighting against the North wind;
Fighting in the sky, the Northern Lights
will bring the wars on our land)

It was night, and I had gone on deck several times
Iceberg was silent; I too was silent
It was true dark and cold
At nine o'clock I was below in my cabin
When the captain hailed me with the words:
"Come above, at once, Hall! The world is on fire!"
I knew his meaning, and, quick as thought
I rushed to the companion stairs
In a moment I reached the deck
And as the cabin door swung open

Texts/Translations

Northern Lights

A dazzling light, overpowering light burst upon my
startled senses!

Oh, the whole sky was one glowing mass of colored
flames, so mighty, so brave!

Like a pathway of light the northern lights seemed to
draw us into the sky.

Yes, it was harp-music, wild storming in the
darkness;

The strings trembled and sparkled in the glow of the
flames

Like a shower of fiery darts.

A fiery crown of auroral light cast a warm glow
across the arctic ice

Like a pathway of light the northern lights seemed to
draw us into the sky.

Again at times it was like softly playing, gently
rocking silvery waves

On which dreams travel into unknown worlds.

Texts/Translations

Golden Hour

My love, our time on Earth is made of sunlight
though we harden like snowflakes
in the cold we come again in stillness
giving ourselves into the shimmering pool of one
another.

My love, our time is made of sunlight
and you, beaming at me golden.

Drexel University Department of Performing Arts Staff

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Interested in a Music Minor?

Drexel offers four different music minors:

Music: requires 26 credits, including work in Music Theory, History, private lessons, ensemble performance, and 9 credits of music electives.

Music Theory and Composition: aimed at people who are writing their own music or who would like to begin doing so. You will take courses in Music Theory, Arranging, Composition, and Digital Composition, and end with a portfolio of several completed pieces.

Music Performance: requires two years of private lesson studies with our artist faculty culminating in a recital. The Music Program will provide support for the recital venue and accompanist.

Jazz & African-American Music: includes course work in Jazz History, African-American Music, Jazz Theory, private study in Jazz performance, and ensemble work in several ensembles devoted to jazz.

Support Great Performance

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