The William Baker Choral Foundation in Georgia Presents

Johannes Brahms EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM

The Summer Singers of Atlanta & Symphony Orchestra

William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor Andrew Phillip Schmidt, Music Director Elect Sydney Sewell, Student Intern Leanne Herrmann, Accompanist

> Arietha Lockhart, soprano Stephen Ozcomert, baritone

Sunday Afternoon, 4 August 2019 St. John United Methodist Church Atlanta, Georgia

www.ChoralFoundation.org

The Summer Singers of Atlanta

William O. Baker, DMA Music Director & Conductor

Jamea J. Sale, MME WBCF Executive Associate Music Director Director, Institute for Healthy Singing

Lynn Swanson, MME Music Director, Lynn Swanson Chorale

Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM Music Director, New South Festival Singers

Amy Thropp, MM Music Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta

Norma Raybon, DMA Music Director, Cobb Summer Singers

Christine M. Freeman, MME Associate Music Director/Senior Vocal Coach

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The William Baker Choral Foundation, Inc. 5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100 Roeland Park, Kansas 66205 913.488.7524 www.FestivalSingers.org www.ChoralFoundation.org

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Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor



William O. Baker has earned a reputation as an entrepreneurial conductor and creator of choral organizations. He founded the DeKalb Choral Guild in 1978 at the age of 19. By the age of 21 he had conducted Brahms' *German Requiem*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, and Handel's *Messiab* with professional orchestras, launching a career of ambitious artistic leadership that now has extended over forty years. In the last few years he has conducted the *St. Matthew Passion* and the *Mass in B minor* of Bach, and the *Sacred Service* of Ernest Bloch, at the time of the performances the only Kansas City-based conductor to lead the works in over a quarter-century.

Baker created the Atlanta-based William Baker Festival Singers, originally called Gwinnett Festival Singers, in 1985, and established the William Baker Choral Foundation in 1990. In 1998 the conductor moved his home to the Kansas City area and created the Kansas City ensemble of the Festival Singers. The Choral Foundation has created over a dozen ensembles based in three states, involving hundreds of singers each year. His choirs have performed for numerous conventions of the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the American Guild of Organists, in addition to the 1982 World's Fair and music festivals in the United States and Great Britain, most notably appearances before capacity audiences at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival since 1989. He has led the Festival Singers in the production of over two dozen nationally released recordings and in television and radio appearances across the nation, including *The First Art, The Sounds of Majesty* and National Public Radio's *Performance Today*.

No stranger to the orchestral podium, William Baker created the Mountain Park Wind Symphony in 1994 and the Kansas City Wind Symphony in 1998. Recent orchestral performances have included Vivaldi: *The Seasons*, Sibelius: *Finlandia*, Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2*, Bizet: *Suite L'Arlesienne*, Haydn: *Symphony No. 59 "Fire*," Mozart: *Symphony No. 41*, Beethoven: *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 9*. Choral collaborations have included projects with members of the Kansas City Symphony, the Kazanetti Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, the Baton Rouge Symphony, the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra, the Charleston Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of the American Heartland.



Dr. Baker served as Minister of Music for significant Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Methodist congregations across the South and the Midwest. Major appointments have included the historic Grace United Methodist Church in Midtown Atlanta and The Village Church in suburban Kansas City, the nation's second largest Presbyterian congregation. From 2012-2017 he served as director of The Cathedral Chorale, the choir for Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City's 8:00 AM Eucharist. He is the author of *Hearts & Hands & Voices: Weekly Reflections on Music and the Church*, published by Amber Waves Music. Dr. Baker is co-host of *Choral Conversations*, a monthly podcast with legendary classical music commentator Patrick Neas.

An Atlanta native, Dr. Baker studied voice and choral conducting at Mercer University and the University of Georgia before culminating his formal education at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting. His accomplishments have been recognized in his home states through proclamations by two Georgia Governors, Joe Frank Harris and Sonny Purdue, by Kansas Governor Jeff Colyer, by United States Congressman Phil Gingrey, by proclamations from the cities of Kansas City, MO and Roeland Park, KS, by the Johnson County (KS) Commission, and by a 2015 proclamation by the State of Georgia House of Representatives. In 2012 he was honored for his contributions to the cultural life of his hometown by the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta. In 2015 he was named Conductor Emeritus of The DeKalb Choral Guild.

