

*The Davis Chorale presents*

# DREAMS AND DANCES



*Featuring*

*Britten's Choral Dances from Gloriana*

*Corigliano's Fern Hill*

*Gwyneth Walker's Dreams and Dances*

*Alison Skinner, Artistic Director  
Ellen Deffner, Keyboard  
with Harp and Strings*

APRIL 5, 2014  
BRUNELLE HALL  
315 W. 14TH ST, DAVIS  
8 P.M

## PROGRAM

### Choral Dances from "Gloriana"

*Benjamin Britten*  
(1913-1976)

Time  
Concord  
Time and Concord  
Country Girls  
Rustics and Fishermen  
Final Dance of Homage



### Fern Hill

*John Corigliano*  
(b. 1938)

*Tania Mannion, Mezzo-Soprano*  
*Rei Luu & Drew Cylinder, Violins*  
*Jonathan Fleuter, Viola*  
*Dan Barker, Cello*  
*Ellen Schinnerer Deffner, Piano*  
*Beverly Wesner-Hoehn, Harp*



### Elegischer Gesang Op. 118

*Ludwig von Beethoven*  
(1770-1827)

*Rei Luu & Drew Cylinder, Violins*  
*Jonathan Fleuter, Viola*  
*Dan Barker, Cello*

### Musikalische Exequien (excerpt)

*Heinrich Schütz*  
(1585-1672)

#### *small ensemble*

*Soloists: Sharon Burow, Patty Shade, Isabelle Henry,*  
*Matthew Zavod, Jake Whittaker, Don Deem*  
*Dan Barker, Cello & Ellen Schinnerer Deffner, Keyboard*

Across the Vast, Eternal Sky

*Ola Gjeilo*  
(b. 1978)

*Rei Luu & Drew Cylinder, Violins*  
*Jonathan Fleuter, Viola*  
*Dan Barker, Cello*  
*Ellen Schinnerer Deffner, Piano*

Der Tanz

*Franz Schubert*  
(1797-1828)

*small ensemble*  
*Ellen Schinnerer Deffner, Piano*



Dreams and Dances

*Gwyneth Walker*  
(b. 1947)

Bones, Be Good  
Some Dreams Hang in the Air  
Let There Be New Flowering

*Rei Luu & Drew Cylinder, Violins*  
*Jonathan Fleuter, Viola*  
*Dan Barker, Cello*

## Program Notes

The title for our program, *Dreams and Dances*, comes from the final set of three songs, beginning with a dance, then a dream, then hope for the future. Our music this evening will take you on paths from childhood to death to renewal.

The concert begins with a set of choruses from the great English composer Benjamin Britten's opera *Gloriana*, about the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. The choruses are taken from a masque, or pageant, that the people of Norwich put on for the queen's pleasure. The first three are dances depicting Time and Concord (harmony) coming together, the second part is a tribute to the queen directly- women's chorus and men's chorus each list what they bring in the queen's honor. The final chorus laments the queen's departure. All of the choruses, except the second, are in some kind of triple or compound meter- very fitting for the dances.

Then we travel to *Fern Hill* in the Welsh countryside, the setting for Dylan Thomas's elegant poem about youth and age. The rich textual imagery is interwoven melodically by Corigliano, enabling the chorale to sing this deeply affecting memoir of childhood, its sensual delights and its innocence of death. The poem will be familiar to many of you, but follow it along in the program to see how the composer has extended and augmented words with music.

The short *Elegischer Gesang* (Elegy) by Beethoven, and an excerpt from Heinrich Schütz's *Musikalische Exequien* (German Requiem), both convey the peace that comes with death. We are all familiar with the unique structure of Brahms' *Requiem*, where the composer selected the German texts himself rather than using the church's prescribed liturgy. For his own German Requiem, Schütz set to music texts chosen by Henry II Reuss, Count of Gera, to be performed at the Count's funeral. You will hear only a short excerpt from this longer work. Schütz's musical style may not seem somber as would be expected because of the topic, but underlying all of his sacred writing is the joy of life after death. So, the music is full of rhythmic vitality, constantly playing with the accents of the German language and the expected emphases in the meter.

