



Vermont Youth Orchestra Association  
Troy Peters, Music Director

*“Life, Love & Destiny”*

**Vermont Youth Orchestra Chorus  
& Vermont Youth Concert Chorale  
Spring Concert**

*Jeffrey Buettner, conductor  
Samantha Angstman, accompanist*

*Thursday, April 16 at 8:00 pm  
Elley-Long Music Center at Saint Michael’s College*

*Friday, April 17 at 8:00 pm  
Mahaney Center for the Arts, Middlebury College*

**VYO Chorus & Vermont Youth Concert Chorale**  
**Jeffrey Buettner, conductor**  
**Samantha Angstman, accompanist**

**Vermont Youth Concert Chorale**

**The Lonesome Dove**

*Appalachian Folk Song*  
*Arr. David Eddleman*

**Cantique de Jean Racine, Op. 11**

*Gabriel Fauré*  
*Text, Jean Racine (1639-1699)*

○ Word, equal to the Most High, our only hope, Eternal Light of the earth and heavens, we break the silence of the peaceful night [with this song.]  
Divine Savior, cast your eyes upon us.

Spread over us the fire of your mighty grace, so that all evil might flee at the sound of your voice. Dispel the sleep of a languishing spirit that leads it to forget your laws.

○ Christ, look favorably upon this faithful people, assembled now to bless you. Receive the songs they offer to your immortal glory, and by your gifts may they return, fulfilled!

**Shiru**

*Allan Naplan*

Sing a new song; sing, shout all the earth  
Break forth, sing aloud, and play music;

Let the heavens rejoice; let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and all that is in it; let the trees of the forest sing for joy; let the rivers clap hands; let the mountains sing for joy

Sing a new song; sing shout all the earth; sing a new song; SING!

**Wayfarin' Stranger**

*American Folk Song*  
*Arr. Reginald Unterseher*

**The Tiger**

*Lauren Bernofsky*

**The Water is Wide (Waly, Waly)**

*Scottish Folk Song*  
*Arr. Ruth Elaine Schram*

**Nishka Banya**

*Serbian Folk Song*  
*Arr. Nick Page*

Let's go down to the banks of the Nis [river] where we will kiss, kiss, kiss!

**INTERMISSION**

## Vermont Youth Orchestra Chorus

### **Pavane, Op. 50**

*Gabriel Fauré*

*Text, Count Robert Montesquiou-Fezensac (1855-1921)*

*Kelly Hermann, flute*

It is Lindor! It is Tircies! And they are all our conquerors! It is Myrtil! It is Lydé!: the queens of our hearts. How seductive they are! How proud they always are! How they are to reign over our destinies and our days!

“Pay attention! Keep in step!” Oh, the lethal insult! The pace is faster and the fall more certain.

We will stifle their gossip! Soon we will be their slaves! They are so ugly—but yet they have dear, sweet faces! They are so mad—but so coquettish!

And it is always the same and thus it is always! They love themselves! They hate themselves! They curse their love affairs! Farewell, Myrtil, Égle, Chloé! You scoffing demons! Thus it is “farewell” and “good riddance” to the tyrants of our hearts! And “good riddance!”

### **Animal Crackers**

*Eric Whitacre*

*Text, Ogden Nash (1902 - 1971)*

The Panther

The panther is like a leopard, Except it hasn't been peppered. Should you behold a panther crouch, Prepare to say, “Ouch.” Better yet, if called by a panther, Don't anther.

The Cow

The cow is of bovine ilk; One end is moo, the other is milk.

The Firefly

The firefly's flame Is something for which science has no name. I can think of nothing eerier Than flying around with an unidentified glow on a person's posterior.

### **Song of Destiny (“Schicksalslied”), Op.54**

*Johannes Brahms*

*Text, Friedrich Hölderlein (1770-1843)*

You walk above in the light on soft ground, blessed spirits! Glistening, divine breezes touch you lightly, just as the fingers of the fair artist play on sacred harpstrings.

Free from fate, like the sleeping infant, celestial spirits breathe; chastely protected in its modest bud, their spirit blooms forever, and their blessed eyes gaze in calm, eternal clarity.

Yet we are given no place to rest; we suffering humans vanish and fall blindly from one hour to the next, like water flung from cliff to cliff endlessly down into the unknown.

