

Songs from the Lake House

April 24, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Virtual

Music in My Mother's House
The Women's Hope Chorale

Stuart Stotts
Arranged by J. David Moore

Seguidilla
Benedetta Orsi
Dragon Babic, accompanist
From the opera *Carmen*

Music by Georges Bizet
Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy

To an Isle in the Water
Emily Moore

Music by Ellen Mandel
Lyrics by William B. Yeats

Le Jazz Hot!
Kaytlin Houghtaling
From the musical *Victor/Victoria*

Music by Henry Mancini
Lyrics by Leslie Bricusse

Let the Healing Begin
Debra Busch

Music and lyrics by Deb Busch

Seal Lullaby
The Women's Hope Chorale

Music by Eric Whitacre
Lyrics by Rudyard Kipling

Over the Rainbow
Leanne Latuda
Brad Pipal, accompanist
From the musical *The Wizard of Oz*

Music by Harold Arlen
Lyrics by Yip Harburg

Steal Away
The Women's Hope Chorale

Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by Gwyneth Walker

Accompanied by:

The Rosewood Ensemble: Anita Hagerman, double bass; Daniel Henderson, cello; Ann Hirschl, violin; Mark Pye, viola; and James Richards, violin

When We Were Young
Merry Keller
Rick Jensen, accompanist

Music & Lyrics by Adele and Tobias Jesso, Jr.

The Girl in 14G
Alexandra Billhartz

Music by Jeanine Tesori
Lyrics by Dick Scanlan

Follow Your Voice
The Women's Hope Chorale

Music by Amy Scurria
Lyrics by Julia Pritchett

Commissioned by the Women's Hope Chorale of St. Louis

Texts and Translations

Music in My Mother's House

There were wind chimes in the window. Bells inside the clock.
An organ in the corner and tunes on a music box.
We sang while we were cooking or working in the yard.
We sang because our lives were really hard.

Chorus:

There was music in my mother's house.
There was music all around.
There was music in my mother's house.
And my heart's still full with the sound.

She taught us all piano but my sister had the ear.
She could play the harmony to any tune she'd hear.
I don't claim much talent, but I've always loved to play
and I guess I will until my dying day....

Chorus:

There was music in my mother's house.
There was music all around.
There was music in my mother's house.
And my heart still is full with the sound.

Those days come back so clearly although I'm far away.
She gave me the kind of gift I love to give away.
And when my mother died and she sang her last song
We sat in the living room singing all night long.

Singing la la la la
Singing the front porch songs.
Singing the old torch songs.
La la La La
Singing the hymns to send her home.

Chorus:

There was music in my mother's house.

There was music all around.

There was music in my mother's house.

And my heart's still full with the sound.

Seguidilla

Pres des remparts de Seville,
Chez mon ami, Lillas Pastia
J'irai danser la Séguédille
Et boire du Manzanilla.
J'irai chez mon ami Lillas Pastia.
Oui, mais toute seule on s'ennuie,
Et les vrais plaisirs sont à deux;
Donc, pour me tenir compagnie,
J'emmènerai mon amoureux!
Mon amoureux, il est au diable,
Je l'ai mis à la porte hier!
Mon pauvre cœur très consolable,
Mon cœur est libre comme l'air!
J'ai les galants à la douzaine,
Mais ils ne sont pas à mon gré.
Voici la fin de la semaine;
Qui veut m'aimer? Je l'aimerai!
Qui veut mon âme? Elle est à prendre.
Vous arrivez au bon moment!
J'ai guère le temps d'attendre,
Car avec mon nouvel amant,
Pres des remparts de Seville,
Chez mon ami, Lillas Pastia!

Near the walls of Seville,
At my friend's place, Lillas Pastia
I will dance the Seguedille
And drink Manzanilla.
I will go to the home of my friend Lillas
Pastia.
Yes, all alone one can get bored,
And real pleasures are for two;
So, to keep me company,
I'll take my lover!
My love, he is the devil,
I did away with him yesterday!
My poor heart is very consolable
My heart is free as a bird!
I have a dozen suitors,
But they are not to my liking.
This is the end of the week
Who will love me? I will love him!
Who wants my soul? It is for you to take.
You arrive at the right time!
I have little time to wait,
Because with my new lover,
Near the walls of Seville,
I will go to my friend, Lillas Pastia!