After Beethoven and Schütz comes contemporary composer Ola Gjeilo's *Across the Vast Eternal Sky*, about a phoenix waiting to arise into the sunshine. This transformative work leads us into the dancing conclusion of our concert, beginning with *Der Tanz* (The Dance) by Schubert and concluding with Gwyneth Walker's *Dreams and Dances*, settings for three poems by the late Lucille Clifton. In *Bones Be Good*, listen to the poet's body keep on clicking -- the sound of old bones "dancing for my life!" While listening to *Some Dreams Hang in the Air*, hear how the composer allows the poet's words to hang in the air "like smoke." It is my hope that *Let There Be New Flowering* will leave you inspired by the poet's own wish that "love will be at the end."

## Texts and Translations

Choral Dances ~ text: William Plomer

### Time

Yes, he is Time, Lusty and blithe!  
Time is at his apogee  
Although he thought to see  
A bearded ancient with a scythe.  
No reaper he That cries 'Take heed!'  
Time is at his apogee!  
Young and strong in his prime!  
Behold the sower of the seed!

### Concord

Concord is here  
Our days to bless  
And this our land to endue  
With plenty, peace and happiness.  
Concord and Time  
Each needeth each:  
The ripest fruit hangs where  
Not one, but only two,  
only two can reach.

### Time and Concord

From springs of bounty  
Through this county  
Streams abundant  
Of thanks shall flow.  
Where life was scanty,  
Fruits of plenty  
Swell resplendent  
From earth below!  
No Greek nor Roman  
Queenly woman  
Knew such favour  
From Heav'n above  
As she whose presence  
Is our pleasance ... Gloriana  
Hath all our love!

### Country Girls

Sweet flag and cuckoo flower  
Cowslip and columbine  
Kingcups and sops-in-wine,  
Flower deluce and calaminth,  
Harebell and hyacinth,  
Myrtle and bay  
and rosemary between,  
Norfolk's own garlands for her Queen.

### Rustics and Fishermen

From fen and meadow  
In rushy baskets  
They bring ensamples  
of all they grow.  
In earthen dishes  
Their deep-sea fishes;  
Yearly fleeces,  
Woven blankets;  
New cream and junkets  
And rustic trinkets,  
On wicker flaskets,  
Their country largess  
The best they know.

### Final Dance of Homage

These tokens of our love receiving  
O take them, Princess great and dear.  
From Norwich city you are leaving,  
That you afar may feel us near.

## Texts and Translations

Fern Hill ~ text: Dylan Thomas

Now as I was young and easy under the apple boughs  
About the lilting house and happy as the grass was green,  
    The night above the dingle starry,  
    Time let me hail and climb  
    Golden in the heydays of his eyes,  
And honoured among wagons I was prince of the apple towns  
And once below a time I lordly had the trees and leaves  
    Trail with daisies and barley  
    Down the rivers of the windfall light.

And as I was green and carefree, famous among the barns  
About the happy yard and singing as the farm was home,  
    In the sun that is young once only,  
    Time let me play and be  
    Golden in the mercy of his means,  
And green and golden I was huntsman and herdsman, the calves  
Sang to my horn, the foxes on the hills barked clear and cold,  
    And the sabbath rang slowly  
    In the pebbles of the holy streams.

All the sun long it was running, it was lovely, the hay  
Fields high as the house, the tunes from the chimneys, it was air  
    And playing, lovely and watery  
    And fire green as grass.  
    And nightly under the simple stars  
As I rode to sleep the owls were bearing the farm away,  
All the moon long I heard, blessed among stables, the nightjars  
    Flying with the ricks, and the horses  
    Flashing into the dark.

And then to awake, and the farm, like a wanderer white  
With the dew, come back, the cock on his shoulder: it was all  
    Shining, it was Adam and maiden,  
    The sky gathered again  
    And the sun grew round that very day.  
So it must have been after the birth of the simple light  
In the first, spinning place, the spellbound horses walking warm  
    Out of the whinnying green stable  
    On to the fields of praise.

