

The Department of Performing Arts Presents...

# UNIVERSITY CHORUS & CHAMBER SINGERS

## SONGS OF LOVE & LOSS

Featuring choral works spanning 500 years by Josquin, Janáček, Whitacre, and Wheeler.

Conducted by Dr. Daniel Spratlan

Sunday, December 8th

3:00 PM

Great Court

3141 Chestnut St,

Philadelphia, PA



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

*Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design*

FALL CONCERT SERIES

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# Letter from the Department

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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 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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# Acknowledgements

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The Drexel University Chorus and Chamber Singers would like to thank everyone in the Performing Arts office, especially our fearless leaders Luke Abruzzo, & Dr. Miriam Giguere.

Drexel Performing Arts would like to thank Senior Vice President for Student Success, Dr. Subir Sahu, for his continued support of Performing Arts at Drexel.



# About the Ensemble

The Drexel University Chorus is an auditioned, 50-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 on Baroque cantatas and the work of living composers.

Performance Scholarships are available for this ensemble. Scholarship auditions are typically held 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](mailto:dms542@drexel.edu)



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# Program

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## University Chorus and Chamber Singers Dr. Daniel Spratlan, Conductor

Shenandoah -----James Erb (1926-2014)

The Passionate Shepherd to His Love -----Jean Belmont (b. 1939)

The Lover's Ghost ----- Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

From Elegy for the Earth----- Adam Silverman (b. 1973)

III. Whale Song

IV. Bee Death

Kačena Divoká ----- Leoš Janáček (1854-1928)

Nymphe des Bois ----- Josquin des Prez (1450-1521)

Ye Sacred Muses ----- William Byrd (1540-1623)

Acquainted with the Night ----- Scott Wheeler (b. 1952)

Sleep-----Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)



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# Ensemble Members

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**Dr. Daniel Spratlan**

Music Director

## **Soprano**

Molly Angelov

Hannah Bashore

Emily Daly

Ashleigh Edwards

Alisha Fazal

Alyssa Mascuilli

\*Gianna Moffa

Sadie Mae Napierala

Katelyn O'Connor

Natalie Sager

Julia Saginario

Yasmin Siglam

+\*Jessica Urwiler

\*Caroline Van Pelt

## **Soprano (Cont'd)**

\*Zoë Warren

Aly Witt

Hannah Woodbury

## **Alto**

\*Sumita Bhattacharyya

Victoria Caracillo

Nicole Childs

+\*Kira Daubert

Abby Feinstein

\*Seven Finckel

\*Lilly Gerard

Mirella Ionescu

Talia Jones

## **Designations**

\* Chamber Singers

+Section Leaders

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# Ensemble Members

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## Alto (Cont'd)

