For the convenience of concertgoers the Garden Café remains open until 6:00 pm.

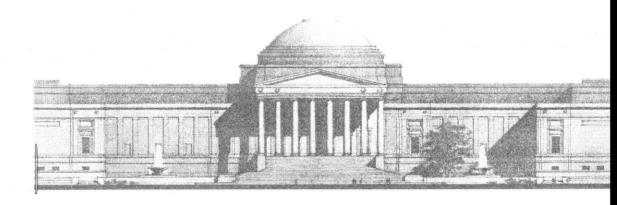
The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that late entry or reentry of the West Building after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

Music Department National Gallery of Art Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue พพ Washington, DC

Mailing address
2000B South Club Drive
Landover, MD 20785

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# The Sixty-sixth Season of The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin

# Concerts

National Gallery of Art 2,656th Concert

# Central Bucks High School-West Chamber Choir and Men's Choir

Joseph Ohrt, artistic director and conductor Karen P. Burgman, pianist

Presented in honor of Let the World In:

Prints by Robert Rauschenberg from the National Gallery

of Art and Related Collections

January 27, 2008 Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

This concert is made possible in part by support from the Royal Norwegian Embassy

# Program

Stephen Caldwell

Cardboard (2007)

For mixed choir and cardboard

World Premiere Performance

John Cage (1912–1992) *Four*<sup>2</sup> (1990) For mixed choir

Matthew Samson

Note on Rauschenberg (2007)

For mixed choir, solo ensemble, prepared piano, and optional continuo

World Premiere Performance

John Cage 4'33" (1952) For mixed choir, chamber orchestra, and ballerina

John Cage o'oo" (1962) For solo performer

John Cage
Water Music (1952)
For piano, radio, whistles, water containers, deck of cards, wooden stick, and prepared piano

#### INTERMISSION

John Cage

The Year Begins to Be Ripe

From Song Books, volume 1 (1970)

For men's choir and closed piano

Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird (2007)

For men's choir, piano, and dice

- 1. Matthew Harris, Among twenty snowy mountains
- 2. Jonathan Miller, I was of three minds
- 3. Libby Larsen, The blackbird whirled in the autumn winds
- 4. Stephen Hatfield, A man and a woman
- 5. Stephen Paulus, I do not know which to prefer
- 6. Eleanor Daley, Icicles filled the long window
- 7. Jaakko Mäntyjärvi, O thin men of Haddam
- 8. Daniel Gawthrop, I know noble accents
- 9. Rollo Dilworth, When the blackbird flew out of sight
- 10. Meuryn Hughes, At the sight of blackbirds
- 11. Ola Gjeilo, He rode over Connecticut
- 12. David Conte, The river is moving
- 13. Tarik O'Regan, It was evening all afternoon

World Premiere Performance

Ola Gjeilo

Pulchra es (2007)

For a cappella mixed choir

World Premiere Performance

Joseph Ohrt

Collage (2007)

For mixed choir, film, recorded parakeets, alto saxophone,

dramatic reader, and dancer

World Premiere Performance

## The Musicians

### CENTRAL BUCKS HIGH SCHOOL-WEST CHAMBER CHOIR AND MEN'S CHOIR

The eight performing choirs of Central Bucks High School-West comprise one of the most respected choral programs in the United States. Having presented almost 300 world premieres of works by North American composers in the last fourteen years, West choirs have served as pioneers of and advocates for contemporary composition. The choirs have performed frequently in Washington at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Lincoln Memorial, the National Cathedral, the Pentagon, the Washington Temple, and the White House. They have sung in prestigious venues in Boston, Chicago, New York City, Philadelphia, and Toronto as well as at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France. West Choirs have worked under the batons of world-famous conductors Frank Albinder, Charles Bruffy, Joseph Flummerfelt, Dennis Keene, Bobby McFerrin, Weston Noble, John Rutter, and Dale Warland. The choir has performed in collaboration with actors F. Murray Abraham, Leonard Nimoy, and Alan Thicke, and the world-renowned men's choir, Chanticleer.

The singers are assisted in tonight's concert by Courtney Bradley, dancer, Jarrett Gilgore, alto saxophonist, Matthew Samson, pianist, and Samuel Malriat, videographer.

