Sounds of Praise | Spring Choral Concert

Featuring the Robert Ray Gospel Mass with full combo

Saturday, May 11 | 7:00pm

Fr. Robert V. Carney Performing Arts Center
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

Thomas Ajack, Director
Jason Meissner, Accompanist
Expanding the Choral Frontier through the Robert Ray Gospel Mass

For centuries, when composers wanted to create a large choral work, they turned to the text of the Mass. Palestrina, Schubert, Haydn, Mozart, Bach and Bernstein are just some of the composers who used the framework of this historic text as a way to present their art.

To understand the Gospel Mass presented tonight, we need some background about Gospel Music. In the early twentieth century, in urban Chicago, not in Southern rural communities, Thomas Dorsey is credited with creating this format in the 1930's. His bluesy piano influence combined with sacred song is what we now classify as Gospel. One of his most well-known songs is Precious Lord, Take My Hand.

Gospel music is significantly different than spirituals. Spirituals are detailed concert pieces meant to be performed exactly as the arranger intended. Gospel music often presents a framework which is infused with vocal and instrumental improvisation and live arranging. The choral parts are often arranged Soprano-Alto-Men (SAM) which creates a unique brilliant vocal tone. A rhythm combo of piano, bass and drums often accompany the music. Gospel music “specials“ or ad-lib repeated sections with terraced emotional levels are frequently employed.

In 1979, Gospel composer and arranger Robert Ray, from Chicago, composed and presented his Gospel Mass. A traditional classical choral form was re-fitted within the Gospel music context. Within the span of two weeks, he wrote the five standard movements of the Mass: Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei. The night before the premiere he was inspired and wrote the Acclamation and added it as a sixth movement. It was taught by rote!

The appeal of this Mass is not in being compositionally complex, but rather in the success of its spirit. In 2019, choirs across the United States and beyond are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Mass by programming it. The Gospel Mass is an embodiment of unity, diversity and ecumenical spirit, making it deserving of a commemorative performance.

UPCOMING CHORAL MUSIC EVENTS

5/19  Baccalaureate Mass in the Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater – 2pm – ATMC and TC
5/20  Performance at St. Joseph Convent Chapel – 1pm – Madrigals and Ladies in Waiting
5/22  National Anthem at the Brewers Game – 12pm – Concert Choir
5/25  Music and Drama Banquet – 5pm – Hart Park
CONCERT CHOIR AND TOURING CHOIR

River Medley................................................................. arr. Thomas Ajack
  *Arranged for Pius XI NYC Tour 2019
Esto Les Digo..............................................................Kinley Lange

CONCERT CHOIR

Let My Love Be Heard ..............................................Jake Runestad

MADRIGALS

Dieu! Qu’il la fait bon regarder!..................................Claude Debussy
Sicut Cervus.........................................................Giovanni Palestrina
O Nata Lux.........................................................Christopher Ducasse

MENS OCTET

Ain’t a That Good News..........................arr. William Dawson

LADIES IN WAITING

Fruits of the Selfless Heart..........................Elizabeth Atkinson
How Merrily We Live ...........................................Michael Este

COMBINED CHOIRS

Gospel Mass .........................................................Robert Ray
  I.  Kyrie
  II. Gloria
  III. Credo
  IV. Acclamation
  V. Sanctus
  VI. Agnus Dei

Love Will Be Our Home ............................................arr. John Higgins
  *Recognition of Seniors and Alumni
### TREBLE CHOIR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Julia Armstrong</th>
<th>Samantha Hueschen</th>
<th>Emma Reed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Baisley</td>
<td>Seirra Johnson</td>
<td>Andriona Robinson</td>
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<td>Kylie Catlett</td>
<td>Victoria Junior</td>
<td>Jocelyn Salazar Sanchez</td>
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<td>Delaney Driscoll</td>
<td>Paige Kearney</td>
<td>Aleana Torres</td>
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<td>Rosa Gomez Sierra</td>
<td>Emily Muellenbach</td>
<td>Yuxuan (Anita) Zhang</td>
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<td>Xiafei (Camila) Hao</td>
<td>Madeline Ostap</td>
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### ADVANCED MEN’S CHOIR

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<tr>
<th>Zachary Bailey</th>
<th>Gabriel Huertas</th>
<th>Joseph Schaefer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paydon Carroll</td>
<td>Jeremiah Lyons</td>
<td>Hanlin (Jason) Yan</td>
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<td>Timothy Chrisbaum</td>
<td>Nahjee Robinson</td>
<td>Yue (Frank) Yu</td>
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<td>Zachary Rolf</td>
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### ADVANCED WOMEN’S CHOIR

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<tr>
<th>Bridget Brown</th>
<th>Emma Knowlton</th>
<th>Gabriella Ramsey</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jordyn Clark</td>
<td>Leah McClelland</td>
<td>Iliana Reyes</td>
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<td>Bella Dompke</td>
<td>Elisabeth Nelson</td>
<td>Aaliseyah Winston</td>
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<td>Zena Jiardini</td>
<td>Mya Peavy</td>
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### CONCERT CHOIR