To an Isle in the Water

Shy one, shy one,
Shy one of my heart,
She moves in the firelight
Pensively apart.

She carries in the dishes,
And lays them in a row.
To an isle in the water
With her would I go.

She carries in the candles,
And lights the curtained room,
Shy in the doorway
And shy in the gloom;

And shy as a rabbit,
Helpful and shy.
To an isle in the water
With her would I fly.

Le Jazz Hot!

'Bout 20 years ago way down in New Orleans,
A group of fellers found a new kind of music
An' they decided to call it
Jazz.

No other sound has what this music has
Before they knew it, it was whizzin' 'round the world
The world was ready for a blue kind of music,
An' now they play it from Steamboat Springs to La Paz

Oh baby
Won't you play me Le Jazz Hot
Maybe, and don't ever let it end
I tell ya friend, it's really somethin' to hear
I can't sit still when there's that rhythm near me

Also, baby, Le Jazz Hot
Maybe what's holdin' my soul together
Don't know whether it's mornin' or night
Only know it's soundin' right

So come on in
And play me Le Jazz Hot
Baby, 'cause I like my jazz hot

Before they knew it, it was whizzin' 'round the world.
The world was ready for a blue kind of music,
An' now they play it from Steamboat Springs to La Paz

When you play me Le Jazz Hot
Baby, you're holdin' my soul together
Don't know if it's mornin' or night
Only know it's soundin' right

So come on in and play me Le Jazz Hot
Baby, 'cause I like my jazz hot

Le Jazz Hot
Le Jazz Hot

Let the Healing Begin

Two faces, which to believe?
Do I stay or do I leave?
I don't feel safe, where do I go
Anger fills every movement in my soul

Let the healing begin
Then I can, begin again
The weight of the hurt, melts away
When you assure me, every day
Lord, let the healing begin.

Don't tell me how to feel
The anger hurts and it is real
I can't think, eat, sleep, or pray
Lord, guide me, Show the way

Let the healing begin
Then I can, begin again
The weight of the hurt melts away
When you assure me, every day
Lord, let the healing begin.

Give me guidance, strength, and hope
I know I'll get there, tell me where to go
I need your help, I need your care
Let me know that you are here

Let the healing begin
Then I can, begin again
The weight of the hurt, melts away
When you assure me, every day
Lord, let the healing begin.

I feel your healing hand touched upon me
You are love, comfort, joy, and peace
Remove this darkness far from me
I've waded through it, now I'm ready

Let the healing begin
Then I can, begin again
The weight of the hurt, melts away
When you assure me, every day
Lord, let the healing begin.
Lord, let the healing begin.
Lord, let the healing begin.
Lord, let the healing begin.

Seal Lullaby

Ooh...

Oh, hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us
And black are the waters that sparkled so green
The moon, o'er the combers, looks downward to find us
At rest in the hollows that rustle between

Where billow meets billow, then soft be thy pillow
Oh weary wee flipperling, curl at thy ease
The storm shall not wake thee, nor shark overtake thee
Asleep in the arms of the slow swinging seas

Asleep in the arms
Of the slow swinging seas

Ooh...

Over the Rainbow

When all the world is a hopeless jumble
And the raindrops tumble all around
Heaven opens a magic lane.
When all the clouds darken up the sky way
There's a rainbow highway to be found
Leading from your windowpane to a place behind the sun
Just a step beyond the rain.

Somewhere over the rainbow
Way up high
There's a land that I heard of
Once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow
Skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream
Really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star
Wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow
Bluebirds fly
Birds fly over the rainbow
Why then, oh why, can't I?

If happy little bluebirds fly
Beyond the rainbow
Why, oh why, can't I?

Steal Away

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus, Jesus
Steal away, steal away home.
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, a-calls me,
Calls me by the thunder.
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul.

