

Lake of Stars



ELEKTRA

WOMEN'S CHOIR

creating • exploring • celebrating

Featuring the
Sitka String Quartet
with **Candice Halls-Howcroft**
Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director

May 14, 2022 & May 15, 2022
Pacific Spirit United Church



ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR

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Snewiyah t'l'a Stakw
(Teachings of the Water)

photo courtesy of Kindred and Scout

**An Exploration of Water Teachings and
Relationality in First Nations Cultures**

Squamish language text chosen, gifted,
and taught by Tsitsáyxemaat (Rebecca Duncan),
music by T. Patrick Carrabré

A world premiere
on Elektra's YouTube Channel
7:00pm, June 9, 2022

For more information and to be emailed a link before
the performance, visit elektra.ca/concerts-events

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Welcome, friends!

Elektra is pleased to welcome you to **Lake of Stars**, a program weaving together themes of water, stars, and night. Opening and closing the program are folk-inspired works from the Nordic countries.

New times mean new collaborations, and we are thrilled to welcome guests the **Sitka String Quartet** and Squamish Nation educator and reader **Candice Halls-Howcroft**. Please read all about them on page 10.

Today's performance is the result of several projects that have been undertaken during the pandemic and now, finally, can be brought to you live in concert. The theme of water is present in our opening work, **Vesi väsy lumen alle**, based on a haunting Finnish melody introduced to us by the flute, and again in the world premiere of a five-movement suite called **Snewiyalh tl'a Staḵw (Teachings of the Water)** by **T. Patrick Carrabré** with Squamish language text by **Rebecca Duncan**. We also introduce you early on to another recurring theme with **Ramona Luengen's** lyrical **Night**. Its opening lines, "The sparkling stars pin an inky black canvas across the endless expanse of sky" sets the scene for our time together. To close the first half, the brilliant and playful **Two Shakespeare Songs** by **Stephen Smith**, also enjoying their world premiere in these concerts.

The **Sitka String Quartet** takes centre stage to open the second half, bringing repertoire from the **Danish String Quartet**. And then I invite you to sit back and absorb a three-part landscape of works by **Marie-Claire Saindon**, **Alexsandra Vrebalov**, and **Santiago Veros**, the latter of whose brand new work, **Lake of Stars** is the fruit of a collaboration between five choirs across North America. We leave you with the very playful **Kisti du Kom**, another nod to the Nordic traditions, this time a Danish arrangement of two traditional Swedish melodies.

I encourage you to follow the texts and translations of each work as the concert unfolds. And to return to the Elektra website to read my **Lake of Stars Listener's Guide** if you want to know more.

Thank you for spending this time with Elektra!

Elektra is privileged to sing and perform on the traditional and unceded territories of three Coast Salish peoples; the **Musqueam**, **Squamish**, and **Tseil-Waututh** nations.

Lake of Stars

Saturday, May 14 and Sunday, May 15, 2022

Pacific Spirit United Church, Vancouver

Elektra Women's Choir, Morna Edmundson, Artistic Director
with the **Sitka String Quartet (Cassandra Bequary and Karen Gerbrecht, violin
Emilie Grimes, viola, Olivia Blander, cello)**
Heather Beaty, flutes, **Yefeng Yin**, bass, **Stephen Smith**, piano
and **Candice Halls-Howcroft**, educator and reader

*Please turn off your cell phones. Please note that photography and videography (other than by Elektra's official photographers) are not permitted during the performance.
At intermission and following the concert, we encourage you to tweet about your experience:
@ElektraYVR!*

Program

Vesi väsy lumen alletext by Eha Lättemäe, music by Harri Wessman
based on a traditional Finnish melody
English translation by Kari Turunen

Vesi väsy lumen alle,
jäiden alle jää lepohon.

*Water grows weary under the snow
it rests under the ice.*

Tuulee tuuli, ei torkahda.
Tanssii tuisku tuhatjalka,
pyryn poika pyörähtelee.
Tuulee tuuli, ei torkahda.

*The wind blows, it does not sleep.
The flurry dances with a thousand feet.
The son of the flurry dances around.
The wind blows, it does not sleep.*

Sitä ei kuule kuloruoho,
kuloruoho, kuolonkorsi,
hangen alla ei aavista.

