



School of

Music

College of Arts and Sciences

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Music

presents

Washington Sings!

August 3, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Bryan Hall Theatre

The Washington Sings! project is funded through a faculty fellowship from the WSU David G. Pollart Center for Arts and Humanities with additional funding from the Washington chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.

Program

Washington Sings Project Choir

Dean Luethi, conductor

Elena Panchenko, piano

Introduction to the project

Dean Luethi

SET I

Awake, O Sun

Jessica French (b. 1984)

Alisa Toy, soloist

Just Listen

Andrew Jacobson (b. 1984)

Warm Summer Sun

Naomi Williams (b. 2001)

Introduction to "When the Great Sea Roars"

John Muehleisen

SET II

*When the Great Sea Roars**

John Muehleisen (b. 1955)

Sweet Rivers

Reginald Unterseher (b. 1956)

Matthew Myers, piano

The Apple Tree

Daniel Schreiner (b. 1990)

Alisa Toy, soloist

Introduction to "Salmon Run"

Jacob Malpocker

SET III

*Salmon Run**

Jacob Malpocker (b. 1992)

Spellbound

Calvin Rice (b. 2004)

Alisa Toy, soloist

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Karen P. Thomas (b. 1957)

Matthew Myers, guest conductor

**World Premiere*

For more information on our project "Washington Sings!" please visit our website: <https://music.wsu.edu/washington-sings-a-recording-project/>

Washington Sings Project Choir

Soprano

Iris Cohn, Seattle
Raquel Gordon, Moscow
Victoria Langston, Yakima
Anna Morris, Seattle
Alisa Toy, Lewiston*

Tenor

Dan Colgan, Olympia
Chad Demaris, Seattle
Jack Harbick, Everett
Dexter Jones, Moscow
Jacob Malpoker, Seattle
Logan Shevalier, Spokane

Alto

Miranda Kling, Pullman
Xiaosha Lin, Spokane*
Mac Murphy, Pullman
Brittany Stevens, Wenatchee
Sarena Wiltse, Everett

Bass

Kevin Hudson, Pullman
Max Mendez, Coeur d'Alene
Kyle Sauer, Spanaway
Austin Schlichting, Lacey
Dylan Sutton, Pullman
Jaykub Willis, Ellensburg

*section leader

Commissioned Composers

John Muehleisen's more than 150 vocal and choral works have been variously described as "masterful writing...imaginatively harmonized...beautifully realized...and brilliantly crafted." In addition to more than 25 sacred choral works, his varied compositions have focused on topics ranging from humor to the healing power of love & music to serious social and cultural issues. John has been Composer-in-Residence for Opus 7 Vocal Ensemble for most years since 1996, the Dale Warland Singers (2003–2004), and Choral Arts Northwest (2011-2012 and 2016–2017).

Awards include the 1988 Louisville Orchestra Composition Award, the 2014 Chorus America/Dale Warland Singers Commission Award, multiple American Prize awards (2013, 2019, 2020, and 2021), and most recently co-winner of the 2022 American Prize, Social Justice Division (Consolation Requiem for Parkland) and an Honored Artist: Composer Award in 2022 as well.. His works have been supported with grants from New Music USA, the Jerome Foundation, and several National Endowment for the Arts grants. John also maintains a thriving private composition teaching studio of more than a dozen talented students. For more information on John, visit his website www.johnmuehleisen.com

Jacob Malpocker is an American composer, conductor, tenor, and educator born and raised in Denver, Colorado. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Vocal Music from Seattle University where he assistant conducted the University Chorale and Chamber Singers under the direction of Dr. Joy Sherman. He holds a Master's degree in Choral Conducting from Washington State University, under the tutelage of Dr. Lori Wiest. He has conducted musicals and gives workshops for young singers. Currently, he teaches Choir, Orchestra, and Guitar at Evergreen High School in the Highline School District. Jacob sings in multiple choral groups in the Seattle area. He is a member of the Cathedral Cantorei at St. James Cathedral in downtown Seattle, where he sings in mass services and concerts. For more information on Jacob, visit his website www.malpockermusic.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In addition to guest conducting a selection for tonight's performance and playing piano for another, **Matthew Myers** also produced most of the recordings for this project. I am always thankful for our endeavors together.

Elena Panchenko is a wonderful pianist. I couldn't imagine collaborating with anyone else. Whether it be tempo, intonation, or artistic nuance, Elena brings all to her standards.

Although it wasn't my goal to find repertoire that allowed our audiences to hear **Alisa Toy's** beautiful voice, I'm glad that the pieces I selected enable us to showcase her talents. Alisa is such a delight to work with and I hope this recording will allow a wider audience to hear the high caliber of her artistry.

The **WSU David G. Pollart Center for Arts and Humanities** provided the funding for almost all the costs associated with this project. Their support for these endeavors enables faculty to achieve their creative goals. I will always be thankful for their support. Also, thanks to the **Washington chapter of the American Choral Directors Association** for their donation to the project.

A big thanks to **Jennifer Miller** for hosting two of our project singers this week!

Finally, to the **fine composers of Washington**. We have unbelievable talent in our state, and it has been my pleasure to seek out, learn, teach, perform, and record music from you. I look forward to the continued growth of the compositional output in our region, of which this project, I hope, plays a small part.