Madeline Keane

Bethany Lierenz

Sophia Lyons

Nyssa Sharma

Ace Snyder

\*Kayla Thomas

## Bass

Shail Bhalla

\*Bea Baxley

\*Leo Koncos

\*Jack McElhenney

+\*Jordan Singer

\*Ethan Utterback

Alex Yelovich

## Tenor

Cooper Fischbeck

\*Ryan Flynn

Jude Kodama

\*Stephen Lang

\*Michael O'Neill

Alexander Thomas

Danny Vitelli

## Designations

\* Chamber Singers

+Section Leaders

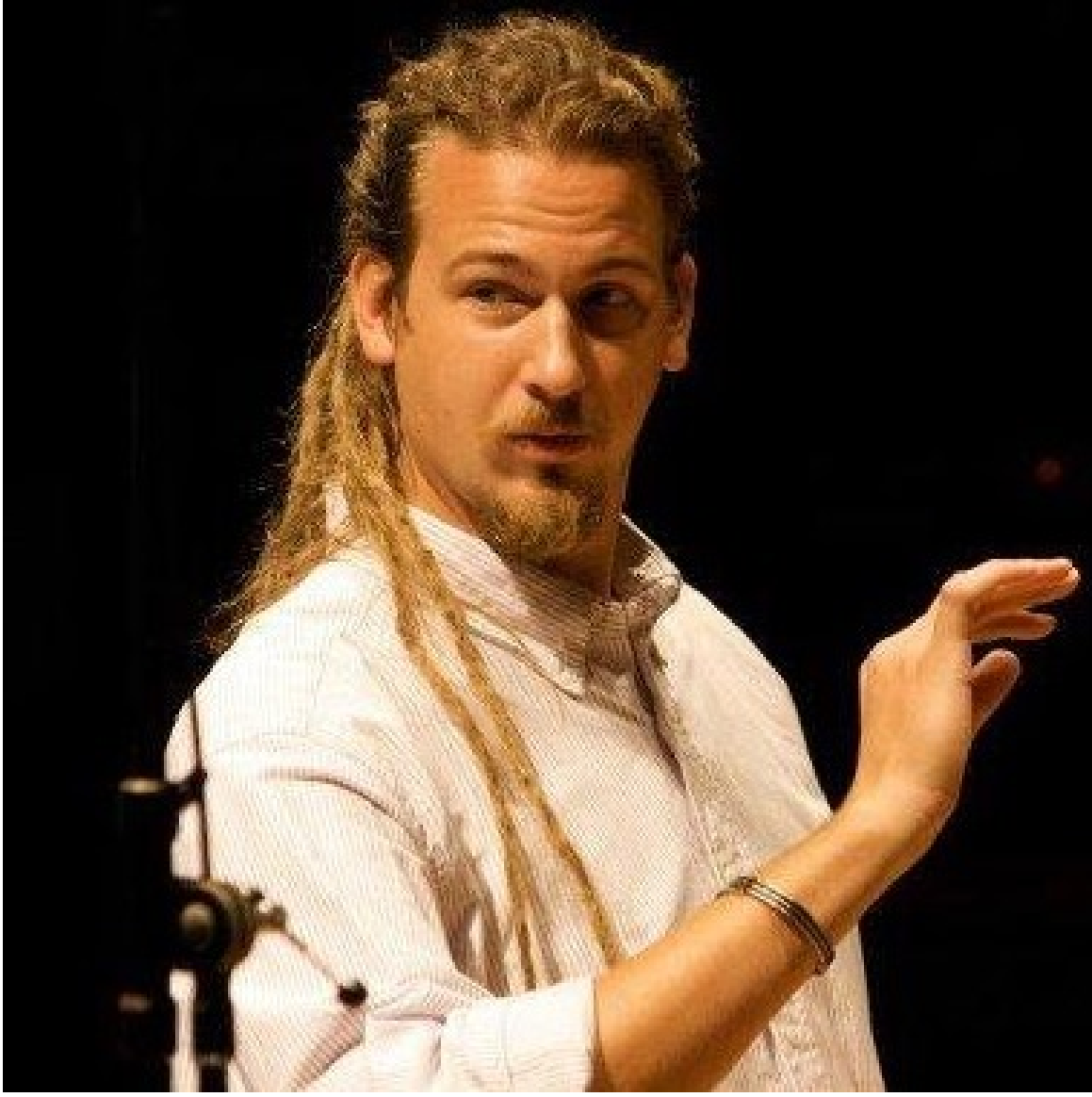


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# Dr. Daniel Spratlan

## University Chorus and Chamber Singers Conductor

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A native of Amherst, Massachusetts, conductor Dr. Daniel Spratlan is active in both the conducting and singing worlds. Dr. Spratlan is currently in his fourth year as Director of Choral Activities at Drexel University in Philadelphia, and his 13th season as Director of Music at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill.

Previously, Dr. Spratlan served on the conducting faculties at Haverford College, Temple University, and Rutgers University. Dr. Spratlan 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, Dr. Spratlan in his 18th season singing with the three-time Grammy Award-winning choir The Crossing with whom he has recorded over 30 albums. He has performed as a soloist and professional chorister with ensembles such as the New York Choral Artists, Clarion Choir, Philadelphia Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Opera Philadelphia, Piffaro, Tempesta di Mare, San Francisco Symphony, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic in venues such as Carnegie Hall, David Geffen Hall, the Kimmel Center, and Walt Disney Concert Hall.