*It is not heard by the dry grass
The dry grass, the dead stalk
under the snow, it does not (even) suppose*

Aikaa on olla uninen,
Aikaa olla luminenkin.

*There is time to be sleepy.
Time to be snowy, as well.*

Night poem by Hilary Ilkay, music by Ramona Luengen
(world premiere of version for string quartet and piano)

The sparkling stars
Pin an inky black canvas
Across the endless expanse of sky;
The sun dips low and
Whispers its last goodnight
To the world;
It's time to rest
Until the morning comes
In its reckless manner;
But now, now it is time
For the night to come
And the moon to rise
Suspended in the air,
And now it is time
For the stars to shine,

And for children to stare
In wonder, as they
Wish upon them with all their heart;
The noise dims,
The wind dies,
Everything slows,
The world shuts off –
And now, I say
Farewell to the world
Until the morning comes
To awaken the earth
From its deep slumber;
And now, all that reigns
Is the night.

**Snewíyalh tl'a Stakw (Teachings of the Water)Squamish language text chosen, gifted,
and taught by Tsitsáyxemaat (Rebecca Duncan), music by T. Patrick Carrabré
Poem *Water Heals* by Candice Halls-Howcroft
Water teachings contributed by Rebecca Duncan, Gáḡala-Áíłətko (Nadia Joe),
Candice Halls-Howcroft, and Yeltsilewet (Faye Halls), spoken by Candice Halls-Howcroft
Dr. Jeanette Gallant, Project Concept and Co-Curator (world premiere)**

Please hold your applause until the end of the fifth movement.

1. Keksín ti syatshn (The Natural World)

eslhelhá7kwhiws

how everything is connected

2. Kwis na xwey (Birth)

kwis na xwey

when you were born

3. Shúkw'em (Ceremony)

shúkw'em

spiritual cleansing

xwip'i7án

brushing off, or cleansing with wet cedar boughs

4. Slúlum (Song)

lúlum

to sing

slúlumcht

our song

Soloists: Danica Kell (Saturday performance) / Melissa Howell (Sunday performance)

5. Úxwumixw (Identity)

méymeḡem

ripple

i7xw wa méymeḡem

everything is a ripple

**Two Shakespeare Songstexts by William Shakespeare from *As You Like It*
music by Stephen Smith (world premiere)
commissioned with the generous support of Roland and Catherine Haebler**

Under the Greenwood Tree

Under the greenwood tree
Who loves to lie with me,
And turn his merry note
Unto the sweet bird's throat,
Come hither, come hither, come hither:
Here shall he see
No enemy
But winter and rough weather.

Who doth ambition shun
And loves to live i' the sun,
Seeking the food he eats,
And pleased with what he gets,
Come hither, come hither, come hither:
Here shall he see
No enemy
But winter and rough weather.

It Was a Lover and His Lass

It was a lover and his lass,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
That o'er the green cornfield did pass,
In springtime, the only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding;
Sweet lovers love the spring.

Between the acres of the rye,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
Those pretty country folks would lie,
In springtime, the only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding;
Sweet lovers love the spring.

This carol they began that hour,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
How that a life was but a flower
In springtime, the only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding;
Sweet lovers love the spring.

And therefore take the present time,
With a hey, and a ho, and a hey nonino,
For love is crownèd with the prime
In springtime, the only pretty ring time,
When birds do sing, hey ding a ding, ding;
Sweet lovers love the spring.

----- *Intermission* -----

Shore / The Dromer.....**music by Fredrik Sjölin / traditional Danish**
arr. Danish String Quartet

Blinded by a Leafy Crown**poem Leaves by Sara Teasdale**
music by Marie-Claire Saindon

One by one, like leaves from a tree,
All my faiths have forsaken me;
But the stars above my head
Burn in white and delicate red,
And beneath my feet the earth
Brings the sturdy grass to birth.
I who was content to be
But a silken-singing tree,
But a rustle of delight
In the wistful heart of night,

I have lost the leaves that knew
Touch of rain and weight of dew.
Blinded by a leafy crown
I looked neither up nor down—
But the little leaves that die
Have left me room to see the sky;
Now for the first time I know
Stars above and earth below.

