# DARK NESSTO LIGHT

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY CHOIRS MARCH 24-25, 2023 Singing Quakers Home Concert 2023 Rayvon T. J. Moore, conductor

## DARKNESS TO LIGHT

### PROGRAM The Singing Quakers Rayvon T. J. Moore, conductor

Eli, Eli	György-Deák-Bárdos	
Ave Maria	Javier Busto	
Noche oscura del alma	Carlos Surinach	
This Little Light of Mine	Moses Hogan	
Chenille Hawkins and Adelynn Hobbs, soloists		

Can We Sing the Darkness to Light? ......Kyle Pederson Salma Peña, student conductor

Light of a Clear Blue Morning ......Dolly Parton/arr. Craig Hella Johnson Faith Cox, soloist

Hymne au soleil.....Lili Boulanger Naomi Cavanaugh, soloist

Rise, Shine! ..... Marques L.A. Garrett and Tom Trenney Lux Arumque .....Eric Whitacre "Aeterna lux, divinitas" (Carmina mei cordis) ...... Abbie Betinis Hannah Howard, soloist

Alleluia		Jake	Runestad
True Light		Keith	Hampton
Sal	ma Peña and Zach	Garraway, soloists	

## PERSONNEL

#### FRIENDS UNIVERSITY SINGING QUAKERS Dr. Rayvon T. J. Moore, conductor Dr. Jamie Knight, collaborative pianist

- Soprano 1 Sarah Pressnell Naomi Cavanaugh\* Adelynn Hobbs Salma Peña Ali Kells Madyson Groves Chenille Hawkins
- Soprano 2 Katie Grief Faith Cox\* Riley Denning Zoey Tauanu'u KJ Reinke Rachel Mullen Lucy Enns
- Alto 1 Hannah Howard\* Elizabeth Yeremin Faven Simmons Carson Linenberger Mia Krebs
- Alto 2 Gretchen Otter Kierra McGuire Brenda Shenk\* Sydney Roeder Sydney Nelson Gemma Watts Emily Kreis

- Tenor 1 Joshua Kelley Braden Sweet\* Nick Wetta Davis Green Zach Garraway
- Tenor 2 Dillon Boldt\* Dimante McLeod Jake Withrow Jonah Schloneger Lorenz Looney
- Bass 1 Nate Brightup\* Joshua Loucks Jarod Daniel Brandon Rose
- Bass 2 Alex Grier Adam Tillberg Adin Gilmore\* Michael Jabara

\*section leader

## TRANSLATIONS

#### Eli, Eli (My God, My God)

About the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? - Matthew 27:46

#### Ave Maria (Hail Mary)

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

#### Noche oscura del alma (Dark night of the soul)

On a dark night, Kindled in love with yearnings –oh, happy chance!– I went forth without being observed, My house being now at rest.

In darkness and secure, By the secret ladder, disguised –oh, happy chance!– In darkness and in concealment, My house being now at rest.

In the happy night, In secret, when none saw me, Nor I beheld aught, Without light or guide, save that which burned in my heart.

This light guided me More surely than the light of noonday To the place where he (well I knew who!) was awaiting me– A place where none appeared. Oh, night that guided me, Oh, night more lovely than the dawn, Oh, night that joined Beloved with lover, Lover transformed in the Beloved!

Upon my flowery breast, Kept wholly for himself alone, There he stayed sleeping, and I caressed him, And the fanning of the cedars made a breeze.

The breeze blew from the turret As I parted his locks; With his gentle hand he wounded my neck And caused all my senses to be suspended.

I remained, lost in oblivion; My face I reclined on the Beloved. All ceased and I abandoned myself, Leaving my cares forgotten among the lilies.

**Hymne au soleil** (Hymn to the sun) Let us bless the power of the reborn sun. With all the universe let us celebrate its return. Crowned with splendor, it rises, it soars. The waking of the earth is a hymn of love. Seven rushing steeds that the God scarcely holds back Ignite the horizon with their scorching breath.