### **Buffalo Gals**

*American Folk Song*

*Arr. Bob Chilcott*

## Notes on the Program by Jeffrey Buettner

Our spring concert is a collection of songs, a program that combines modern folk song arrangements with art song of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Concert Chorale program alternates between these genres, and features a relatively new works by Alan Naplan and Lauren Bernofsky. *Cantique de Jean Racine* was written in 1865, when the nineteen or twenty year old Gabriel Fauré was a student, and with it won the composition prize at the École Niedermeyer in Paris (a conservatory founded by Louis Niedermeyer to function independently of the Paris Conservatoire). The author of the text, Jean Racine (1639-1699) wrote mostly for the theater, but his *Cantique* is a free translation of a hymn by Saint Ambrose (340-391). Naplan's *Shiru* brings rhythmic vitality to the program, as does Bernofsky's imaginative setting of the fearful text by William Blake (1757-1827) in which a constantly changing time signature contributes to the startling energy of the piece. The final selection of the Concert Chorale features another type of rhythmic variety in the asymmetrical meter of Balkan dance music. *Niška Banja* is a folk song with duple-duple-duple-triple subdivision of the four basic rhythmic pulses (where much Western European folk music is uniformly divided into duple or triple subdivisions). The song flows with relentless energy as the rhythmic pattern is repeated.

*Pavane* is a product of the brilliant lyricism of Gabriel Fauré and Parisian high society of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Fauré's patron Elizabeth de Caraman Chimay, Countess Greffule was renowned in Paris for her extravagant lifestyle, and in the late 1880s she introduced Fauré to her nephew, Count Robert Montesquiou-Fezensac. The Count was an aspiring poet, a social butterfly and something of a dilettante; when Fauré completed the *Pavane*, the Countess asked if the piece might be developed as an entertainment with chorus and dancers. Fauré commissioned the Count to write the text, which is essentially modeled on the poetic style of Verlaine, a poet recognized for somewhat decadent verse and lauded for artistic quality. The Count's poem is relatively lacking in the latter, rather it is a whimsical attempt at florid, erudite 19<sup>th</sup> century romantic verse. The *Pavane* was performed with orchestra, chorus and dancers at a ball in 1888. In spite of gifts and much attention from the Count over the course of many years, Fauré never again set a text by Montesquiou and the *Pavane* is most famous now as a purely orchestral piece. The choral music is remarkably often not the chief melodic material rather, the chorus plays a role as an orchestral instrument, adding unique color and depth to the texture.

Eric Whitacre's *Animal Crackers* is a set of part songs in for voices and piano in which the composer captures the wit and humor of the poetry with music that is both character and caricature, even onomatopoeic. The music serves first to set a scenario and create an atmosphere in sound for each text. Whitacre set specific text ideas with tempo, dynamics and articulation to both accentuate the text and also allow it to be heard and understood – to deliver musical humor complementary to that of the poetry.

*Schicksalslied*, "Song of Destiny" is a combination of vivid poetic imagery and inspired musical setting by Johannes Brahms. It is most interesting to note the tone of the text itself in comparison to the affect of the music at difference places in the work. It begins with an introduction that prepares beautifully the first verse of text, describing the serenity and chaste purity of the celestial. A second section of music sets the much darker text describing

## Notes on the Program, *continued*

the plight and ultimate tragedy of humans on earth “below.” Brahms depicts images vividly in both parts, portraying “divine breezes” with lofty phrases, “harpstrings” with plucking texture and especially the darker images of falling, cliffs, and abyss. The work follows the 18<sup>th</sup> century German literary movement “Sturm und drang” (storm and stress or urge) in this respect, depicting turbulent textural imagery in equally turbulent music. The final section of the work, however, results in a conclusion quite different from that of the poem: at this point we hear a return of the music of the opening of the work, and no return of chorus and texted music. We are left with the sublime beauty of this music to close the piece.

Brahms chose not to end the work with tragedy, or even sorrow, yet neither did he return to the blissful heavenly aura of the first section of text. The music holds another dimension of meaning in the resolution of turmoil to peace, perhaps a reminder of the possibility of hope and renewal in the concept of destiny. Brahms addressed humanity in a similar manner in his *German Requiem*, which has been called a “requiem for the living” and focuses on those who are, if mourning, yet alive. The music seems to imply a sense of continuity in “destiny,” allowing our triumph and loss of the present to be carried forward and ultimately celebrated as we pass from one place in life to the next.

We close with an arrangement of British composer and former King’s Singers member Bob Chilcott, dancing our way into the night.

### **2009 VYOA Auditions**

Orchestral & Choral Auditions: May 5 - 20

All auditions by appointment only.

To schedule an audition, call 655-5030.

## **Jeffrey Buettner, conductor**

Dr. Jeffrey Buettner is conductor of the VYOA Choruses, and Director of Choral Activities at Middlebury College.