Starry Night..... **Aleksandra Vrebalov**
for string quartet with pre-recorded soundtrack

Lake of Stars..... **poem by Charles Anthony Silvestri**
music by Santiago Veros (world premiere)

Soloist: Stephanie Schollen

Sailing through this longest of nights
Across dark waters, and darker thoughts,
The distant shore
Only the shadow of long ago,

I reach for the memory of the green of your eyes,
For the smell of spring, the whispering of butterflies;
But wrapped in a cloak of deep forgetting,
I begin to fade away.

From the darkness gather, luminous,
The guardians of past and future;
They surround me, whispering, Rise and remember!
Follow, and we will guide you home!

The voices awaken a shower of stars,
Banishing night, revealing the path
To the once distant shore,
And the promised light of long-awaited dawn.

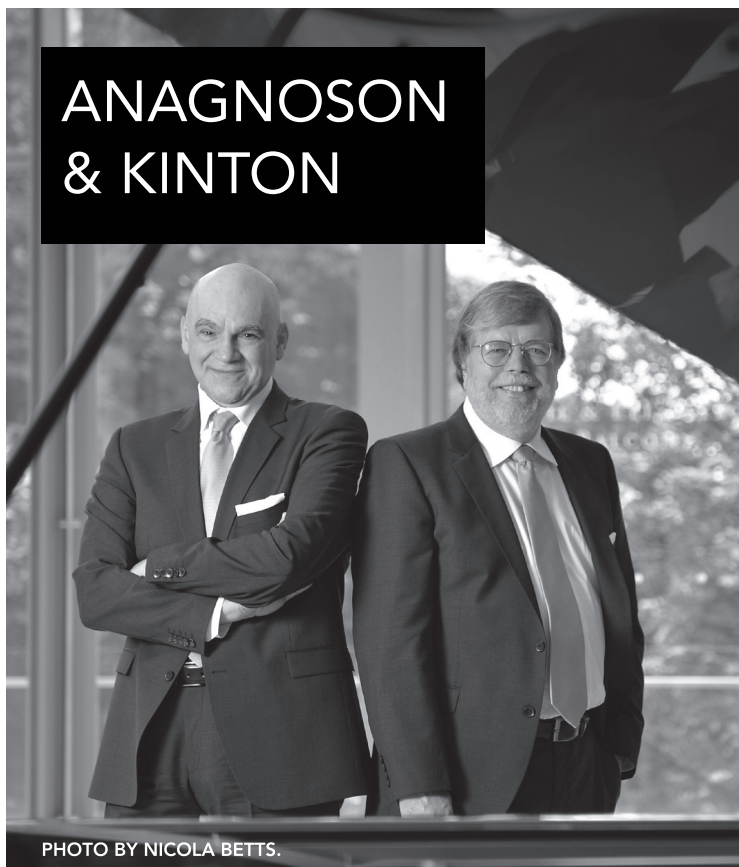
Kisti du Kom traditional dance tune from Dalarna, Sweden
arr. Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen
Kisti du Kom translation by Kari Turenen
With thanks to the Danish National Girls' Choir
and the Danish String Quartet

Kisti du kom
du nog vill du väll svänga
ser jag rätt på dig
så har du nog lust

*Kisti, you've come,
And I think you're glad you're here.
If I look at you right,
You'll probably be in the mood.*

Uti vår hage där växa blå bär.
Kom hjärtans fröjd
Vill du mig någe', så har du mig här!
Kom liljor och aquileja,
Kom rosor och saliveja,
Kom ljuva krusmynta, kom hjärtans fröjd!

*In our pasture grow blueberries.
Come, heart's joy.
If you need me for something, we will meet there!
Come lilies and aquilegia,
come roses and salvia!
Come sweet crisp-leafed mint, come, heart's joy!*



**ANAGNOSON
& KINTON**

PHOTO BY NICOLA BETTS.

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ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR

Morna Edmundson,
Artistic Director

Elektra Women's Choir from Vancouver, Canada has been a leader among women's choirs since 1987. Under the direction of Artistic Director **Morna Edmundson** the 45-voice adult choir is known for adventurous programming, seeking out music written specifically for women and frequently commissioning new works. The choir is honoured to work with an outstanding pianist, **Dr. Stephen Smith**.