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# Texts/Translations

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## Shenandoah

Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you  
And hear your rolling river

Oh, Shenandoah, 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 seven long years since last I've seen you  
And hear your rolling river

'Tis seven long years since last I've seen you  
way, we're bound away  
Across the wide Missouri.

Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you  
And hear your rolling river

Oh, Shenandoah, I long to see you  
way, we're bound away  
Across the wide Missouri.

-American Traditional

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# Texts/Translations

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## The Passionate Shepherd to his Love

Come live with me and be my love,  
And we will all the pleasures prove,  
That Valleys, groves, hills, and fields,  
Woods, or steepy mountain yields.

And I will make thee beds of Roses  
And a thousand fragrant posies,  
A cap of flowers, and a kirtle  
Embroidered all with leaves of Myrtle;

A gown made of the finest wool  
Which from our pretty Lambs we pull;  
Fair lined slippers for the cold,  
With buckles of the purest gold;

A belt of straw and Ivy buds,  
With Coral clasps and Amber studs:  
And if these pleasures may thee move,  
Come live with me, and be my love.

If these delights thy mind may move,  
Then live with me, and be my love.

-Christopher Marlowe



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# **Texts/Translations**

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## **The Lover's Ghost**

Well met, well met my own true love;  
Long time I have been absent from thee,  
I am lately come from the salt sea,  
And 'tis all for the sake, my love, of thee.

I have three ships all on the salt sea,  
And one of them has brought me to land,  
I've four and twenty mariners on board,  
You shall have music at your command.

The ship wherein my love shall sail  
Is glorious for to behold,  
The sails shall be of shining silk,  
The mast shall be of the fine beaten gold.

I might have had a King's daughter,  
And fain she would have married me,  
But I forsook her crown of gold,  
And 'tis all for the sake, my love of thee.

– English Traditonal

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# Texts/Translations

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## Whale Song

70 gray whales wash ashore  
Great bellies empty  
Along the California coast  
70 gray whales wash ashore  
Unable to feed  
Along the California coast  
Seventy: not a magic number  
When a million  
Species will go missing  
Too soon, the death  
Of creatures living now  
The death of  
70 gray whales  
That washed ashore  
Along the California coast  
-Susan Gubernat

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# **Texts/Translations**

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## **Bee Death**

Monsanto, Monsanto  
like the world's  
evil beekeeper  
blowing  
toxic smoke  
into the hives:  
bees lose their way  
back to the combs  
back to the queen  
and the queen dies alone  
-Susan Gubernat



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# Texts/Translations

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## Kačena divoká

Kačena divoká letěla z vysoka,  
šohaj dobrý střelec střelil ji do boka,  
do boka levého pod pravú nožičku.

The wild duck flew on high,  
The young lad, a good marksman,  
shot her in the side, just under the  
right foot.

Ona zaplakala, sedňa na vodičku;  
hořko zaplakala, na Boha zvolala:  
Ach Bože, Rozbože, už jsem  
dolétala.

Crying, she settled upon the water;  
she wept with grief and cried out to  
God: Oh God, dear God, I will no  
longer fly.

Ubohá kačica, už jsem dolétala,  
už jsem svá káčátka, už jsem  
dochovala.

I, poor duck, will never more fly,  
I will not raise my ducklings.

Moje drobné děti nedělajů škody;  
sednú na Dunaju,  
kalnú vodu pijú tvrdý písek jedá.

My little children, they do nothing to  
anyone; they sit on the Danube,  
they drink turbid water, they eat  
hard sand.

Vy drobná káčátka, polette vy za  
mnoú.  
Šak velkému Dunaju!

You little ducklings, fly with me.  
We will fly to the great Danube!

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# Texts/Translations

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## Nymphe des Bois

[Latin] Requiem aeternam dona eis  
Domine  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon  
them.

[French] Nymphes des bois, deesses  
des fontaines,  
Chantres experts de toutes nations,  
Changez vos voix fors claires et  
haultaines  
En cris trenchans et lamentations,  
Car Atropos tres terrible satrappe  
Votre Ockeghem atrappe en sa  
trappe,  
Vray tresorier de musique et chef  
doeuvre,  
Doct elegant de corps et non point  
trappe,  
Grant domaige est que la terre le  
couvre.

