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Ensemble Concert: Recorder Ensemble, Belle Voix, Mardrigal Singers; November 8, 2009

Paul W. Borg Director
Illinois State University

Sarah J. Graham Conductor

Karyl Carlson Conductor

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Belle Voix
Sarah J. Graham, *conductor*
Shi Shi Cai, *pianist*

Soprano I

*Danelle Eckhart
Brittany Gronset
Monica A. Hamilton
Beth Hillhouse
Mary Kate Lanigan
Danielle Meischner
Katie Steel
Amy Vasel
Jennifer Williams
Meagan Zahora

Soprano II

Danna Cory
Kellie Gregory
Yvette Kovalevsky
Tracey Kowski
Michelle Krueger
**Deborah Latimer
Kirsten Pasia
Grace Urrutia
Renee Weston
*Samantha Yablon

Madrigal Singers
Karyl Carlson, *director*

Soprano:

Kaitlin Rushing
Agnes Tech
Amanda Walsh
Kristin Weiler

Alto:

Colleen Longo
Mary Rocke
Kelly Snyder
Rebecca Woodle

Alto I

*Kiley Birch
Emily Brodzik
Liz Colravy
Chelsea Davis
Annie Downey
Jenn Hood
Jennifer Koth
Alice Peterson
Angie Sylvester
Jen Swanson
Michelle Trimpe

Alto II

Caitlin Armony
Rosie Bliss
Sarah Boatner
Courtney Hargreaves
Alix Little
*Megan Stavnes
Aundrea Wells

Tenors:

Mark Badger
Jay Fischl
Brian Lonergan
Wesley McKinney

Bass:

Mitch Belusko
Ben Bettis
Nate Coon
Brian Robinson

Illinois State University
College of Fine Arts
School of Music

Recorder Ensemble

Paul W. Borg, *Director*

Belle Voix

Sarah J. Graham, *Conductor*

Madrigal Singers

Karyl Carlson, *Conductor*

Center for Performing Arts
November 8, 2009
Sunday Afternoon
3:00 p.m.

This is the seventieth program of the 2009-2010 season.

Program

Please turn off cell phones and pagers for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

Recorder Ensemble

Deux Bransles simples	Anonymous
Mary je songay l'autre jour	Jacotin
Jamais je n'aymeray grant homme	Anonymous
La la la, je ne l'ose dire	Pierre Certon
Ricercar del sesto tuono	Andrea Gabrieli

ISU Recorder Ensemble

Paul Borg, *director*

Joshua Wunderlich, *Soprano*

Kayla Richardson, *Soprano*

Victoria Swensen, *Alto*

Ian Phillips, *Alto*

Sue Funk, *Alto*

Brett Tholz, *Tenor*

Fernando Jimenez, *Tenor*

Daniel Hermes, *Tenor*

Amanda Schulz, *Bass*

Belle Voix

I. Love

from *Songs for Women's Voices* (1995)
Mornings Innocent

Danell Eckhart, Jennifer Williams, & Jenn Flood, *soloists*

Gwyneth Walker

Briar Rose (2000)

Lee Kesselman

II. Faith

Vestigia (1993)

Andrew Francois, *violin*
Carolyn Parfzt, *cello*

Imant Raminsh

There are three texts in this piece. The first includes lines written by Chinese revolutionary, feminist and writer, Qiu Jin, while she was traveling by boat in the Yellow Sea. Jin's text is in the narration and in the text that is shouted by the choir. The second text source is a poem by Wang Erbei, a journalist and editor for the Sichuan newspaper for many years. *Mirror* is heard as the narration at the opening of the piece. Finally, The text that the listener might find curious and enchanting is the *Great Compassion Mantra (Dàbei Zhòu)*, which is an 84 line chant that was first translated from Sanskrit to Chinese in the 7th century. It is used for protection, purification and healing.

"This piece is for anyone in any need or trouble. It is about calling out for strength and courage- as individuals and also on behalf of our generation. The opening melody is inspired by the traditional chant to the goddess **Guan Yin**, known in Buddhism as the Chinese Bodhisattva of Compassion. Guan Yin, whose name means "she who hears the cries of the world," is revered in China, Japan and Taiwan, and her spiritual ancestor, Avalokitesvara, in Malaysia, Tibet and Thailand. Guan Yin vowed never to rest until she had freed all sentient beings from reincarnation. To comprehend the needs of so many, her head split into eleven pieces (hence the 11-part chords. . .). Suddenly able to hear the myriad cries, she attempted to reach out to everyone who was suffering, but her arms shattered into pieces. She was then given one thousand arms with which to provide aid and relief to those in need." -Abbie Betinis

Madrigal Dinners

December 02, 03, 04, 05, & 10, 11, 12

6:30 p.m.