Elektra delivers its mandate to "inspire and lead" through an annual concert series including new and commissioned works and featuring outstanding guest artists. In addition to performing worthy repertoire from the past, Elektra has commissioned over 90 compositions and arrangements. The choir's recordings on iTunes and CD Baby extend the reach of its repertoire internationally. Elektra's 17th CD, **Fire Flowers**, was released in August of 2020. Elektra's website offers a permanent repertoire resource featuring all works programmed by the choir to date. Elektra's celebrated outreach programs encourage, train, and mentor the next generation of youth and adults: singers, conductors, and composers.

A multiple national prize-winning ensemble, Elektra has been honoured to perform at conferences of **Choral Canada**, the **American Choral Directors Association**, **Chorus America**, the **International Society for Music Education**, as well as the **International Federation for Choral Music**, where it appeared at the **World Symposium on Choral Music** in Sydney (1996) and Barcelona (2017). In the summer of 2018, Elektra was one of five choirs from across the country to perform in "...float...", Choral Canada's unique, outdoor immersive performance experience, funded by the **Canada Council's New Chapter** program. In December 2020, Elektra partnered with **WomenSing** from the Bay Area in California, to produce **The Light of Hope Returning** digital performance on **YouTube**, which had almost 12,000 views during its two-week limited run.

Soprano 1

Julie Edmundson, Danica Kell, Holly Kennedy, Ashley McConnell,
Janine Magaw*, Rachel Nelson, Janet Pritchard, Jillian Schina, Anna Turunen

Soprano 2

Jannie Burdeti, Ann Busay, Sophia Fan, Katrin Lohuaru, Sharon Schermbrucker, Kim Taylor*,
Allison Tremblay, Isabella Troche, Anisha Varghese, Christine Wang

Alto 1

Grace Groot*, Melissa Howell, Shelley Koke, Sheila Little, Stephanie Loo,
Allison Stillwell, Patty Wagner, Brenda Wilson

Alto 2

Stephanie Browning, Stephanie Ching, Maureen Ciarniello, Elisabeth Finch,
Corinne Norbraten, Denise O'Brien, Caitlin Robinson*, Deirdre Rogers,
Stephanie Schollen, Rosemary Speakman

* Section Leaders

MORNA EDMUNDSON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

photo: David Cooper



Morna Edmundson is one of Canada's best-known choral conductors with a strong reputation for excellence. Passionate since childhood about choral singing, she obtained degrees and diplomas in vocal music in Vancouver, Bellingham, and Stockholm, Sweden where her teachers included **Eric Ericson**. In 1987, she co-founded **Elektra Women's Choir** with **Diane Loomer**, a treasured partnership that lasted 22 years. In 2009, Morna became Elektra's sole Artistic Director, continuing the choir's strong leadership role in concert presentation, commissioning, recording, and mentorship. In addition to her work with Elektra, Morna is the Artistic Director of **EnChor**, a Vancouver-based, auditioned, mixed choir for mature voices. For 14 years Morna shared her love of quality repertoire with a new generation of singers in her role as Associate Artistic Director of **Coastal Sound Music Academy**, where she was Music Director of the mixed-voice **Youth Chamber Choir**. Morna has adjudicated in North America and Asia, conducted honour choirs in several states, co-directed the **American Choral Directors Association National Women's Honour Choir**, and gives frequent workshops with choirs of all ages. In 2000 she was presented with the **Healey Willan Award** for outstanding service to the **BC Choral Federation**, an organization she serves as a member of the **Willan Council**. In February 2009 Morna was a recipient of the **BC Community Achievement Award**, which recognized her gifted organizational talent, leadership by example, and her encouragement of others to pursue their musical and choral goals. In June 2011 Morna received a Vancouver **YWCA Woman of Distinction Award** in recognition of her work with Elektra. Since 2013, she has served as a Board member of **Chorus America**, the advocacy, research, and leadership development organization that gives voice to the choral field. In 2020, she joined the board of **Choral Canada** as its President Elect, and assumes that position in the Fall of 2022.