The Summer Singers of Atlanta

William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director Elect Sydney Sewell, Student Intern Leanne Elmer Herrmann, MM, Organist & Accompanist Scott Smith, Choral Associate

Thirty Years of Music & Opportunity from Atlanta's Original Summer Chorus 171 Short Form Works • 29 Choral-Orchestral Masterworks • 4 Major Symphonies • 11 Student Interns Over 3500 Singing Participants • 6 Concert Venues • 5 Associate Music Directors • 1 Rehearsal Accompanist



The Summer Singers of Atlanta was founded in 1990 as one of the first projects of the William Baker Choral Foundation. The membership of the non-auditioned ensemble ranges from 100-150 members each summer, with singers coming from as far as Florida, Alabama and Tennessee to join in the summer tradition. Rehearsals begin in June of each year in preparation for August performances of a major work for chorus and orchestra, along with other varied selections. Past seasons have included the *Requiems* of Brahms, Faure, Mozart and Rutter, Haydn's *The Creation*, Schubert's *Mass in G*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach's cantata *Wachet auf*, Beethoven's *Mass in C & Symphony No. 9*, Mozart's *Mass in C minor, Coronation Mass & Solemn Vespers*, Orff's *Carmina Burana*. and many other classics.

As "Atlanta's original summer chorus," The Summer Singers of Atlanta has become a model that has been often imitated in Atlanta and in other cities. One of the greatest accomplishments for the organization has been the heightened interest in the choral art and in classical masterworks that the chorus has inspired. Membership is open to all adults and mature youth.

The 2019 30th anniversary season, featuring Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requie*, is Dr. Baker's final summer as Music Director. Andrew Phillip Schmidt has been announced as Music Director of the Summer Singers of Atlanta, beginning with the 2020 season. Please visit the Choral Foundation's website at www.FestivalSingers.org throughout the year for additional information about the Summer Singers and all of the Choral Foundation's exciting ensembles.



Leanne Elmer Herrmann, Organist & Accompanist, has served as Accompanist of the Summer Singers of Atlanta since the chorus' founding in 1990. She is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and holds a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance. She works throughout the metro Atlanta area as a free-lance accompanist and chamber music pianist. Ms. Herrmann has been the accompanist of The DeKalb Choral Guild since being appointed to the post by then-director William Baker in 1988. She is the accompanist for the Collegium Vocale and is the staff pianist for the Paideia School in Atlanta. She has appeared in concert with the Gwinnett Young Singers, the Young Singers of Callanwolde, and the William Baker Festival Singers. She makes her home in Decatur, Georgia.

Symphony Orchestra

Violin I Carolyn Hancock *Concertmaster* Angele Lawless Kim Padgett

Violin II Michelle Volz Jane McRae Patricia Stone

Viola Elizabeth Derderian Wood Elizabeth Alvarez **Violoncello** George Butler Mary Beth Bryant

Contrabass Lyn DeRamus

Piccolo Teresa Texeira

Flute Candace Keach Sarah Ambrose

Oboe Rebecca Testerman Erica Howard **Clarinet** Justin Stanley Jeanne Heinze

Bassoon Dan Worley P. J. Jones

Horn Jay Hanselman Julie Gerhardt

Trumpet Clayton Chastain John Bryant

Helen Werling

Jason Eklund

Trombone Hollie Lawing Travis Cottle Phil Truex

Tuba Robert I. Coulter

Timpani Jeff Kershner

Harp Julie Koenig

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Andrew Phillip Schmidt, Music Director Elect

Andrew Phillip Schmidt is a native of Southern Illinois. His parents passed along their love and respect for music by enrolling their son in piano lessons at age six, adding oboe lessons at age nine. High school choir sparked a passion for choral music that has since become the driver of Andrew's life. He holds a M. M. in Choral Conducting from the University of Washington under the tutelage of Dr. Geoffrey Boers and Dr. Giselle Wyers, as well as a B.M.E. from Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

Before coming to Atlanta in July, Andrew was Music Director of the Sangre de Cristo Chorale in Santa Fe, NM. He also held the position of Lead Voice Faculty and Officer of Assessment at the Santa Fe University of Art and Design.