## Texts and Translations

And honoured among foxes and pheasants by the gay house  
Under the new made clouds and happy as the heart was long,  
    In the sun born over and over,  
        I ran my heedless ways,  
    My wishes raced through the house high hay  
And nothing I cared, at my sky blue trades, that time allows  
In all his tuneful turning so few and such morning songs  
    Before the children green and golden  
        Follow him out of grace.

Nothing I cared, in the lamb white days, that time would take me  
Up to the swallow thronged loft by the shadow of my hand,  
    In the moon that is always rising,  
        Nor that riding to sleep  
    I should hear him fly with the high fields  
And wake to the farm forever fled from the childless land.  
Oh as I was young and easy in the mercy of his means,  
    Time held me green and dying  
    Though I sang in my chains like the sea.

## Texts and Translations

### Elegischer Gesang ~ text: Armin Raab

Sanft wie du lebstest hast du vollendet.  
Zu heilig für den Schmerz!  
Kein Auge wein' ob des himmlischen  
Geistes Heimkehr

Gently, as you lived have you died.  
Too holy for sorrow!  
Let no eye shed tears  
for the spirit's heavenly homecoming.

### Musikalische Exequien (excerpt)

(Tenor I) Ich weiß, daß mein Erlöser lebt,  
und er wird mich hernach aus der Erden  
auferwecken, und werde darnach mit  
dieser meiner Haut umgeben werden und  
werde in meinem Fleisch Gott sehen.

I know that my Redeemer lives, and he  
shall make me then stand up from the  
earth: and this my skin then shall cover  
my body and in my flesh I shall see God.  
(*Job 19:25-6*)

(Chorus) Weil du vom Tod erstanden bist,  
werd ich im Grab nicht bleiben, mein  
höchster Trost dein Auffahrt ist,  
Todsangst kannst du vertreiben, denn wo  
du bist, da komm ich hin, daß ich stets  
bei dir leb und bin, drum fahr ich hin mit  
Freuden.

Since You arose from death, I shall not  
remain in the grave, Your Ascension is  
my greatest comfort, You can drive away  
the fear of death, for where You are, I will  
go too, so that I may live and be with You  
forever, therefore I die with Joy. (*Nikolaus*

(Solos) Herr, ich lasse dich nicht, du  
segnest mich denn.

Lord, I won't let You go, except if You  
bless me. (*Genesis, 32:27b*)

(Chorus) Er sprach zu mir: Halt dich an  
mich, es soll dir itzt gelingen, ich geb  
mich selber ganz für dich, da will ich dich  
für ringen. Den Tod verschlingt das  
Leben mein, mein Unschuld trägt die  
Sünde dein, da bist du selig worden.

He said to me: Hold on to me, you will  
succeed; I give myself all for You, and I  
struggle for you. My life swallows up  
Death, my innocence bears your sins, and  
you found salvation. (*Martin Luther,*  
*1523*)



## Texts and Translations

Across the Vast, Eternal Sky ~ text: Charles A. Silverstri

Sunlight shines on my face;  
This is my grace, to be Restored,  
born again, In flame.  
When I was young I flew in the velvet night;  
Shining by day, a firebird bathed in light!  
Grey now my feathers, which once were red and gold;  
My destiny to soar up to the  
Sunlight shines on my face;  
This is my grace, to be Restored,  
born again, In flame.  
Do not despair that I am gone away;  
I will appear again  
When the sunset pains  
Flames across the vast eternal sky.

Der Tanz ~ text: Kolumban von Meeran

Es redet und träumet die Jugend so viel,  
Von Tanzen, Galoppen, Gelagen,  
Auf einmal erreicht sie ein trügliche Ziel,  
Da hört man sie seufzen und klagen.

Bald schmerzet der Hals, und bald  
schmerzet die Brust,  
Verschwunden ist alle die himmlische  
Lut,  
"Nur diesmal noch kehr' mir Gesundheit  
zurück!"