I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees a-bending,
Poor sinner stands a-tremblin', tremblin', tremblin', tremblin', tremblin'.
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul,
I ain't got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, steal away home.
Steal away, steal away, steal away home.

I see the lightning,
The thunder and the lightning, O Lord.
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul.
I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord calls me, calls me home.

When We Were Young

Everybody loves the things you do,
From the way you talk
To the way you move.
Everybody here is watching you,
'Cause you feel like home,
You're like a dream come true.

But if by chance you're here alone,
Can I have a moment
Before I go?
'Cause I've been by myself all night long,
Hoping you're someone I used to know.

You look like a movie,
You sound like a song,
My God, this reminds me of when we were young.

Let me photograph you in this light,
In case it is the last time
That we might
Be exactly like we were
Before we realized
We were sad of getting old,
It made us restless.

It was just like a movie,
It was just like a song.

I was so scared to face my fears,
Nobody told me that you'd be here.
And I'd swear you moved overseas;
That's what you said when you left me.

You still look like a movie,
You still sound like a song.
My God, this reminds me of when we were young.

Let me photograph you in this light
In case it is the last time
That we might be exactly like we were
Before we realized
We were sad of getting old,
It made us restless.

It was just like a movie,
It was just like a song.

It's hard to win me there.
Everything just takes me back
To when you were there,

And a part of me keeps holding on
Just in case it hasn't gone.
I guess I still care...
Do you still care?

It was just like a movie,
It was just like a song.
My God, this reminds me
Of when we were young

Let me photograph you in this light,
In case it is the last time
That we might be exactly like we were
Before we realized
We were sad of getting old,
It made us restless.
Oh I'm so mad I'm getting old

It makes me reckless.

It was just like a movie...
It was just like a song...
When we were young.

The Girl in 14G

Just moved in to 14G
So cozy, calm, and peaceful
Heaven for a mouse like me
With quiet by the lease-full
Pets are banned, parties too
And no solicitations
Window seat with garden view
A perfect nook to read a book
I'm lost in my Jane Austen when I hear

[Dramatic opera]

Say it isn't so
Not the flat below
From an opera wanna be
In 13G
A matinee of some cantata
Wagner's Ring
And Traviata

[Dramatic opera]

My first night in 14G
I'll put up with Puccini
Brew myself a cup of tea
Crochet until she's "fini"
Half past eight
Not a peep
Except the clock tick-tockin'
Now I lay me down to sleep
A comfy bed to rest my head
A stretch, a yawn, I'm almost gone when

[Scatting noisily]

Now the girl upstairs
[Laughs]
Wakes me unawares
Blowing down from 15G
Her reveille
She's scattin' like her name is Ella
Guess who answers a cappella

[escalating transitions between scatting and opera]

I'm not one to
Raise my voice
Make a fuss
Or speak my mind
But might I query
Would you mind if
Could you kindly

STOP!
That felt good
STOP!

13, 15, 14G
A most unlikely trio
Not quite three part harmony

All day and night we're singing
[All three sing]

I've had my fill of peace and quiet
Shout out loud I've changed my diet
All because of 14g

Follow Your Voice

For women's choir (SSAA), this work was commissioned by the Women's Hope Chorale of St. Louis, Missouri. 2020 Text by Julia Pritchett

All my life I've listened to those around me.
Followed others, followed orders.
Sneaking parts of myself in between.
And I used to think it was enough.

It used to be enough...

But now I'm ready to try something new
I'm scared, but I'm ready
To follow my voice
To do things my way
And I know you have the courage to do the same.

Follow your voice
Choose your own dreams!
Stop waiting for someone to tell you what to do
Or who you're supposed to be

Follow your voice
Be yourself and be proud

Follow your voice,
Take a chance, set your course
Follow your voice,
Trust yourself and go!
Set free what's already inside

And listen, listen,
Listen to your voice!