Alumni Center

Double Shot (2002)

Stephen Hatfield

Danna Cory, Meaghan Stavnes, Emily Broadsky,
Monica Hamilton, & Andreea Wells, *soloists*

Double Shot (2002)

Stephen Hatfield

Danna Cory, Meaghan Stavnes, Emily Broadsky,
Monica Hamilton, & Andreea Wells, *soloists*

III. Peace and Compassion

Prayer for Peace (2008)

P.F. Tillen

III. Peace and Compassion

Prayer for Peace (2008)

P.F. Tillen

Chant for Great Compassion (2008)

Abbie Betinis

Chant for Great Compassion (2008)

Abbie Betinis

Madrigal Singers

Program to be selected from the following:

Masters in this Hall

French carol
arranged by Margaret Vance

Masters in this Hall

French carol
arranged by Margaret Vance

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Spanish carol
arranged by Noah Greenbert

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Spanish carol
arranged by Noah Greenbert

Il est Ne

French carol
arranged by Roger Wagner

Il est Ne

French carol
arranged by Roger Wagner

Silent Devotion and Response

Ernest Bloch

Silent Devotion and Response

Ernest Bloch

Flower of Beauty

John Clements

Flower of Beauty

John Clements

Deck the Halls in 7/8

arranged by James McKelvey

Deck the Halls in 7/8

arranged by James McKelvey

Deh, coprite il bel seno

Gesualdo

Deh, coprite il bel seno

Gesualdo

No More Shakespeare Songs?

Jaako Mantjarvi

No More Shakespeare Songs?

Jaako Mantjarvi

Program Notes

American composer, Gwyneth Walker lives in Braintree, Vermont and has been composing all of her life. *Songs for Women's Voices* is a set of six pieces with texts by American poet, Mae Swenson. "Mornings Innocent" is the second piece in this cycle. While the work was originally written for women's choir and piano, the composer has also set several of the individual movements as solo vocal pieces and has most recently set the entire cycle of pieces for women's choir and chamber orchestra.

"Briar Rose" is a text that was written by a high school girl- the composer's daughter- as an English class assignment to write a poem in the style of Henry David Thoreau (like Walden Pond). Kesselman set some of her text as "Briar Rose" for the Glen Ellyn Children's Chorus, who premiered the piece in May of 2001. In October, Belle Voix was able to meet the composer at an event called "Treblefest," in which they have been the featured collegiate women's choir for the last two years. They learned two pieces that they sang with several high school treble choirs with the composer conducting.

"A Prayer for Peace" was the second piece that Belle Voix learned for "Treblefest," where they were able to work with the composer and sing under her direction in the concert. The text of this piece is taken from the teachings of renowned Zen Master, Thich Nhat Hanh, who won the 1967 Nobel Peace Prize. The composer quotes Hanh as saying "This prayer was used throughout South Vietnam in 1965 in the "Don't Shoot Your Own Brother" campaign to rouse the willingness to work for peace. During meetings of our young people, we chanted this poem, uniting our hearts and our efforts to continue to work for peace. Most of us were Buddhists. This chant aims at reconciliation and stopping the war. It was a very powerful way of working for communication. This is something we can share with our Western friends."

Abbie Betinis (b. 1980) is one of the most dynamic young American choral composers around. She has been commissioned by over 40 music organizations and is featured on programs internationally. Betinis is the grand daughter of the late Alfred Burt, and continues to carry on the tradition of writing a new carol every Christmas. She wrote "Chant for Great Compassion" in response to the earthquake that shook the Sichuan Province on May 12, 2008. This natural disaster injured nearly 400,000 people, left nearly 20,000 missing, left nearly 4.8 million homeless (though current estimates are closer to 11 million), and took the lives of over 70,000. This earthquake was an 8.0 on the Richter scale and has been recorded as the 19th deadliest earthquake of all time.

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