

UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

MCINTIRE DEPARTMENT of **music**

presents

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
**CHAMBER
SINGERS**
CONDUCTED BY MICHAEL SLON

Fall Concert 2021

Choral Music from Broadway

Deke Polifka, Piano

Additional staging by Bob Chapel

Friday, November 19, 2021

8:00 pm

Old Cabell Hall

Program

Our Time <i>Merrily We Roll Along</i>	Stephen Sondheim arr. Michael Slon
At the End of the Day <i>Les Misérables</i>	Boublil/Schönberg
Another Day of Sun <i>La La Land</i>	Hurlitz/Pasek/Paul arr. Jacob Naverud
Student solos - announced from stage	
Chant & Alleluia <i>The Sound of Music</i>	Rodgers/Hammerstein
All the Things you Are <i>Very Warm for May</i>	Jerome Kern arr. Janet Whitcomb Pummil
Somewhere <i>West Side Story</i>	Leonard Bernstein arr. William Stickles
Student solos - announced from stage	
Beautiful City <i>Godspell</i>	Stephen Schwartz arr. Mac Huff
Sunday <i>Sunday in the Park with George</i>	Stephen Sondheim
You Will be Found <i>Dear Evan Hansen</i>	Pasek/Paul arr. Mac Huff

UVA Chamber Singers

Michael Slon, Director

Deke Polifka, Accompanist

Miles Jackson & Maddy Martin, Student Managers

Sopranos

Rachel Bohannon
Elise Ebert
Amanda Hellwig
Eleanor Jacobson
Julianne Jaegle
Rose Kelly
Meaghan Nuckols
Cathryn Palmer
Talia Pirron

Altos

Audrey Blanchard
Anya Faruki
Lily Frautschi
Ebonie Johnson
Amanda Kopf
Maddy Martin
Isabella Mehrotra
Emi Miyazaki
Julia Preston
Caroline Roden
Holly Teti

Tenors

Joshua Eiger
Jesse Hernandez
Miles Jackson
Patrick Kilgannon
Matt Lyons
Noah McIntire
Ben Trombetta

Basses

Andrew Alexis
Brian Christner
Kevin Duan
Andy Heil
Jack Siegel

Student solo selections

Rachel Bohannon – Burn (*Hamilton*, Lin-Manuel Miranda)

Joshua Eiger – Johanna (*Sweeney Todd*, Stephen Sondheim)

Miles Jackson – So in Love (*Kiss Me, Kate*, Cole Porter)

Eleanor Jacobson – Soprano-land (Andrew Byrne)

Julia Preston – He Knew That (*Peace by Piece*, Vaheed Ali Talebian)

Jack Siegel – Some Enchanted Evening (*South Pacific*, Rodgers/Hammerstein)

UVA Chamber Singers

Founded in 2005 and conducted by Michael Slon, the University of Virginia Chamber Singers is a select ensemble drawn from the University Singers, and performs a wide variety of music for chamber choir ranging from early music to contemporary compositions. In addition to their performance for the Governor and other distinguished guests at UVA's 2017 Bicentennial Cornerstone Celebration, recent performances have included Britten's *Hymn to St. Cecilia*, Vivaldi's *Magnificat*, Copland's *In the Beginning*, Allegri's *Miserere*, Pärt's *Magnificat*, Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Love Songs*, Lauridsen's *Mid-Winter Songs*, Glass's *Three Songs*, a program of choral music from film, and Bach's *Mass in B minor* with the University Singers. In addition, the group has performed popular standards by Harold Arlen, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, and the Beatles; a spoof concert of P.D.Q. Bach; new music by Meredith Monk (with the Meredith Monk Vocal Ensemble), Matthew Burtner, and Eric Whitacre; and a program of Latin American music with works by Ginastera, Chávez, Matamoros, and Villa-Lobos.

In 2014, the Chamber Singers were honored to perform for composer Philip Glass during his UVA Arts Board Residency, and in spring 2015 were heard on tour in Europe with the University Singers, including for Evensong with the Jesus College Choir at Cambridge University. In 2012, they participated in a workshop with Peter Phillips, director of the world famous Tallis Scholars, and in 2010, the ensemble made its first appearances at the Staunton Music Festival, including a performance with Grammy-award winning baritone Kevin McMillan. They have also collaborated on multiple occasions with Three Notch'd Road, Charlottesville's professional Baroque ensemble, and with the Charlottesville Chamber Music Festival in a 2018 performance of Peteris Vasks' *Plainscapes*. The 2021-2022 season includes a program of Choral Music from Broadway on Nov. 19 in Old Cabell Hall, and a special collaboration at the Strathmore Music Center.