Sopranos Altos

Emily Cossolini Elizabeth Marie Damuth

Annabelle Blair Garcia Katrina Duva
Meagan Elisabeth Gunning Jillian Klueber
Kate Guthrie Carolyn Laquer
Emma N. Jenkins Alyssa Luong
Emily A. Schofield Sara Pearson

Tayler Trottier Anna M. Saurman

Julia Strauss

Kimberlee A. Yates

Tenors Basses

Ryan L. Brinkmann Corey Allen

Matthew Carlson Patrick Perry Bagnick

Antonio C. DeAngelo Andrew C. Besu

Steve Farley Sean Bernard Cook

Maxwell Lapides Lucas M. Dangler

Samuel Malriat Benjamin Gioia Lembo

William Metzler Benjamin Matus Kenneth Moore Luke A. Mellevoi Juddson Poeske Gentry A. Nielson

Collin Schamp Regan Elliott

James Scott Steven Rocco Schollenberger

John H. Senyard Brian Serpico
Tyler Washington Taylor Vozniak

Alex Phoenix Wright

## JOSEPH OHRT

Artistic director, conductor, and composer Joseph Ohrt serves as director of choral activities and chairman of the music department at Central Bucks High School-West in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. His unique teaching style has not only challenged thousands of students over the years but has also inspired an unprecedented number of collaborations with composers around the globe. The Joseph Ohrt Choral Series, published by Santa Barbara Music Publishing in California, is available throughout the world. Ohrt is a contributing author to a new seminal text on secondary choral music education that will be released by GIA Publications in the spring. He is the choral arranger for a new musical by Christopher Smith, Amazing Grace: the True Story. He holds bachelor and master of music degrees from Westminster Choir College of Rider University, and a doctor of musical arts degree from the University of South Carolina. He has also earned a teaching certificate from the Kodàly Musical Training Institute at the University of Hartford and an Artist/Teacher Diploma from the Choral Music Experience Institute at Northern Illinois University. He studied under master teachers

Joseph Flummerfelt, Frauke Haasemann, Margaret Hillis, Dennis Keene, Doreen Rao, and Gregg Smith. Ohrt has served as an adjunct faculty member at University of South Carolina and Westminster Choir College and as a choral conductor at the Westminster Vocal Institute and the Csehy Summer School of Music in Langhorne, Pennsylvania.

#### KAREN P. BURGMAN

Pianist Karen P. Burgman graduated from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music in 2005 with a bachelor of music degree in performance. She has performed as a soloist in venues such as Jordan Hall in Boston, Reith Recital Hall in Goshen, Indiana, and the Toronto Center for the Performing Arts. She has performed works commissioned in her honor and premiered other solo piano works, including the United States premiere of *Five Short Preludes* by Anthony Hopkins. Burgman has also performed on period pianos at both the Finchcocks Estate Piano Collection in England and the Frederick Early Piano Collection in Massachusetts. Her principal teachers and mentors include Sandra Carlock, James Howsmon, Sanford Margolis, Stephen Moore, Joseph Ohrt, and Peter Slowik.

Stephen Caldwell appears nationally as a singer, conductor, choral composer, and arranger. His original compositions and arrangements have been performed throughout Canada, Taiwan, and the United States by middle school, high school, university, community, and professional choral ensembles. His works have received premieres at the conventions of the American Choral Directors Association, the Music Educators National Conference, the National Collegiate Choral Organization, and the University of North Carolina at Greeley Jazz Festival. He is the music director of the Temple University Children's Choir and at Philadelphia Central High School. He is currently working on a commission of his first symphonic work for the Philomusica Ensemble, for which he is composer-in-residence.

The music of composer and pianist Ola Gjeilo has been performed and recorded in more than twenty countries worldwide in venues such as Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall, and Scandinavia House in New York City, the concert House in Olso, and the Gustaf Vasa Church in Stockholm. His publishers include Walton Music, Oxford University Press, and Musikk-Huset. Born in Norway in 1978, Gjeilo began studying jazz, classical piano, and composition at the age of seven. After attending the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo and the Royal College of Music in London, he completed his master of music degree in composition at The Juilliard School of Music in 2006.