STEPHEN SMITH, PIANIST

photo: David Cooper



Stephen Smith grew up in rural Nova Scotia, where he sang and played the piano from an early age. After initial studies in his home province in both piano and organ, he attended the **Royal Northern College of Music** in Manchester, England. While there, he participated in national and international competitions and won numerous awards and distinctions. Since 1990, Stephen has lived in Vancouver, obtaining his doctoral degree in piano performance from the **University of British**

Columbia, and contributing to the musical life of the city as a performer, teacher, conductor, composer and arranger. Central to Stephen's career is his long-standing relationship with some of Vancouver's finest choral groups. In addition to his work with Elektra (which he has accompanied since 2001), he is also resident accompanist of the **Vancouver Men's Chorus**, pianist for the **Vancouver Bach Choir**, and a frequent collaborator with **Chor Leoni Men's Choir**, the **Vancouver Chamber Choir**, and many other ensembles. Stephen is also a published composer and arranger of choral music, with a long and growing list of commissions from individual choirs across North America, and from such entities as the **British Columbia Choral Federation**, the **Women's Commissioning Consortium of the ACDA**, and the **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation**. Stephen's work as both composer and pianist can be heard on dozens of CDs in commercial release, including a solo recording of classical piano miniatures entitled **Kaleidoscope**, which is available on **iTunes**.
www.smithstephen.musicaneo.com

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GUEST ARTISTS



SITKA STRING QUARTET

The **Sitka String Quartet** was formed by friends and colleagues in the **Vancouver Symphony Orchestra**. After years of playing together in the larger ensemble, and sharing numerous concerts as chamber musicians within the **VSO Chamber Players**, it was a natural extension of their like-minded musical curiosity, open-heartedness, and a fearless willingness to explore quartet repertoire across many genres that propelled these four musicians to form a professional quartet.

The members are: violinists **Cassandra Bequary** and **Karen Gerbrecht**, violist **Emilie Grimes**, and cellist **Olivia Blander**. Coming from disparate but complementary backgrounds, the four members of the Sitka String Quartet have toured the world performing. They have enjoyed shared and individual performances in Italy, France, Germany, Denmark, Poland, Austria, Japan, China, Korea, Iraq, Lebanon, and Australia. Their affection for British Columbia has kept them living within a few kilometres of one another, and they are proud to perform in their home, BC, whenever the opportunity arises. As chamber musicians, members of the SSSQ have worked or trained with the **Guarnari String Quartet**, **Tokyo String Quartet**, **Takacs Quartet**, **St Lawrence Quartet**, **James Campbell**, **Pinchas Zuckerman**, **Menahem Pressler**, **Karen Tuttle**, **Alina Ibragimova**, and **Lorand Fenyves**. All four members of the Sitka Quartet are full-time, tenured musicians with the **Vancouver Symphony Orchestra**. The members also serve on the faculties of the **VSO School of Music**, with some teaching additionally at UBC. After the initial closure of BC theatres in March 2020, the Sitka String Quartet put their energies into recording projects, both audio and video. They were also able to create a number of live performance opportunities throughout the province, working within provincial health guidelines. Memorable live performances within the last ten months include an outdoor performance on Grouse Mountain near Vancouver, and performances at the **Firehall Theatre**, and **High Beams Dreams** in Gibsons, BC. Projects since the pandemic closures have included recordings and live performances of the works of **Caroline Shaw**, the **Danish String Quartet**, **Dvořák**, **Bartók**, **Martinů**, **Beethoven** and **Shostakovich**.



CANDICE HALLS-HOWCROFT, EDUCATOR AND READER

Candice Halls-Howcroft is a very proud member of the **Squamish Nation** who acknowledges the beautiful Coast Salish unceded traditional territories of the **Squamish**, **Musqueam** and **Tsleil-Watuth** Nations, on whose territories her ancestors have walked for many, many moons. Candice's passion is to help people to get to their next step. She has worked in education, employment and training for 25 years with toddlers to Elders and everything in between. She is currently an instructor at the **Native Education College** in **The Essentials: Skills, Culture & Knowledge Program** — a 12-week program that teaches students to strengthen their academic/essential skills, learn who they are and where they come from in the culture, and learn new knowledge and skills in an area of their choice (Basic Security Training, Business Start-Up,

Financial Service Representative and College and Career Prep). Other projects that Candice is involved in include **youthLEADarts**, a network of Canadian young people who work together through the arts, to encourage and support one another as they emerge as the LEADers of tomorrow, and the **Respectful Onsite Initiative**, British Columbia's **Infrastructure Benefits Onsite Initiative**, a comprehensive approach to supporting all workers on CBA projects to create opportunities for building a career in the trades. Candice loves to use her hands, which includes weaving, working with medicines and essential oils, spending time with friends and family, camping, painting and colouring, and walking her fur babies, Indy & Abby.