For more information visit: <http://music.virginia.edu/chamber-singers>

Auditions: Auditions for the Chamber Singers take place at the beginning of each semester

To make a gift: <https://www.givecampus.com/campaigns/21729/donations/new> or write the ensemble at: university-singers@virginia.edu

Michael Slon



Active as a conductor of choral, orchestral, and operatic/musical theatre repertoire, Michael Slon is Director of Choral Music and Professor at the University of Virginia, where he leads the University Singers, UVA Chamber Singers and also guest conducts the Charlottesville Symphony. Having led the University Singers and Charlottesville Symphony in a gala performance for UVA's 2017 Bicentennial Lanch Celebration (which included Copland's *Appalachian Spring* with the Martha Graham Dance

Company), he and the Singers presented theregional premiere of Leonard Bernstein's *Mass* at UVA in 2018. His UVA ensembles have also performed for composer Philip Glass and the creators of *Les Misérables*, taken a two-week European concert tour, and received more than half a million views on social media platforms. During the pandemic, he has likewise remained committed both to the fundamental values of the choral art, and to developing new platforms to engage singers and audiences, including the 2020 virtual Family Holiday Concert, and master classes with distinguished artists including Alice Parker, Jake Runestad, and Eric Whitacre.

Since 2011, he has also served as Music Director of the Oratorio Society of Virginia. In that time, he has created a series of new artistic partnerships with the chorus, including a 2014 semi-staged production of Bernstein's *Candide* with Ash Lawn (now Charlottesville) Opera, performances with regional orchestras and youth choruses, an Adolphus Hailstork-Rita Dove commission for the group's 50th anniversary (later featured on regional PBS), and a Community Sing-In to benefit local charities. He has also participated regionally as an artist with the Heritage Theatre Festival, Charlottesville Chamber Music Festival, Staunton Music Festival and Wintergreen Performing Arts Festival, and as a musician committed to the education of young musicians, remains active as a guest conductor for honors choirs and orchestras.

Prior to UVA, he served as visiting conducting faculty at the Oberlin Conservatory, and assistant conductor of the Cornell University choruses and Cincinnati's May Festival Chorus, where he prepared and co-prepared choruses for concerts with the Cleveland Orchestra and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. His ensembles have worked with artists including Moses Hogan, Bobby McFerrin, Meredith Monk, Peter Phillips, and Franz Welser-Möst,

and commissioned composers including Stephen Paulus, Forrest Pierce, Adolphus Hailstork, Eric Whitacre, and Judith Shatin. Also a pianist, composer, and writer, he holds degrees from the Indiana University School of Music and Cornell University. His first book, *Songs from the Hill*, has been cited in a variety of other publications, and his work on Leonard Bernstein has recently appeared in the *Choral Journal* and also won the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) Julius Herford Prize. As a composer, he has had work presented by the Vocalis Chamber Choir in concert at NYC's Merkin Hall, and at the 2018 ACDA Eastern Convention.

Deke Prolifka



Deke Polifka is Director of Music at St. Paul's Memorial Church (Episcopal) on The Corner, where his duties include directing choirs for children and adults, serving as principal organist, and overseeing all aspects of the parish's music. Deke accompanies the University Singers and Chamber Choir at UVA, and has enjoyed recent collaborations

with The Oratorio Society of Virginia and The Virginia Consort. Previously, Deke served for eleven years as Organist and Choirmaster at Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Colorado Springs, and was Assistant Conductor and accompanist for The Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble.

An active performer, he has presented organ recitals in venues such as the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, and has appeared with orchestra for performances of Barber's *Toccata Festiva*, the Poulenc *Concerto* and organ symphonies by Widor and Guilmant. Deke holds degrees in piano performance from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, and earned an Artist Diploma in Organ Performance from The University of Denver. In 2013, he spent a summer sabbatical in France, playing many of the significant instruments in and around Paris and studying French organ repertoire with Marie-Louise Langlais. Deke is an Associate of the American Guild of Organists (AAGO) and has served in various leadership positions for that organization. He and his wife Joyce have three children and very much like spending time outdoors, cooking, and making music together.

Upcoming Choral Events

Family Holiday Concerts

With the Charlottesville Symphony and UVA University Singers
Saturday December 4, 8:00 pm & Sunday December 5,
3:30 pm, Old Cabell Hall

UVA Chamber Singers

Collaborative Defiant Requiem project - Verdi *Requiem*
Wednesday April 20, Strathmore Music Center (MD)
(tickets for this event will not be available through UVA)

University Singers & Oratorio Society of Virginia

Rachmaninoff *All-Night Vigil (Vespers)*
Friday April 29, St. Thomas Aquinas Church

For tickets, visit:

<https://artsboxoffice.virginia.edu/> | (434) 924-3376

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THE
Oratorio
SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA *returns to*
Live Performance

CHRISTMAS AT THE PARAMOUNT
Saturday, December 18th, 2021
2:30 PM and 7:30 PM
Tickets, until Dec. 1: \$45, \$29, \$23, \$10 - Student

for more information:
WWW.ORATORIOSOCIETY.ORG