Matthew Samson is currently a sophomore composition student at Westminster Choir College. He began composing in 2004, but his music has already been performed across the United States and in Canada, in such notable venues as the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, Chicago's Fourth Presbyterian Church, the Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts, and the White House. In addition to composing, Samson enjoys singing, playing the piano, taking long walks on the beach, and sleeping for long periods of time.

Two-time National Endowment for the Arts fellowship recipient Matthew Harris is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music and Harvard University. His works include a full-length opera, *Tess* (2000), and *Starry Night: Seven Paintings for Violin, Cello, and Piano* (1984).

Jonathan Miller, the founder and artistic director of Chicago a cappella, holds a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has written and arranged more than forty choral works for professional, community, church, synagogue, and school ensembles. A recipient of the Joseph Randall Shapiro Award, Miller serves on the Musical Advisory Board of the Chicago Children's Choir.

Libby Larsen, born in 1950 in Wilmington, Delaware, is one of America's most prolific and widely performed composers. *USA Today* hailed her as "the only English-speaking composer since Benjamin Britten who matches great verse with fine music so intelligently and expressively."

Canadian composer Stephen Hatfield has taught band, chorus, stage band, vocal jazz, guitar, keyboard, steel drum, and music appreciation. He is known for his arrangements of world music and for original works that weave influences from diverse cultures into a fresh and distinctive idiom.

Stephen Paulus' music has been described by critics and program annotators as rugged, angular, lyrical, lean, rhythmically aggressive, original, often gorgeous, moving, and uniquely American. He has received commissions from the symphony orchestras of Atlanta, Cleveland Orchestra, Dallas, The Houston, and Minnesota as well as from the New York Philharmonic and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Eleanor Daley studied the organ at Queen's University, the Royal Conservatory of Toronto, and Trinity College, England. The winner of three first place awards in the Amadeus Choir Carol Competition, she has been the director of music at Fairlawn Heights United Church, Toronto, since 1982.

Finnish composer Jaakko Mäntyjärvi describes himself as an eclectic traditionalist. He is currently employed as a translator and computer systems manager at The English Centre Helsinki. He has also studied music

theory and choir conducting at the Sibelius Academy. He conducted the Savolaisen Osakunnan Laulajat student choir from 1988 to 1993 and was deputy conductor of the Tapiola Chamber Choir from 1998 to 2004.

Daniel Gawthrop was born in 1949 in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He has received four grants from The Barlow Endowment for Musical Composition, and more than 200 commissions from dozens of institutions, including the American Choral Directors Association. He served for three years as composer-in-residence to the Fairfax (Virginia) Symphony Orchestra.

Rollo Dilworth is assistant professor of music and director of the choral program at North Park University in Chicago, where he has taught since 1996. A recipient of the doctor of musical arts degree from Northwestern University, he serves as conductor of the North Park University Gospel Choir and the University Choir. His published choral music emphasizes spirituals and gospel-inspired works.

Composer and conductor Meuryn Hughes is the grandson of Welsh composer Arwel Hughes. Recently named conductor of Wales' world-famous Treorchy Male Choir, he also conducts his own Regency Symphony Orchestra and has guest-conducted the Royal Holloway College Chamber Orchestra and the Neruda Orchestra. He has composed the scores for four films, and has received commissions from choirs around the world representing distinct choral traditions.

David Conte has been a professor of composition at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music since 1985 and composer-in-residence with the San Francisco avant-garde theater company Thick Description since 1990. Conte studied with Nadia Boulanger, Karel Husa, and Steven Stucky, and has served on the faculties of Colgate University, Cornell University, and the Interlochen Center for the Arts.

British composer Tarik O'Regan was born in London and educated at both Oxford and Cambridge, where he was appointed composer-in-residence at Corpus Christi College. Described as "beautifully imagined" by the *Financial Times*, his compositions have been performed by the BBC Singers, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the London Sinfonietta, and the Los Angeles Master Chorale, among others.

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Next Week at the National Gallery of Art

The Hugo Wolf Quartet

String Quartets by Schubert and Wolf

February 3, 2008 Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm West Building, West Garden Court