Oh, vivid sun, you appear! With its fields in bloom, its mountains, its thick forests, The vast sea set ablaze by your fires, The universe, younger and fresher, With morning vapors are glistening with dew.

#### Lux Auruque (Light and Gold)

Light, warm and heavy as pure gold and angels sing softly to the new-born babe.

#### Aeterna lux, divinitas (Eternal Light, Divinity)

Eternal Light, Divinity, O Unity in Trinity, Thy holy name Thy servants bless, to Thee we pray, and Thee confess. Alleluia!

- O Father, Source of God the Word,
- O Word with Him co-equal Lord,
- O Spirit of like majesty,
- O Triune God, all praise to Thee. Alleluia!

Thou First and Last, from whom there springs the Fount of all created things, Thou art the Life which moves the whole, sure hope of each believing soul. Alleluia!

O Verity! O Charity! O Ending and Felicity! in Thee we hope, in Thee believe, Thyself we love, to Thee we cleave.

Thou who alone the world hast made, art still its one sufficing aid, the only Light for gazing eyes, and, unto them that hope, the Prize. Alleluia!

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

President Amy Bragg Carey Dr. Nathanael May Alyssa Whalen Bob Hett Jarod Daniel

## BIOGRAPHY

**Dr. Rayvon T. J. Moore – Friends University, Director of Choral Studies** A Southern California native, Rayvon T. J. Moore, is a conductor, educator, and baritone who has been lauded for his energetic, yet sensitive conducting and his rich baritone voice. Moore serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Friends University and as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Wichita Chamber Chorale. At Friends, he conducts the internationally renowned Singing Quakers, in addition to teaching courses in conducting, choral methods, and applied voice.

In 2015 Moore received the Graduate Equity Fellowship at California State University, Fullerton and in 2016 he was the recipient of the Mu Phi Epsilon Foundation's, Foncannon Choral Conducting Grant, for his academic and conducting excellence. In April of 2017, he was awarded the Elliot and Kathleen Alexander Memorial Scholarship from Pacific Chorale for excellence in choral conducting. He has participated as a conducting fellow in several workshops including Chorus America's Conducting Academy, the National Collegiate Choral Organization's Conducting Fellowship program, the University of Michigan's Choral Conducting Symposium and others.

Being a versatile performer, he has sung back up for The Rolling Stones, Barry Manilow, Patti Austin, Andrea Bocelli, Kathleen Battle and Deborah Voigt. Moore can be heard on the album "John Williams & Steven Spielberg: The Ultimate Collection" recorded with Sony Classical. He has sung under the baton of Helmuth Rilling, John Williams, Jeffery Kahane, Carl St. Clair, James Conlon, Grant Gershon, Marvin Hamlisch and others. As a conductor/soloist, he has premiered works by composers such as Christopher Tin, Stacey V. Gibbs, Seth Houston and many more.

His conducting mentors include William Weinert, Robert Istad, Donald Brinegar, Brad Lubman, Joel Pressman, Jo-Michael Scheibe, Cristian Grases, Mark Scatterday, and Neil Varon. As a conducting fellow at several programs, Moore has worked with Ann Howard Jones, John Alexander, Jerry Blackstone, David Hayes, and Daniel Bara, He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Choral Music from the University of Southern California, a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from California State University, Fullerton, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting from the Eastman School of Music.

Moore specializes in topics on conducting gesture and musical interpretation. He has held faculty positions at Colgate University, Hamilton, NY; Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY; The Young Musicians Foundation, Los Angeles, CA; The Saturday Conservatory of Music, Pasadena; CA and Esperanza Azteca Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles. He has also served as Associate Conductor of the Eastman-Rochester Chorus and Chorale, Assistant Conductor for California State University Fullerton's Opera, Concert Choir and Women's Choir, as well as the Assistant Conductor of the Donald Brinegar Singers.

He is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, Chorus America, National Collegiate Choral Organization, the National Association for Music Education, and is sought after as a guest conductor, clinician, speaker, and adjudicator.

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