HEATHER BEATY, FLUTE

Heather Beaty received her music performance degrees from the **University of British Columbia** as well as an honours Advanced Certificate in Arts and Entertainment Management from **Capilano University**. Heather is Principal Flute of the **Kamloops Symphony Orchestra**, and simultaneously acts as the KSO's Orchestra Steward and chair of the **Kamloops Symphony Players' Association**. Her freelance work includes performances with the **Victoria Symphony Orchestra**, **Prince George Symphony Orchestra**, **Okanagan Symphony Orchestra**, **Vancouver Island Symphony Orchestra**, **Vancouver Symphony Orchestra**, **Plastic Acid Orchestra**, and **Aventa Ensemble**. Heather is also a baroque flute specialist. She was selected twice as a winner of **Early Music Vancouver's Baroque Orchestral Scholarship**

Programme which supported her baroque music studies with Toronto's **Tafelmusik Summer Institute** as well as the **Dartington Baroque Music Festival** in Devon, UK. She founded the arts organization **Seagrass Music**

Society and the Vancouver concert series *Concerts on Tap* in 2019 with her artistic partner **Molly MacKinnon**; a performance concept which paired a one hour program of classical music with a flight of craft beer or spirits. Heather's favourite memory from the series included performing with harpsichord in **Strange Fellows Brewery** November 2018.



YEFENG YIN, BASS

Vancouver-based bassist Yefeng Yin has performed with ensembles around British Columbia, including the **Vancouver Island Symphony, Kamloops Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Opera, and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra**. He was previously a member of **l'Orchestre de la Francophonie** under the baton of **Jean-Philippe Tremblay**. Yefeng completed his orchestral performance studies under the guidance of **Kenneth Friedman** at the **University of British Columbia**. During his scholastic tenure, he has been afforded the opportunity to work with artists such as **Johannes Debuss, Joel Quarrington, and David Murray**. He avidly stewards his petit permaculture-style garden and seeks to ferment the tastiest sauerkraut.

SELECTED COMPOSERS AND PROJECT COLLABORATORS



T. PATRICK CARRABRÉ, COMPOSER

T. Patrick Carrabré creates music that is bold. Construction of identity and community engagement are long-term themes in his compositions, artistic programming, and administrative activities. With multiple **JUNO** nominations, a recommended work at the **International Rostrum of Composers** and two **WCMA** awards, Pat's music has been heard around the world. Currently director of the **UBC School of Music and Chan Centre for the Performing Arts**, he has also been composer-in-residence with the **Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra** and an on-air host for **CBC Music**. Pat is a proud member of the **Manitoba Métis Federation**.



REBECCA DUNCAN, SQUAMISH LANGUAGE TEXT CONTRIBUTOR

Tsitsáyxemaat (Rebecca Duncan) is a Squamish language advocate and Mentor. She is from the **Squamish and Musqueam** nations of the **Coast Salish** peoples. Rebecca has devoted her life to preserving the language, and cultural teachings that have been handed down to her by her late grandfather from his grandfather, and so on and so forth since the beginning of time. Rebecca has performed worldwide, promoting language and culture, representing Coast Salish people, practising protocols with song and dance, and sharing history through storytelling. She believes that, no matter where you are from, it is so important to know your history, your ties to the land, and your culture.



DR. JEANETTE GALLANT, PROJECT CONCEPT AND CO-CURATOR

Dr. Jeanette Gallant has a doctorate in ethnomusicology from the **University of Oxford** and has held various teaching posts in Canada, S.E. Asia, and the United Kingdom. She has taught global indigenous music traditions and currently specializes in creating cross-cultural and community engagement choral projects. She has published her academic work internationally, her most recent publication being in the **Yale Journal for Music and Religion**. In recent years, she was a guest speaker for **Elektra Women Choir's Cultural Conversations Series, Concordia University, University of Saskatchewan, Simon Fraser University, Choral Canada's Podium, and the International Symposium on Singing and Song II**.