Andrew was appointed Music Director & Conductor of the Choral Foundation's original Festival Singers ensemble in June 2017. He will become Music Director and Conductor of the Summer Singers of Atlanta with the 2020 season.

Andrew Schmidt's work with the Masterworks Chorale (Belleville, IL) was aired on St. Louis Public Radio's "Cityscape". Additionally, he has conducted at the Sarteano Chamber Choir Festival, Princeton Festival, National Conductor's Symposium, Rodney Eichenberger Conducting Workshop, University of Illinois Conductor's Symposium, Big Sky Choral Masterclass, and Montreal Choral Masterclass.

Andrew held a University of Washington FLAS (Foreign Language Area Studies) Fellowship for Estonian and Baltic/Western European Studies. He was also the recipient of a U.S. Student Fulbright Fellowship to Estonia where he lived, studied, and researched in Tallinn, Estonia as well as sang and toured with Tallinna Kammerkoor. He has also sung with nationally renowned groups like Seattle Pro Musica (Dir. Karen P. Thomas), the Kinnara Ensemble (Dr. J.D. Burnett) and The Esoterics (Dir. Eric Banks), and worked as a soloist with choirs throughout the Pacific Northwest, American Southwest, and Central Midwest regions.

SOLOISTS



Arietha Lockhart, coloratura soprano, has been awarded many prizes and honors, including a fellowship to perform the role of Zerbinetta (Ariadne auf Naxos) at the Aspen Music Festival Opera Theatre, 2nd place in the first Classical Singer Competition sponsored by Classical Singer Magazine, The National Opera Association Competition's Legacy Award in the professional division, 2nd place in The Center for Contemporary Opera International Competition (prize, a New York debut recital at Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall), and the Friedrich Shorr Memorial Prize in Voice and 3rd place in the Oratorio Society of New York competition. During studies at the American Institute for Musical Studies, won the first place vote of the jury in the Meistersinger Competition in Graz, Austria, and received the gold medallion as the audience's 1st place choice.

Ms. Lockhart is a member of the Grammy Award winning Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus and has performed with the Atlanta Chamber Players and the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra. She is a favorite of Choral Foundation audiences, having performed in several productions with the William Baker Festival Singers, the Cobb Summer Singers, and the Summer Singers of Atlanta, including Bach's *St. John Passion*, Haydn's *The Creation*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Requiem & Mass in C.Minor*, and Beethoven *Mass in C* and *Symphony No. 9*. She is a former music educator in the DeKalb School System, and Co-President of the Atlanta Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon Music Fraternity.



Stephen Ozcomert, bass, is regularly heard in Atlanta area concert halls. He has performed as a soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, including an assisting soloist ("Sergeant") for 2007 performances and Telarc Digital recording of Puccini's *La Boheme* under Robert Spano. He also played the role of a Japanese Envoy in the 2009 ASO performances of Stravinsky's *Nightingale* in both Atlanta and Carnegie Hall. Steve also was an assisting soloist under Robert Shaw for the 1996 performances of Bach's *St.Matthew Passion* in Atlanta and Carnegie Hall and has served as soloist in performances of the ASO Chorus and Chamber Chorus on several other occasions under Norman Mackenzie, Donald Runnicles, Jere Flynt, Yoel Levi, and others. Steve currently serves as a staff soloist at the Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church and frequently appears as soloist with the Meridian Chorale conducted by Steven Darsey and with the Emory University Orchestra

and Chorus under Eric Nelson and Richard Prior. He appeared in the 2010 Spivey Hall performance of Bach's *Passion According to St. John* with The William Baker Festival Singers, and in a 2011 performance of the title role in Mendelssohn's *Elijab* with Dr. Baker and the Summer Singers of Atlanta. He appeared in recent Choral Foundation performances of Beethoven's *Mass in C* and Ernest Bloch's *Avodath Hakodesh*. Steve's solo work has been featured several times in radio broadcasts by WABE. Steve has sung performances of a number of operas and operettas and has an extensive repertoire of more than twenty oratorios from Bach Cantatas, the *Requiems* of Mozart, Faure, Durufle, and Brahms, to Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Steve was a student of the late Elizabeth Colson.