Youth talks and dreams of love so much,  
of dancing, galloping, carousing;  
then all at once reaches it's hollow goal,  
and we hear it sighing and complaining.

The pain is in the throat and now the  
chest, all heavenly pleasure has  
vanished.  
"Give me back my health just one more  
time!"  
the hopeful gaze implores heaven.

## Texts and Translations

Dreams and Dances (1992) Text: Lucille Clifton

### Bones, Be Good! [the poet]

i beg my bones to be good but  
they keep clicking music and  
i spin in the center of myself  
a foolish frightful woman  
moving my skin against the wind and  
tap dancing for my life.

### Some Dreams Hang in the Air

some dreams hang in the air  
like smoke. Some dreams  
get all in your clothes and  
be wearing them more than you do and  
you be half the time trying to  
hold them and half the time  
trying to wave them away.  
their smell be all over you and  
they get to your eyes and  
you cry. the fire be gone  
and the wood but some dreams  
hang in the air like smoke  
touching everything

### Let There Be New Flowering

let there be new flowering  
in the fields let the fields  
turn mellow for the men  
let the men keep tender  
through the time let the time  
be wrested from the war  
let the war be won  
let love be  
at the end

## Davis Chorale

*Alison Skinner, Director*

*Ellen Schinnerer Deffner, Accompanist*

*Rachel Kessler, Director Emerita*

### *Sopranos*

*Shorty (Virginia) Boucher*

*Sharon Burow \* ○*

*Diane Dedoshka*

*Marilyn Feather*

*Lori Haapanen \**

*Rachel Kessler*

*Mary Lowry*

*Lena McNicholas*

*Nancy Morrow*

*Helga Mueller \**

*Susan O'Connell*

*Judith Polanich*

*Alice Provost \**

*Amy Rand*

*Anne Richardson*

*Joan Sallee*

*Patty Shade \* ★*

*Michele van Eyken \**

*Melanie Weischolek*

### *Altos*

*Ruth Beckon \**

*Edelgard Brunelle*

*Jan Chess*

*Leslie Cooper \* ★*

*Marilyn Corcoran*

*Claudia Crempien*

*Sally Gray*

*Isabelle Henry \* ○*

*Melissa Kelly*

*Julie Kulmann*

*Tanya Kumar*

*Julie Leonard*

*Marion London*

*Mariette Malessy*

*Norma Meyer*

*Susanna Mould*

*Susan Royalty \**

*Karen Slabaugh*

*Mary Sprifke \**

*Katherine Unger \**

*Lexie Webster*

### *Tenors*

*John Burow \* ○*

*Ben Cooper*

*Richard Kulmann*

*Andrew Latimer \**

*Greg Melcher*

*Jim Rodgers*

*Gisela Schubert*

*Jake Whittaker \* ○*

*Jeremy Wright \* ★*

*Matthew Zavod \* ★*

### *Basses*

*Craig Clark \**

*Don Deem \**

*Matt Forrest \**

*John Johnston*

*Don Kessler*

*Robert Smith*

*Doug Underwood \**

*Richard Wright*

\* Small ensemble

Solo quartet, Fern Hill ○

Solo quartet, Let There be New Flowering ★

## The Performers

The **Davis Chorale** was founded in 1978 as a community chorus providing an opportunity for adults to sing oratorio, sacred and secular works. The Chorale is an auditioned choral ensemble of about 50 singers from the surrounding Davis area. The Chorale's varied repertoire ranges from Renaissance *a cappella* works to orchestral works with chorus by contemporary composers such as Eric Whitacre. The venues range from Interfaith Evening Vespers in the Davis Community Church, to the Bach *B Minor Mass* in UC Davis' Mondavi Center, to an annual holiday concert in the Capitol Rotunda in Sacramento.