The Women's HOPE Chorale of St. Louis

The Women's Hope Chorale of St. Louis is a group of women with diverse backgrounds and skills coming together to share their love of singing. With a commitment to innovation and creativity, the Chorale commissions unique arrangements and works that give voice to women composers and poets. And the Chorale brings a fresh take to classical music, fusing musical styles and art forms in every concert.

Extraordinary performances creating memorable experiences:
Where Innovation Joins Tradition.

Our Mission:

To engage and inspire through excellent, innovative, uplifting choral performances.

Our Vision:

A world where all people experience the transformative power of music.

Principal Artist Awards:

Central to the mission of the chorale is the desire to support women who are pursuing careers in music. We achieve our goals, in part, by offering paid positions in the form of Principal Artist Awards. Our Principal Artists have opportunities to perform solos with the Chorale and also function as our Section Leaders.

Leadership

Leanne Magnuson Latuda:
Artistic Director, Executive Director and Conductor

Ruth Stith:
Accompanist

Elaine Wright:
Administrative Manager

Artistic Personnel

Soloists



Alexandra Billhartz

An artist with a love for opera and Baroque music, soprano Alexandra Billhartz is a native of New Baden, IL. Most recently, she has performed the roles of Cercatrice Prima Sorella

with Winter Opera St. Louis in their 2021 production of *Suor Angelica* and Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Frasquita (*Carmen*), and Norina (*Don Pasquale*) with MIOpera in their 2020 and 2021 virtual productions. Ms. Billhartz has also sung the roles of Musetta (*La Bohème*) with MIOpera, Despina (*Così fan tutte*) with the Summer Vocal Academy of Orvieto, and Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*) and Gretel (matinee performances) (*Hansel and Gretel*) with Ball State Opera Theatre. She was also the soprano soloist in a 2018 performance of Saint-Saëns' *Oratorio de Noël* at First Presbyterian Church in Muncie, IN. Ms. Billhartz has presented her research on Handel and the doctrine of the affections and the topic of opera adaptation throughout her graduate studies. She is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Phi Kappa Phi. Ms. Billhartz earned her BM in Vocal Performance from the University of Evansville in 2016, graduating *summa cum laude*, and her MM in Vocal Performance from Ball State University in 2019.



Debra Busch

I graduated from UMSL with a degree in Special Education and a minor in Creative Writing. My love of music came from listening to Motown. My love of singing dates to the fifth grade. I always wanted to play an instrument, the guitar. I would visit friends to watch them play the guitar, then they would try to teach me. But I never caught on because I didn't have a guitar to practice. In 1999 I went back to church and joined the choir in 2000. When I was diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa, an eye disease I left St. Louis for nine months to attend Colorado Center for the Blind for training. I graduated in 2002 and resumed singing with the choir.

From 2016 - to present, I've been involved with Rachel Ebeling, the executive director of the Angel Band Project. The same year I created my first song with my music therapist as a client of the Angel Band Project and I found my guitar teacher. I wrote *Let the Healing Begin* in 2017 with the help of my music therapist. I recorded it at the Gas Light Recording Studio. A few years ago I wanted to expand my vocal gifts, so I joined the Women's Hope Chorale.



Kaytlin Houghtaling

Kaytlin Houghtaling is the Alto II section leader with the Women's Hope Chorale. She loves to sing many styles of music from classical to jazz to rock and pop. In previous years, she has sung with St. Louis opera companies Winter Opera and Union Avenue Opera. She is a section leader with the Chancel Choir at Community Christian Church (currently virtually), and sang with the new St. Louis choir, Catenary, starting in 2019 and looks forward to singing with them again when it is possible! She has also been featured as a vocalist and lyricist for the video game *Our Life* and as a voice actress in various other games while working with the independent music and sound design team Fat Bard.