Sydney Sewell, Student Intern

Sydney Sewell comes to the William Baker Choral Foundation from a rich musical background. She began her musical studies in the Atlanta area as a student in the Atlanta Area Suzuki Piano Association, where she studied piano under Robin Blankenship for thirteen years. Sydney later attended Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, where she graduated with the Bachelor of Music Education. She taught choral music at the high school level for two years after graduating. Sydney has also directed and assisted with several church choirs in the Statesboro and Atlanta areas. She was appointed Student Intern in May. She conducted selections with the 2019 Cobb Summer Singers under Dr. Norma Raybon, in the current season, and assisted with the Summer Singers of Atlanta under Dr. William Baker.



Sydney's long-term goals include completing her master's and doctorate in choral conducting and conducting a collegiate or professional ensemble. She is thrilled to be a part of the Choral Foundation and looks forward to serving as Student Intern for the 2019-2020 New South Festival Singers under the direction of Music Director Andrew Phillip Schmidt.

THE NEW SOUTH FESTIVAL SINGERS

Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998 William Baker Festival Singers, 1998-2015 Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, 2015-2017

ANDREW PHILLIP SCHMIDT, Music Director & Conductor Scott Smith, Choral Associate Sydney Sewell, Student Intern

"The Festival Singers is one of the very finest choral groups of any size or genre in the Southeastern United States and beyond. Their annual performances at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, usually before standing room only audiences, are excellent, breathtaking and inspiring."

-Ellen Dressler Moryl, Former Director, Cultural Affairs for the City of Charleston, Founder of Piccolo Spoleto

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A Personal Word

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us for the 30th anniversary concert of the Summer Singers of Atlanta. As I pass the baton of leadership to Andrew Phillip Schmidt, I want to express my humble appreciation to you for your encouragement, participation and support, but most of all, for your prayers. No man walks the face of this earth more blessed then me.

For my final performance as Music Director I have chosen a work that has been close to my heart for over four decades, the Ein deutsches Requiem of Brahms. As a conductor whose performances of this work number in the dozens, I have heard time after time, from audience members, chorus singers, and orchestra players how this music, like no other, has given voice to comfort, encouragement, hope and assurance.

Many years ago, when I was a young man singing in the Atlanta Symphony Chorus under the leadership of my mentor Robert Shaw, the great master wrote a letter to us inspired by this immortal music. The letter is one of my most precious possessions to this very day. Here is an excerpt:

I suppose the first scriptural enigma any of us memorize as a child is "God is love." In my case it was some years before I realized that there was a possibility that it said exactly what it meant and meant exactly what it said. Not, "God is to **be loved**," or "God **loves**," but "God **is** love. G=L."

At least by analogy (and I would say by absolute coincidence) music is love, and so is a chorus, and so is singing together.

I now invite you to realize -with appropriate wonder- that your participation and your "chorus" are not extra baggage, addendum, or post-script, but provide an involvement and commitment which furnish the only light there is. There is no other meaning. Certainly not in words.

Robert Shaw

I believe each one of us was created with love and intention. Each one of us was woven together in our mother's womb by our Loving Creator. I believe the breath of Holy Spirit was poured into us that we, too, might love and create. Singing in a chorus is a part of that creation and it is an expression of our own creation. This is why the Summer Singers of Atlanta came to exist. This is why I come before you today to lead the Ein deutsches Requiem and to create its wonders anew in partnership with our chorus, orchestra and soloists, and with you.

Someone asked recently, "Will the Summer Singers be ready to perform the Brahms Requiem on August 4?" ... "After all these years of leading it, are you beginning to feel comfortable with it?"

The answer is no. We will never be worthy of it. We will bow before it and struggle against it until that day when our own spirits have been filled with eternal light, and our mortal tongues lie silent and still.

We approach our work rightly only as beggars, and as slaves in chains to these immortal words and sounds. Our worthiness is not found in any performance accomplishment, but in our common love, our shared blessing, and in service to the Spirit Whose love caused Brahms to compose it, inspired each of us to learn it, and gathered us to this sacred place to share it.

