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Edette Gagné, Artistic Director

Featuring: String Quartet Angelique Po, organist Tabitha Brasso-Ernst, mezzo-soprano

# Première Performance: REQUIEM by David Millard

12 MARCH 2022 - 7:30PM

PACIFIC SPIRIT UNITED CHURCH 2195 W.45TH AVE, VANCOUVER

DIGITAL production available for viewing from April 1 to 17, 2022



# A Message from Edette Gagné

Where words fail, music speaks.

No truer words would be fitting for today's program, than those of Hans Christian Andersen. When loss is profound, grief can take many forms and healing can take much time. Music has the ability to touch hearts and souls in a way that words alone cannot. Today we celebrate. Today we grieve. Today we heal. Today we hope.

The set of three songs that begins this concert, was chosen from a vast array of compositions touching on the themes of love and loss and remembering. They set the tone for the featured work of our mid-season concert: "In Remembrance".

It is a privilege and an honour to be conducting the first performance of this achingly beautiful Requiem. Composed by a lifetime member of Vivaldi Chamber Choir, I can think of no better tribute to both Alan Ryder and to his love of music, than this work that David Millard has created.

# **From David Millard**

When I first heard of Alan's passing, I felt that he should be honoured with the performance of a Requiem mass. I quickly reached the decision to attempt one of my own. I am a composer by avocation rather than by vocation and this is the largest work I have ever undertaken. Some things came easily, others not so.

I have been devoted to Early Music ever since I first heard Bach on the organ at the age of thirteen, and Early Music techniques infuse almost everything I write. Harmonic structures are not imposed on the form but flow from the demands of the counterpoint. I have consciously employed techniques like canon (in the Introit) and fugue (in the Kyrie and Hosanna movements). In the Gradual I use fifteenth century *cantus firmus* technique. The Sanctus is a *passacaglia*. My harmonic language is not especially adventurous, being somewhat akin to the folk song style of Holst and Vaughan Williams.

One of my first creative decisions was to conclude the work with my setting of Shakespeare's *Fear No More the Heat o' the Sun*, which I composed in 2000. It suits the Requiem in both key and mood, and more importantly, it is a piece that Alan himself participated in singing on more than one occasion.



Photo: Catherine Crouch



Photo: Diamond's Edge Photography

Please be advised that our Artistic Director will be unmasked during the performance, in accordance with ActSafe BC regulations.

# PROGRAMME

My Lord, What a MorningSpiritual; Harmonized/Arr. H.T. Burleigh (1866–1949)Ubi caritasMaurice Duruflé (1902–1986)RememberStephen Chatman (b. 1950)

### REQUIEM

David Millard (b. 1959)

Composed in Memory of beloved Vivaldi Chamber Choir tenor, Alan Ryder (1940–2020) Angelique Po, Organ; Tabitha Brasso-Ernst, Mezzo-Soprano Michelle Gao, Violin I; Tony Lee, Violin II; Mark Jackson, Viola; Zeta Gesme, Cello Solo Quartet: Catherine Crouch; Maria Golas; Steve Froese; Byron Hanson

- I Introitus
- II Kyrie
- III Graduale
- IV Lacrimosa
- V Sanctus
- VI Agnus Dei
- VII Communio Lux Æterna
- VIII Epilogue: Fear no more the heat o' the sun



# **Texts and Translations**

### **Ubi Caritas**

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

### Introitus

Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis. *Ps*. Te decet hymnus Deus in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem: exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis caro veniet. Requiem...luceat eis.

### Kyrie

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

### Graduale

*Cantus firmus:* Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis.

*Ps*. In memoria æterna erit justus: ab auditione mala non timebit.

Additional material from Psalm 139:

Domine probasti me et cognovisti me: tu cognovisti sessionem meam et resurrectionem meam. Quo ibo a spiritu tuo? et quo a facie tua refugiam? Si ascendero in cælum, tu illic es: si descendero in infernum, ades.

### Lacrimosa

Lacrimosa dies illa, Qua resurget ex favilla, Judicandus homo reus: Huic ergo parce Deus.

Pie Jesu, Domine, Dona eis requiem sempiternam. Amen.

### Ubi Caritas

Where there are charity and love, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us together. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us hold in awe and love the living God. And with a sincere heart may we love each other. Amen.