RAMONA LUENGEN, COMPOSER

Ramona Luengen is a well-respected Canadian composer, choral conductor and educator. She has composed extensively in the choral genre and her works have been performed by both amateur and professional choirs in North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Performances of her music have been broadcast on **CBC, BBC, WDR (Germany), WKRP (USA)** and radio stations in Denmark, Hungary, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Sweden. Luengen's opera for young audiences, based on **Joy Kogawa's** novel **Naomi's Road**, has received over 350 performances in communities and schools in both Canada and Washington State. Her **Stabat Mater** was awarded **Outstanding Choral Composition of the Year** and **Outstanding Choral Event of the Year** by **Choral Canada** and **Composition of the Year** by **Vancouver**

New Music. Her *Piano Concerto* was premièred to critical acclaim. A former instructor at both the **University of British Columbia** and **Simon Fraser University** for over twelve years, Luengen taught courses in theory, composition, contemporary music performance and 20th century music appreciation.

STEPHEN SMITH, COMPOSER (SEE PAGE 9)



SANTIAGO VEROS, COMPOSER

The Argentine choral composer, **Santiago Veros**, was born in 1990 in Buenos Aires. In 2018 he became the first Latin American composer to write music for the largest choral festival in the world, **Europa Cantat 2018**. Under the philosophy of uniting people using the vehicle of music, he has created virtual choirs with people from all over the world. In collaboration with the renowned poet **Charles Anthony Silvestri**, he has created a number of choral consortiums that co-commission new works. Santiago Veros currently works full time as a composer and tours internationally, working with renowned choirs.

2022 ELEKTRA WOMEN'S CHOIR YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Elektra is pleased to announce **Meruert Bestybay** as this year's **Youth Scholarship** winner.



Meruert is a singer who began piano studies with her father at the age of seven. A few years later, she enrolled in the **Sarah McLachlan School of Music**, where her love for choir developed. She has sung with the **White Rock Children's Choir**, **Crescent Youth Choir**, **Luna Vocal Ensemble**, **Vancouver Youth Choir** and **British Columbia Youth Choir**. She has also participated in two stage productions, **Little Shop of Horrors** in high school and **The Elixir of Love** organized by the **Young People's Opera Society**. Meruert has recently been accepted to the Voice program at the **UBC School of Music** and plans to continue her path in performing and eventually teaching. According to Vancouver

Youth Choir Artistic Director **Carrie Tennant**, "Meruert is an invaluable member of Vancouver Youth Choir. She has a beautiful and clear soprano sound, outstanding intonation and is a strong sight-reader. Despite her natural talent, she is always humble and eager to learn more. She is currently a 'mentor' for the **VYC Kids** and responsible for monitoring morale and motivation, working with the kids in small groups and sectional rehearsals and acting as a vocal and behavioural role model for youth singers in the choir."

Elektra is thrilled to support such a strong, determined, and skilled musician!

Our sincere thanks to the **Youth Scholarship Committee** for their thoughtful consideration of all our 2022 applications. We wish all applicants success in their musical endeavours.

Elektra CDs and chocolates will be for sale during the intermission and following the performance. Cash and cards accepted.



ELEKTRA
WOMEN'S CHOIR
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Elektra would like to acknowledge the support of the following generous donors.

This list is complete as of April 28, 2022. If there are any errors or omissions, please contact manager@elektra.ca

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Jannie Burdeti
Ann Busay
Jeffrey Cabralda
Bonnie Campbell
Vivian Chan
Alison Chant
Catherine Cheneval
Stephanie Ching
Winnie Chung
Dorothy Clippingdale
Judith Coffin
Kenneth Cole
Kate Colley
Sue Contant
Shirley Coolidge
Heather Cooper-Jones
Judy Cottrell
Emilie Cox
Laurel Dault
Kathie Dawe
Nancy DeVries
Donna Eden
Julie Edmundson
Alice Fabiszewski
Erin Fairhurst
Sophia Fan
Sheila Fee
Suzanne Finch
Carolyn & David Forsyth
Rodrigo Freig
Alison Galdos
Michelle Gentis
June Gill
Karen Gilmore & Rob Van Nus
Katerina Gimon
Kristen Groot
Heather Groot
Diana Guenette