Merry Keller

Merry Keller played the role of Nettie Fowler in Union Avenue Opera's production of *Carousel*, and has also appeared in the ensemble for UAO's productions of *Candide*, *Lost in the Stars*, *Doubt* and *Dead Man Walking*. After debuting a solo cabaret show at St. Louis' Kranzberg called "It's Personal", Merry Keller performed the show in April at "Don't Tell Mama" in New York City. Her local performance experience also includes a solo concert, *Wade In the Water* at The Chapel, and solo cabaret shows, *Songs of the Silver Screen*, and *Love In Four Seasons*, both at The Sheldon Concert Hall. She has also been a solo performer in the Friends of Music Concert Series, and in benefit concerts

throughout the area. Merry has been Artistic Director of the Gateway Men's Chorus, Charis, the St. Louis Women's Chorus, and St. Louis County Community Chorus. Merry Keller maintains a private teaching studio for voice and piano students.



Leanne Magnuson Latuda

Leanne Magnuson Latuda has been performing professionally, directing, and teaching for more than 25 years. She has a Master of Music Degree from the University of Illinois and Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Augustana College where she was a Presidential Scholar and graduated cum laude.

Leanne is a gifted mezzo-soprano who has sung professionally with opera companies, musical theaters, and choral ensembles. She has performed locally as a soloist with the St Louis Symphony, The Bach Society and the Masterworks Chorale. Leanne has been the Artistic Director and Conductor of WHCSTL since 2012 and was named the Executive Director in 2020. Leanne and her husband Frank have three children and a menagerie of pets.



Emily Moore

Emily Moore received her Master of Music emphasis in vocal performance degree from Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville (2017) and her Bachelor of Music Education from Webster University (2011). She currently serves as the Director of Vocal Music at McCluer High School in the Ferguson Florissant School District. Her vocal credits include *Trouble in Tahiti* (Dinah), *Die Zauberflöte* (2nd Lady), and *The Addams Family* (Alice). She performs with Winter Opera of St. Louis in the chorus and is a member of the St. Boniface Catholic Church Choir in Edwardsville, IL. She also performs with her husband in their family bluegrass band: The Red Haired Boys.



Benedetta Orsi

Italian mezzo soprano Benedetta Orsi is one of the 2018 nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Opera by St. Louis Theater Circle for her *Carmen* at Winter Opera St. Louis, reviewed by Broadway Opera World: "*Benedetta Orsi has a quite breathtakingly beautiful voice, full and rich, with such easily accessed resources of power. She gives us a simply perfect "Habanera".* Along with concert appearances at Carnegie Hall in NYC and throughout Italy, UK, US and Spain, Ms. Orsi's performance credits include roles in *Norma*, *Anna Bolena*, *Maria Stuarda*, *Roberto Devereux*, *Rigoletto*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, *La Sonnambula*, *Werther*, *Il Turco in Italia*, *Il Trovatore*. Her new album "La voix de l'amour" was released in November 2020 by the international recording label LimenMusic.

Singers Appearing in this Video:

Soprano 1

Alexandra Billhartz *

Katherine Crumrine

Adrienne Dillon

Susan Kissinger

Soprano 2

Merry Keller

Claire Linzee

Yolanda Kronert

Ingrid Lutzeler

Judy Rosen

Emily Moore *

Sarah Shulman

Mary Wittry

Alto 1

Deb Busch

Jeanne Heitman

Rachel Miskall

Benedetta Orsi *

Peggy Pittenger

Gerry Rauch

Monica Taylor

Mary Ann Shaw

Mary Sweetin

Alto 2

Leslie Brackett

Carol Cheek

Emily Felton

Cathy Hogan ****

Kaytlin Houghtaling *

Norma Schechter

Irene Thalden

Elaine Wright

Principal Artist*

Maryville University Student **

Maryville University Faculty ****

Singers Not Appearing in this Video:

Soprano 1

Samantha Arten

Emily Bynum

Lynn Freund

Vickie Minter

Mary Robert

Soprano 2

Briana Byrd

Kara Klette

Mackenzie Rose

Alto 1

Hannah Allee

Cara Clemens

Cindy Deffenbaugh

Jeanne Heitman

Alto 2

Susan Adams

Suzie Horn

Mariann Ruffle



Leanne Magnuson Latuda, Artistic and Executive Director

Leanne Magnuson Latuda has been performing professionally, directing, and teaching for more than 25 years. She has a Master of Music Degree from the University of Illinois and Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Augustana College where she was a Presidential Scholar and graduated cum laude.