# Requiem

### Introit

Lord, grant them eternal rest, and let perpetual light shine upon them. It is proper to sing a hymn to you, O God in Zion, and a vow to you will be fulfilled in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer, for all flesh shall come to you.

### Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

### Gradual

Lord, grant them eternal rest, and let perpetual light shine upon them. The just shall be held in everlasting remembrance and shall not fear any malicious slander.

Lord, you have tested me and know me. You know my sitting down and my rising up. Where then, shall I fly from your spirit, and where shall I hide from your face? If I go up to heaven, you are there. If I go down to the abyss, you are present.

### Lacrimosa

Oh, how tearful the day on which the guilty shall rise from the ashes to be judged. Spare them, therefore, O God.

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest. Amen.

### Sanctus

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

### **Agnus Dei**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona eis requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona eis requiem. Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi: dona eis requiem sempiternam.

### Communio

Lux æterna luceat eis, Domine: Cum sanctis tuis in æternum, quia pius es. Requiem æternam dona eis, Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis. Cum sanctis tuis in æternum, quia pius es.

### Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of the hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### **Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, grant them rest. Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, grant them rest. Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world, grant them eternal rest.

### Communion

Let everlasting light shine on them, Lord, with your saints for ever, for you are merciful. Lord, grant them eternal rest, and let perpetual light shine upon them with your saints for ever, for you are merciful.

### Epilogue: to be sung at the interment

Fear no more the heat o' the Sun, Nor the furious winter's rages, Thou thy worldly task hast done, Home art gone, and ta'en thy wages. Golden Lads, and Girls all must, As Chimney-Sweepers come to dust.

Fear no more the frown o' the Great, Thou art past the Tyrant's stroke, Care no more to clothe and eat, To thee the Reed is as the Oak:

The Sceptre, Leaning, Physick must All follow this and come to dust. Fear no more the Lightning flash, Nor th'all-dreaded Thunderstone<sup>\*</sup>. Fear not Slander, Censure rash, Thou hast finish'd Joy and moan. All Lovers young, all Lovers must Consign to thee and come to dust.

No Exorciser<sup>+</sup> harm thee, Nor no witchcraft charm thee. Ghost unlaid forbear thee. Nothing ill come near thee. Quiet consummation have, And renowned be thy grave.

Cymbeline, IV ii

### Translations by David Millard

- \* A stone artifact, such as neolithic axe head, a celt, or even a fossil, once believed to be the physical remnant of a lightning strike, and therefore imbued with magic and mischance.
- <sup>+</sup> A Necromancer—someone who raises and commands the spirit of the deceased (as distinct from the modern concept of the exorcist, who banishes such spirits).

## **Our Choir**

### Sopranos

Yasmine Bia; Susie Britnell; Catherine Crouch<sup>\*</sup>; Winnie Gibson<sup>†</sup>; Denise Gilbert; Mary Leigh-Warden<sup>‡</sup>; Sarah Little; Samantha Merz; Freda Miller; Jessica Wright

### Altos

Catherine Allaire<sup>†</sup>; Margaret Archibald; Michelle Arduini; Bev Ferguson; Joan Fitzpatrick; Maria Golas<sup>\*</sup>; Allison Kvern; Karen Millard; Eve Munns

### Tenors

Steve Froese<sup>\*</sup>; David Kaplan; Milton McCrystal<sup>†</sup>; Marcus Petrunia<sup>†</sup>; Jorge Vega; Carlos Vela-Martinez

### Basses

Douglas Abel; Kees van den Doel<sup>†</sup>; Tyler Enns; Ron Hagerman; Byron Hanson<sup>\*</sup>; Aaron Lau; Michael Loo; David Millard; Mike Millard; Peter Munns; Jim Peers; Barry Yamanouchi \*\*

\*\* Collaborative Pianist; \*Section Lead; †On Leave; ‡Administrative Assistant

# **Our Thanks**

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# Digital Release IN REMEMBRANCE

The digital release of the filmed, live March 12 concert will be available for viewing from April 1 – April 17, 2022. Details for the digital release and online ticket sales will be announced following the in-person performance.

# Credits

Photography, Audio-Video Recording and Editing: Michelle Koebke, Diamond's Edge Photography

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