Dr. Buettner has conducted high school choral festivals, college ensembles and children's choirs in Michigan, Iowa, Indiana, New Hampshire and Ohio, and he has served on the faculties of Earlham, Simpson and Hope Colleges. He has prepared opera and oratorio choruses for the Rome Festival in Rome, Italy, the Des Moines Metro Opera, the Brevard Music Center and the Richmond (IN) Symphony, and recently conducted *La Boheme* with the Opera Company of Middlebury. He has taught private voice to high school and college singers and adjudicated solo vocal competitions. His work as an arranger and composer has led to performances by college, community and professional choruses and orchestras, including a performance at a national convention of the American Choral Directors Association.

Dr. Buettner received his Bachelor of Music degree from St. Olaf College, where he studied organ and conducting. At St. Olaf, he participated as singer, student conductor or accompanist with every choir at the college and was a founding member of the Limestones, an a cappella group active today.

He received his Master of Music degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he also worked with the College-Conservatory of Music Children's Choir. During his career in Cincinnati, he was bass vocalist and director of several vocal ensembles that performed with the Cincinnati Pops, the Sing Cincinnati! festival, on many concert series and on radio and television programs.

Dr. Buettner received his Doctorate of Musical Arts in choral conducting from Michigan State University, where he conducted the College Choir, a jazz and popular music ensemble. His studies in ethnomusicology at Michigan State that led to ongoing research of Romani (Gypsy) music and Gypsy choirs in Ukraine, and he has presented this research at national and international music conferences.

In addition to his work with college and youth choirs, Dr. Buettner has served in music directorships of several churches throughout his career and also as recording engineer for WCAL Northfield and WGUC Cincinnati public radio. His engineer credits include broadcasts of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and a recording of the College-Conservatory of Music Philharmonia Orchestra on the Centaur record label.

Dr. Buettner resides in Middlebury with his wife, Jessica Allen.

### **CONCERT RECORDINGS AVAILABLE!**

*Order a recording of today's concert at the VYOA boutique table in the lobby.*

## Vermont Youth Orchestra Chorus

### **Soprano**

<i>Abby Baldwin</i>	<i>Burlington High, 11</i>
<i>Emma Barnaby</i>	<i>Burlington High, 9</i>
<i>Rosemary Blanchard</i>	<i>Essex High, 12</i>
<i>Maya Boyle</i>	<i>Essex High, 10</i>
<i>Suzanne Calhoun</i>	<i>Homeschool, Jericho, 12</i>
<i>Caney Demars</i>	<i>Peoples Academy, 11</i>
<i>Sarah Detweiler</i>	<i>Mt. Abraham Union High, 11</i>
<i>Tessa Eisenberg</i>	<i>Stowe High, 12</i>
<i>Karoline Foote</i>	<i>Rice Memorial High, 12</i>
<i>Meagan Lyle</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 11</i>
<i>Emily Massell</i>	<i>Burlington High, 10</i>
<i>Elisabeth Paige</i>	<i>Peoples Academy, 12</i>
<i>Kimberly Plante-Whitcomb</i>	<i>People's Academy, 10</i>
<i>Rosemary Rogers</i>	<i>BFA-St. Albans, 11</i>
<i>Allegra Signorino</i>	<i>Montpelier High, 10</i>
<i>Ariel Swyer</i>	<i>Montpelier High, 11</i>
<i>Victoria Wojciechowski</i>	<i>Essex High, 11</i>
<i>Jess Wolvington</i>	<i>Burlington High, 10</i>

### **Alto**

<i>Jordana Churchill</i>	<i>BFA-St. Albans, 11</i>
<i>Johanna Fay</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 12</i>
<i>Rose Gallagher</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 12</i>
<i>Samantha Grise</i>	<i>Rice Memorial High, 12</i>
<i>Sasha Gunther</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 11</i>
<i>Erika Johnson</i>	<i>Essex High, 12</i>
<i>Laura Kujawa</i>	<i>South Burlington High, 10</i>
<i>Amber Miles</i>	<i>Burlington High, 11</i>
<i>Caroline Weaver</i>	<i>South Burlington High, 12</i>
<i>Brittany Wieland</i>	<i>Essex High, 11</i>
<i>Sarah Winokur</i>	<i>Stowe High, 10</i>
<i>Carlie Wright</i>	<i>Middlebury Union High, 9</i>

### **Tenor**

<i>Chris Bresee</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 9</i>
<i>Paul Fink</i>	<i>Stowe High, 11</i>
<i>Ross Gloré</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 11</i>
<i>Ethan Herz</i>	<i>Main Street Middle, 7</i>
<i>Daniel Johnstone</i>	<i>Burlington High, 12</i>
<i>Nikolas Kaim</i>	<i>Colchester High, 9</i>
<i>Jacob Laramee-Blondin</i>	<i>Colchester Middle, 8</i>
<i>James Neiley</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 11</i>
<i>Sam Phelps</i>	<i>South Burlington High, 12</i>
<i>Joe Russ</i>	<i>Burlington High, 9</i>
<i>William Thompson</i>	<i>Milton High, 9</i>
<i>Chris Wright</i>	<i>Middlebury Union Middle, 8</i>