**Alison Skinner** has been the Artistic Director of the Davis Chorale since 2010. Before returning to her hometown of Davis, Skinner lived in Philadelphia, where she was the Artistic Director of the Rainbow Chorale of Delaware for the 2007-2008 season and taught high school music at Germantown Friends School. Skinner has a B.A. in vocal performance from UC Santa Cruz and an M.M. in Choral Conducting from Temple University, where she was a student of Alan Harler. Skinner also maintains a private vocal studio.

**Ellen Schinnerer Deffner**, Davis Chorale Accompanist, began specializing in piano accompaniment in London, where she was a student at the Guildhall School of Music. She has been on the faculties of Guildhall London, UC Santa Barbara, Reed College, and the University of Portland. She is a member of the Sacramento Baroque Soloists.

Noted for her artistry and captivating stage presence, Mezzo soprano **Tania Lillich Mannion** has been performing in the Greater Sacramento area and North Bay since 2003. Her oratorio career has included work with Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra (Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*), Sing Napa Valley! (Mozart's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Dvorak's *Mass in D*), Davis Chorale (Bach's *Magnificat*, Mozart's *Mass in C*, Schubert's *Mass in G*) and Mother Lode Friend's of Music (Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*, Bach's *Missa in F*, Telemann's, *Ich danke dem Herrn*). In addition to oratorio, Ms. Mannion also presents recitals of art song and opera arias, including a recent performance of Brahms's *Liebeslieder* for a Sing Napa Valley! salon recital. Ms. Mannion directs the Davis Children's Chorale and maintains a private voice studio in Davis where she lives with her husband and son.

**Rei Luu**, violin, is currently a graduate student at California State University, Sacramento and a student of Ian Swensen. A native of Santa Barbara, she began her violin studies with Barbara Coventry at age four, and went on to study with Nina Bodnar, Gilles Apap, and Mary Beth Woodruff. Rei has studied orchestra and chamber music as well as solo repertoire from a young age at the Music and Arts Conservatory of Santa Barbara. She is a two-time winner of the AJ and Susanna Watson Student Chamber Music Competition as well as the first prize winner of the CSUS Concerto Competition. In college, she has attended many music festivals over the past few years, including the Orchestral Institute of Napa Valley where she has had the opportunity to study with members of the Russian National Orchestra this past summer. Currently, Rei is a member of many orchestras and groups around the Northern Californian area and is employed at two private music schools.

**Drew Cylinder** is currently a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Major at UC Davis. He began studying the violin at the age of 7 and joined the Sacramento Youth Symphony two years later. During his time with the Sacramento Youth Symphony he served as concertmaster in all three of their orchestras. In college he played with the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra as assistant concertmaster for two years and has played in various chamber ensembles.

**Jonathan Fleuter** started learning viola at the age of 17 in 2008 (after being self-taught on the clarinet for several years previous) from instructor Ingrid Gaston and in 2009 he auditioned for and placed into the CODA State Honor Orchestra. Also in 2009, Jonathan began his undergraduate studies at CSU Sacramento in Instrumental Performance on both the clarinet and viola. Two years later, he was required to choose just one and continued on with the viola. In 2012 his chamber group won the AJ and Susanna Watson Student Chamber Music Competition and were again selected as winners in 2013. Throughout his education in music, he has also won various group performances for FeNAM, New Millennium and Composer's competitions. He is currently Assistant Principal Violist of the Sac State Symphony Orchestra and a substitute teacher for music schools in Carmichael, Folsom and Elk Grove.

**Dan Barker**, a native of Ohio, began to study cello at age 9. His primary teachers have been Linda Unkefer (Milwaukee Symphony), Don White (Cleveland Orchestra), David Chickering (Chicago Symphony), Crispin Campbell, Andor Toth. He holds a postgraduate double diploma from Interlochen Arts Academy, a B.Mus. from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and a M.Mus. from California State University Sacramento. He has attended festivals such as the Indiana String Academy with Richard Aaron and Nancy Snustad, the Weathersfield Music Festival with Roland and Almida Vamos, and also has participated in Improvisational and Non-Classical workshops such as Music for People with David Darling and the New Direction Festival with Tim White. He keeps a busy concert schedule, performing regularly with regional orchestras throughout Northern California and in recital. Dan has had a private cello studio for over ten years and has been teaching in Davis for the past five.