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<tr>
<th>Damali Acosta</th>
<th>Jade Hall</th>
<th>Annabella Poulos</th>
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<td>Noah Bayer</td>
<td>Sophia Keppler</td>
<td>Mahriana Pyant</td>
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<td>Noah Beihoff</td>
<td>Robert Knapp</td>
<td>Lyle Rivera</td>
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<td>Bridget Browne</td>
<td>Michael Kraetz</td>
<td>Emily Rohde</td>
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<td>Meaghan Buckholdt</td>
<td>Arabella Loera</td>
<td>Matthew Sanchez</td>
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<td>Rosalie Burzynski</td>
<td>Justin Loth</td>
<td>Zoe Sanders</td>
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<td>Robert Chelius</td>
<td>Max Luksich</td>
<td>Katherine Schoenbeck</td>
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<td>Jialing (Caroline) Chen</td>
<td>Lily Lustig</td>
<td>Zihao (Jack) Sheng</td>
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<td>David Chrisbaum</td>
<td>Reilly Madigan</td>
<td>Alexys Strahm</td>
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<td>Marissa Cobb</td>
<td>Luis Mendez</td>
<td>Benjamin Wells</td>
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<td>Allyson Mills</td>
<td>Isabella Ybarra</td>
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<td>Sophia Girard</td>
<td>James Mullooly</td>
<td>Teresa Zampino</td>
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<td>Lindsey Girman</td>
<td>Ryan Nolan</td>
<td>Jiayi (Rachel) Zhu</td>
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<td>Samuel Gutierrez</td>
<td>Zackary Orton</td>
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### LADIES IN WAITING

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# Personnel Cont.

## Madrigals

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<th>Meaghan Buckholdt</th>
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## Faculty & Staff

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thomas Ajack, Director of Choirs</th>
<th>Jason Meissner, Piano</th>
<th>Leslie Fitzwater, Voice</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paul Gildersleeve, Bass</td>
<td>Todd Fortier, Voice</td>
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<td>Carl Storniolo, Drums</td>
<td>Ellie Quint, Voice</td>
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# Upcoming Events:

## Dance Into Spring
- **Friday, May 17, 2019 | 7:00 PM**
- **Saturday, May 18, 2019 | 7:00 PM**
- Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

## Spring Band & Orchestra Concert: WIS-Concert!
- **Tuesday, May 21, 2019 | 7:00 PM**
- Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

## Comedy Company Senior Show
- **Thursday, May 23, 2019 | 7:00 PM**
- Pius XI Black Box Theater

For tickets and more information visit [www.piuspac.org](http://www.piuspac.org) | 414-290-0204
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Mr. Eric P. Eggers ’96 and Mrs. Christal Eggers
Ms. Mary Ellen Johnson
Mrs. Joanne Kraetz and Mr. Joseph Kraetz
Mr. Chris Lucas and Mrs. Carrie Lucas
Mr. Todd Macheel and Ms. Kristina Snapp Macheel
Mr. Craig J. Maduscha ’92 and Mrs. Sara A. Maduscha
Ms. Paula McClelland
Ms. Joy Meier
Angela C. Niemann ’90
Mr. Jack Pitrof ’68 and Mrs. Linda Pitrof
Mr. Steven Prueher and Ms. Tina Prueher
Ms. Marilee Rockley
Ms. Diana Salazar
Ms. Gloria Jean Siegel-Howe
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Mr. Joel Treffert and Mrs. Amy Treffert
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STAFF
Theater Manager ........................................................................................................ Patrick G.H. Schley
Technical Director .................................................................................................... Terry Harvey
Assistant Technical Director .................................................................................... Casey Matson
Resident Stagehands ............................................................................................... Marisa Abbott, Molly Schafer
House Managers ..................................................................................................... Devan Schneider, Chris Segedy
Ticket Office Volunteers ................. Paula McClelland, Greg Smrz, Turqoise Welch-Loera
Theater Management Interns .................................................................................. Meaghan Buckholdt, Emma Knowlton

INFORMATION
Ticket Information: Tickets are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.piuspac.org. To order tickets by phone, please contact OvationTix at 866.811.4111. Phone service hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm and Saturday-Sunday 9am-5pm. Our ticket booth is open for walk-up sales one hour prior to each performance in the Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater.

Food and Beverage: At select performances our concession stand offers water and snacks. Proceeds benefit Performing Arts Programs at Pius XI Catholic High School. Bottled water is permitted in the theatre. Food is not allowed in the theatre.

Electronic Devices: Please silence cellular phones, pagers and alarm watches. Photography and recording are strictly prohibited during the performance. Please refrain from using electronic devices or text messaging during the performance.

Latecomer Policy: Latecomers will be seated at a suitable break in the performance, as determined by House Management.

Emergency Calls: In case of emergency, messages may be left with the House Manager by calling 414.290.0204. If possible, please indicate the seat location of the person to be reached.

Lost and Found: Please call 414.290.7000 to inquire about lost items.

Ushers: We welcome volunteers of all ages to usher for performances and see the show for free! E-mail pacinfo@piusxi.org to be added to our volunteer list.

Theater Rentals: The Father Robert V. Carney Performing Arts Center is the perfect place for your next event! Contact Patrick G.H. Schley at 414.290.7454 or pschley@piusxi.org, or visit www.piuspac.org/rentals for rates and information.