Leanne is a gifted Mezzo-soprano who has sung professionally with opera companies, musical theaters, and choral ensembles. She has performed locally as a soloist with the St Louis Symphony, The Bach Society and the Masterworks Chorale. Leanne has been the Artistic Director and Conductor of WHCSTL since 2012 and was named the Executive Director in 2020. Leanne and her husband Frank have three children and a menagerie of pets.



Ruth Stith, Accompanist

Ruth Stith is a faculty member of St. Louis University and Webster University (CMS), where she teaches class piano, applied piano lessons and directs the SLU Piano Ensemble. Prior to moving to St. Louis Ms. Stith was an instructor of piano and theory at Vanderbilt University where she also served as a staff accompanist. She has a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance from Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville (summa cum laude) and a Bachelor's degree in Piano Performance from Vanderbilt University. Ms Stith lives in St. Louis with her husband and three young children and has enjoyed accompanying the Women's Hope Chorale since 2014.



Elaine Wright, Administrative Manager

Elaine spent twenty years supporting C-level executives and another twenty years working in Materials Management. She loves working and singing with the Chorale and playing with her cat, Lovey.

Board of Directors

Officers

President: Adrienne Dillon
Secretary: Peggy Pittenger
Acting Treasurer: Susan Kissinger

Directors

Cindy Deffenbach
Kara Klette
Leanne Latuda, Artistic and Executive Director
Mary Ann Shaw, Founder
Richard Shaw, Founder
Elaine Wright, Administrative Manager

Advisors

Emily Bynum
Mary Wittry

We are supported by:

Missouri Arts Council



Regional Arts Council



St. Louis Community
Foundation-Give St. Louis
Day



And Donors Like You:

We would like to thank the following people who donated in Season 25 and 26.

\$1000 and up

Anonymous
Latuda, Leanne and Frank
Noellsch, Maurice and Marie
Schechter, Norma
Shaw, David

Shaw, Mary Ann and Richard
Wilkins, Milton and Nina

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Rauch, Geraldine Ann
Sandler, Benjamin

\$250 - \$499

Anonymous
Emerson
Hogan, Tom and Cathy
Kissinger, Susan and John
Pfizer
Mooney, Margaret
Pacino, Eileen
Rauch, Geraldine Ann
Rawizza, Alan
Square Inc.
Simons, Paul and Pat

\$100 - \$249

Lutzeler, Ingrid and Paul
Gamble, James and Susan
Chase, Lewis and Jean
Kurtz, Evelyn L
Mager, Margaret and Stephen
Pittenger, Margaret and Joel

\$50 - \$99

Allee, Hannah
Billhartz, Scott and Margaret
Brown, Janet and Reuter, Paul
Calzaretta, Mary
Camp, Patrick
Crumrine, Kathryn and John
Dabler, Edward and Gail
Edwards, Ralph and Eilah
Ellis, Dorsey and Sondra
Fortus, Janet
Franks, James
Heitman, Jeanne
Hemphill, Peggy
Hotard, Alan and Kathryn

Mager, Margaret and Stephen
Magnuson, James and Nancy
Openlander, Patrick and Mary
Nienhuis, Robert and Janice
Rogers, Kathryn
Rufle, Mariann
Shulman, Mark and Robin
Super, Greg
Thalden, Irene
Toeneboehn, Brian
St. Jean, Robert
Sims, Stephanie
Wells, Fletcher and Julie

Up to \$49

Montague, Richard and Judy
SRS of St. Joseph of Carondelet
Tobin, William and Tamara
Busch, Debra and Horace
Johnson, Rosalee and Jesse
Benedetta Orsi
Benedetta Orsi
Palmer, Jane

Join us for Season 27
2021-2022

We hope to return to in-person performances with three
concerts in November, February and April.

*The Dream Keepers:
A Couple, A Child, and A Canvas*

Plus

A special collaborative Holiday Concert with the
Community Gospel Choir of St. Louis and The Legend
Singers Choral Ensemble