**Beverly Wesner-Hoehn**, holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Pacific Union College, the Masters of Music degree from University of Southern California, and the Doctorate of Musical Arts, with High Distinction, from Indiana University in Bloomington, where she was later appointed Assistant Professor of Music. During her college years, Beverly studied harp at the Conservatoire Royale de la Musique in Belgium and won a Prix in Performance while on an ambassadorial scholarship from Rotary International. Dr. Bev has been featured on twelve recordings with choral and ensemble groups from around the world; she served as Administrative Director of the USA Harp Competition in Bloomington, Indiana for six years; she also served as the Treasurer of the World Harp Congress for many years and was a jury member of the prestigious International Harp Contest in Israel. Regular local concerts include the Modesto Symphony, California Music Theatre, Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra, CSUS Orchestra and Choral groups; UC Davis/Mondavi Center and her favorite chamber group, Trio Brio (flute, viola, and harp). Many of her recordings can be purchased on Amazon, CDBaby, and iTunes or on her website: drbevharp.com.

# Upcoming Davis Chorale Concerts:

June 1, 2014 5pm

Davis Community Church, Davis- Interfaith Vespers featuring Rejoice in the Lamb by Britten, with David Deffner, organ.

June 15, 2014 2pm

Harris Center, Folsom -

Sac Sings! Choral Festival, featuring songs from our 2013-2014 season.

## Special Announcement!

### **SacSings! — The Sacramento Choral Festival**

will be coming to the Harris Center at Folsom Lake College, June 13-15, 2014...

**...and we will be there!**

This first-time event will feature 24 choruses performing in joint concerts, and it will be nothing short of spectacular!

Check our website to learn when we'll be performing or visit [www.sacsings.org](http://www.sacsings.org) for all Festival details.

*SacSings! SacSings! SacSings!*  
The Sacramento Choral Festival

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## Supporters of the Davis Chorale, 2013-2014 Season

*Donor (\$1000 and up): In Memory of G. William Skinner*

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*Contributor (up to \$99): Marjorie March*

### Davis Chorale Board

*Don Deem, President ~ Michele van Eyken, Secretary ~ Charlotte Symms, Treasurer  
Edelgard Brunelle, Ben Cooper, Matt Forrest,  
Susan Mann, Susan Royalty, Matthew Zavod*



By performing great choral literature,  
the Davis Chorale is dedicated  
to enhancing the lives of the community,  
its audience and its members,  
in the belief that music elevates the spirit.

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*Did you like what you heard tonight? Interested in supporting us?*

**Hear us!**

*Come see us in concert, throughout the year. Find out details about our upcoming performances at [www.davischorale.org](http://www.davischorale.org).*

**Donate!**

*We appreciate donations to help support our mission. Donations make up nearly half of our annual operating budget. Your donation today can make a real difference as we strive to sing beautiful music in the community.*

**Join!**

*The Chorale welcomes new members from Davis and the surrounding communities by audition. We are an inclusive group, so come join the fun! Membership is for individuals 18 or older, but younger members may be accepted with the consent of the Artistic Director. Semi-annual dues are \$60 per person. We also do annual fundraising projects and provide our own concert attire.*

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Thank you to...

*Nancy Morrow for poster design & printing*

*Jake Whittaker for logistics coordination*

*Alice Provost, Lori Haapanan & Patty Shade for reception organization*

*John Burow for Beethoven music engraving*

*David MacKinnon for logistical help & listening ears*

*Denise Yee & Tracy Young for ticket sales at door*

*Terri Forrest, Susan Mann, Don Price, Nancy Price, Izzy Rosen & Charlotte Symms for ushering*

*Charlotte Symms for keeping us on track, we will miss you!*

*Kathy Peter and Eddie for facilities help*

*Watermelon Music and Hallmark Inn for ticket sales*

*Many Chorale members for set-up help*