**Bass**

<i>Taylor Albred</i>	<i>Mt. Abraham Union Middle, 8</i>
<i>Ian Anderson</i>	<i>Stowe High, 11</i>
<i>Cameron Brownell</i>	<i>Colchester High, 11</i>
<i>Travis Connolly</i>	<i>Burlington High, 11</i>
<i>Max DeRienzo</i>	<i>Stowe High, 11</i>
<i>William Fay</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 9</i>
<i>Eric Garret</i>	<i>Rice Memorial High, 12</i>
<i>Michael Goldberg</i>	<i>South Burlington High, 12</i>
<i>Robert Little</i>	<i>Burlington High, 10</i>
<i>Evan Monod</i>	<i>Middlebury Union High, 11</i>
<i>Matthew Perron</i>	<i>Rice Memorial High, 12</i>
<i>Sam Updyke</i>	<i>South Burlington High, 11</i>
<i>Kyle Venooker</i>	<i>Stowe High, 11</i>
<i>Benjamin Weinstock</i>	<i>Middlebury Union High, 11</i>
<i>Gregory Zengilowski</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 10</i>

**Vermont Youth Concert Chorale**

<i>Anna Abrams</i>	<i>Main Street Middle, 8</i>
<i>Rachel Baginski</i>	<i>Charlotte Central, 7</i>
<i>Katiya Boudette</i>	<i>Williston Central, 8</i>
<i>Seamus Buxton</i>	<i>Charlotte Central, 7</i>
<i>Emily Byers</i>	<i>Middlebury Union High, 9</i>
<i>Molly Clark</i>	<i>Northfield High, 9</i>
<i>Alexis Daggett</i>	<i>Hinesburg Community, 8</i>
<i>Graham Garland</i>	<i>St. Albans Town, 8</i>
<i>Elizabeth Gilbert</i>	<i>Union-32, 8</i>
<i>Eliza Giles</i>	<i>Shelburne Community, 7</i>
<i>Rebecca Goldberg</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 9</i>
<i>Charlotte Goodenow</i>	<i>Colchester High, 9</i>
<i>Lauren Handy</i>	<i>BFA-St. Albans, 9</i>
<i>Grace Hatch</i>	<i>Northfield High, 9</i>
<i>Katelyn Heath</i>	<i>Essex High, 11</i>
<i>Julie Ho</i>	<i>Champlain Valley Union, 9</i>
<i>Chloe Hotaling</i>	<i>Charlotte Central, 6</i>
<i>Lucia Llona</i>	<i>Shelburne Community, 8</i>
<i>Emily Luce</i>	<i>Charlotte Central, 7</i>
<i>Justine Magowan</i>	<i>Vermont Commons, 9</i>
<i>Harrison Miller</i>	<i>Middlebury Union Middle, 7</i>
<i>Mikayla Morin</i>	<i>Williston Central, 9</i>
<i>Amanda Munson</i>	<i>Essex High, 10</i>
<i>Zachary Postlewaite</i>	<i>Charlotte Central, 7</i>
<i>Emily Provost</i>	<i>Hinesburg Community, 8</i>
<i>Elizabeth Rogers</i>	<i>BFA-St. Albans, 9</i>
<i>Kristen Schumacher</i>	<i>Christ The King, 6</i>
<i>Lillian Seibert</i>	<i>Mt. Abraham Union High, 7</i>
<i>Jenna Sherry</i>	<i>Burlington High, 12</i>
<i>Cassidy Thompson</i>	<i>Camels Hump Middle, 8</i>
<i>Mary Washburn</i>	<i>Hinesburg Community, 8</i>
<i>Christa Weaver</i>	<i>South Burlington High, 9</i>

# VYO Instrumentalists

Samantha Angstman, piano  
Kelly Herrmann, flute

Champlain Valley Union, 12  
South Burlington High, 12

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## **Rehearsal Accompanist:**

Carl Recchia

## **Director of Operations:**

Art DeQuasie

## **Vocal Coach:**

Jessica Allen

VYO Chorus & Vermont Youth Concert Chorale rehearsals include  
learning and rehearsing the repertoire, reading exercises  
and voice building sessions with singers in small groups.

For more information, contact Art DeQuasie at 802.655.5030, ext. 303.

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## **Thanks to our Sponsors:**

The VYO Chorus & Concert Chorale concert at the Mahaney Center for the Arts  
is presented with support from



THE Vermont  
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the VYOA choral concerts.

Vermont Youth Orchestra Association  
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