Kirstin Hain
Rosanne Halliday
Cricket Handler
Evelyn Harden
Don Harder &
Laurie Townsend
Cheyenne Hartley
Heather Hesson
Melissa Howell
Brent Jang
Sandy Kedey
Danica Kell
Holly Kennedy
Kate Ker
Shelley Koke
Édouard Lavallière
Andrea Liotskos
Katrin Lohuaru
Stephanie Loo
Jean-Francois Lord
Cassie Luftsprung
Shannon Lythgoe
Ivana Macar
Ian & Sarah MacKinnon
Ken Magaw
Janine & Mike Magaw
Ann Marsh
Kathie Marteinsson
Paula Martin
Greg Martin—DLCFEWC*
Rob Mayhew
Caitriona McParland
Dina McConnell
Orlagh McHugh
Kathy McKinley
Caitriona Mparland
Howard Meharg
Monica Metzler
Rosemary Speakman
Soudi Mohtadi
Crystal Montoya-Gajadhar
Eve Munro
Rachel Nelson
Ann Neumann
Karen Ng
Erik Norbraten
Robin Norman
Denise O'Brien & Jim Logan
Barbara O'Brien
Jason Paetz
Lauren Peat

Elaine Perry & Ted Cragg	Bob & Gwen Smith	John & Maggie Van Seters,
Danny Peters	Gerald & Ann Soon	in honour of Hilary &
Helen Prince	Susan L Stamberger	Peter Van Seters
Janet Pritchard	Alison Stillwell	Grace Vanderheyden
Margot Pritchard	Carla Stolte	Marian VanLaar
Liz Proudfoot	Kayleigh Suggett	Anisha Varghese
Joan Quick	Nyla Sunga	Koshy Varghese
Joanna Redgewell	Kim Taylor	Lois Venables
Maryse & Cliff Ridley	Lauren Tjoe	Betty Wagner
Nick Ringma	Alessia Todde	Patty Wagner
Caitlin Robinson	Allison Tremblay	Allanah Walker
Christine Russell	Dennis Tupman	Christine Wang
Sharon Schermbrucker	Mary Turri	David Wei
Jillian Schina	Anna Turunen	Richard Weiland
Stephanie Schollen	Kari Turunen	Clare Wheeler
Anne Schreck	Jo & Bob Twaites	Richard Whittaker
Ginger Shaw	Margarethe & Steve Uyesugi	Alex Williams
Karen Shuster	Pieter Van der Leek	Brenda Wilson
Bernice & Ron Slemko	Anieta Van Seters & Tink T,	Karen Wilson
Shawn Smith	in honour of Peter Van Seters	Garnet & Nancy Wolchok
		Andrew Wood
		And three anonymous donors

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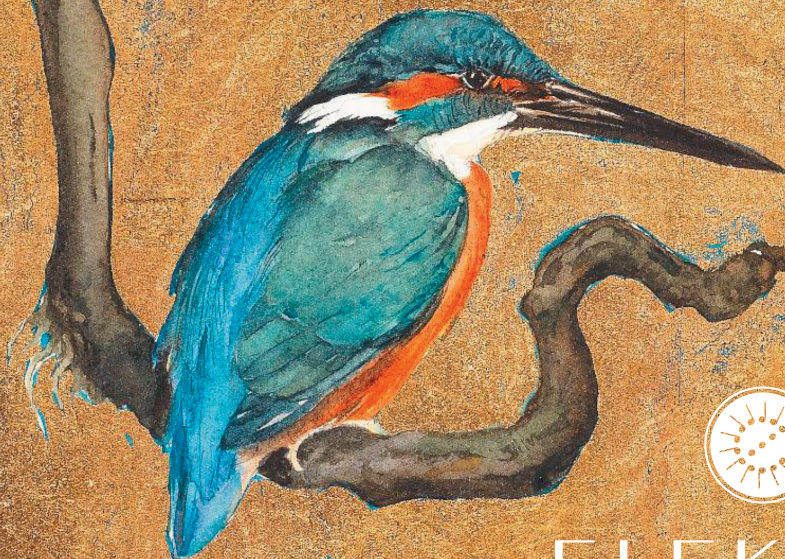
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Nancy Argenta; Isabel Bayrakdarian; Jane Coop, C.M.;
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