Wood-nymphs, goddesses of the  
fountains,  
Skilled singers of every nation,  
Turn your voices, so clear and lofty,

To piercing cries and lamentation  
Because Atropos, terrible satrap,  
Has caught your Ockeghem in her  
trap,

The true treasurer of music and master,

Learned, handsome and by no means  
stout.

It is a source of great sorrow that the  
earth must cover him.

Acoultres vous dhabis de doeuil,  
Josquin Piersson Brumel Comper,  
Et ploures grosses larmes doeuil,  
Perdu aves votre bon pere.

Put on the clothes of mourning,  
Josquin, Pierre de la Rue, Brumel,  
Compère,  
And weep great tears from your eyes,  
For you have lost your good father.

[Latin] Requiescant in pace.

May they rest in peace.  
Amen.

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# Texts/Translations

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## Ye Sacred Muses

Ye sacred Muses, race of Jove,  
whom Music's lore delighteth,  
Come down from crystal heav'ns above  
to earth where sorrow dwelleth,  
In mourning weeds, with tears in eyes:  
Tallis is dead, and Music dies.  
-Anon.



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# Texts/Translations

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## Acquainted With the Night

I have been one acquainted with the night.  
I have walked out in rain—and back in rain.  
I have outwalked the furthest city light.  
I have looked down the saddest city lane.  
I have passed by the watchman on his beat  
And dropped my eyes, unwilling to explain.  
I have stood still and stopped the sound of feet  
When far away an interrupted cry  
Came over houses from another street,  
But not to call me back or say good-by;  
And further still at an unearthly height,  
One luminary clock against the sky  
Proclaimed the time was neither wrong nor right.  
I have been one acquainted with the night.

-Robert Frost

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# Texts/Translations

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## Sleep

The evening hangs beneath the moon,  
a silver thread on darkened dune.  
With closing eyes and resting head;  
I know that sleep is coming soon.

Upon my pillow, safe in bed,  
A thousand pictures fill my head,  
I cannot sleep, my mind's aflight;  
And yet my limbs seems made of lead.

If there are noises in the night,  
A frightening shadow, Flickerering light;  
Then I surrender unto sleep,  
Where clouds of dream give second sight.

What dreams may come,  
Both dark and deep--  
Of flying wings and soaring leap?  
As I surrender unto sleep.  
-Charles Anthony Silvestri

# 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

Dance, Music, and Theatre are a vital, central part of the Drexel academia and student life. Donations support performing arts ensembles and programs, as well as the operation of our performing arts venues, including the Mandell Theater and URBN Annex Black Box Theater.

**Celebrate the arts with a gift to Drexel Performing Arts today!**

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# **Drexel University Department of Performing Arts Staff**

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## **Department Head**

Dr. Miriam Giguere

## **Program Directors**

Luke Abruzzo

Music

Nick Anselmo

Theatre

Jennifer Morley

Dance

## **Administrative Staff**

Ellie Ebby

Department Assistant

Hannah Burke

Department Administrator

Caroline Leipf

Mandell Theater Managing Director

Cece Hill

Performing Arts Graduate Assistant

Liv Shoup

Audience Services Coordinator

Lauren Tracy

Ensemble Production Associate

## **Production Staff**

Paul Jerue

Theatre Production Manager/Black Box Theater Technical Director

Asaki Kuruma

Costume Shop Manager

Chris Totoro

Mandell Theater Technical Director

# Upcoming Performing Arts Events

## **DREXEL DANCE ENSEMBLE WINTER PERFORMANCE**

February 7, 2025 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

February 8, 2025 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

## **FRESHDANCE WINTER PERFORMANCE**

February 6, 2025 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

February 8, 2025 | 2:00 PM | Mandell Theater

## **MANTUA THEATER PROJECT: THE SUPER POWER PLAYS!**

February 14, 2025 | 7:00 PM | URBN Annex Black Box Theater

February 15, 2025 | 2:00 PM | URBN Annex Black Box Theater

February 15, 2025 | 7:00 PM | URBN Annex Black Box Theater

Learn more about our upcoming events:

[drexel.edu/performingarts](https://drexel.edu/performingarts)



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