I adore Atlanta, the city of my birth. I bid you farewell with a heart filled with love and thanksgiving.

Soli Deo Gloria, Bill

4324 West 53rd Terrace, Roeland Park, Kansas 66205

The 30th Anniversary of the Summer Singers of Atlanta

Sunday Afternoon, 4 August 2019 at 3:00, St. John United Methodist Church in Atlanta

The Summer Singers of Atlanta & Symphony Orchestra Arietha Lockbart, soprano Stephen Ozcomert, baritone Dr. William O. Baker, conductor

Today's Concert is made possible by a grant from Susan & Horace Webb in memory of Horace L. and Florence Manci Webb

Johannes Brahms, 1833-1897 EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM

Premier performance at Bremen Cathedral, Good Friday, 10 April 1868, the composer conducting First WBCF performance, The William Baker (then "Gwinnett") Festival Singers, Saturday, 7 June 1986, Norcross, Georgia Most recent WBCF performance, The William Baker Festival Singers & Friends, Sunday, 22 February 2015, Atlanta, Georgia

SUNG IN GERMAN

Ι

Matthew 5:4; Psalm 126:5-6

Blessed are they that mourn for they shall have comfort. They that sow in tears surely shall reap with joyful singing. Given by Allan Cheshire in memory of Susan Cheshire Given by Margaret E. Roney in memory of Teresa Roney's cherished King Cavalier-Bichon, Miss Porky, CNA tenured on July 29, 2019, age 13

Who goeth forth, weeping and bearing precious seed shall come with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him.

Π

I Peter 1:24; James 5:7-8; I Peter 1:25; Isaiah 35:10

Behold all flesh is as the grass, and all the glory of Mankind is as the flower of grass.

Given by Jerald M. Byrd in memory of my twin, Jim Byrd

Given by Erika Archibald in honor of William O. Baker

For lo, the grass with'reth, and the flower thereof is fallen.

So therefore be patient, my dear Brethren unto the coming of the Lord.

See how the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and with long patience.

He waiteth until he receive the early and latter rain. So be ye patient.

But still the Lord's Word standeth forevermore.

Given by Lynn Swanson in honor of Dr. William Baker and his 42 years of choral leadership in Atlanta And the ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing unto Zion.

Given by Eric & Nancy Lucas in memory of our parents Howard & Alice Granade and Henk & Anne Lucas Joyfully coming rejoicing, joy everlasting on their heads shall crown their heads forevermore.

Gladness and glory welcome and embrace them, and grief and sighing shall flee from them.

Psalm 39:4-7; Wisdom of Solomon 3:1

Lord, make me to know the measure of my days on earth, to consider my frailty, that I must perish. Surely, all my days here are as an handbreadth to Thee, and my lifetime is as naught to Thee.

Verily Mankind walketh in a vain show, even his best state is vanity.

He goeth about like a shadow. In his anxieties and in vain he heapeth up riches,

But knoweth not who shall gather them.

Now Lord, what then do I wait for? My hope is in Thee.

For the righteous souls are in the hand of God, and ne'er shall harm reach unto them.

Given by Dorothy Scherr in memory of John Coates

IV

Psalm 84: 1, 2, 4

How lovely is Thy dwelling-place, O Lord of Hosts. Given by Feanne & David Bedell in memory of Brad & Charles Bedell

Hoen by Jeanne O Daola Beaeu in memory of Braa O Charles Beaeu

For my soul it longeth and fainteth for the courts of the Lord.

My heart and flesh cry out for joy unto the Living God.

Given by Cathy Ramos & Stephen Barnes in honor of George Butler & William Baker

Blest are they who make Thy house their dwelling. They praise Thy Name evermore.

Given by Dr. William Baker in honor of Music Director Elect Andrew Phillip Schmidt

Given by Lynne McIntyre in memory of Celine Metzger, HM

Given by John Sabine in memory of Dr. Joseph Flummerfelt, Artistic Director Emeritus, Westminster Choir College

V

John 16:22; Ecclesiasticus 51:27; Isaiah 66:13

Ye now are sorrowful. Weep not, for I will see you again and your heart shall be joyful.
Given by Fran Spinelli in memory of Frances Carman & John Spinelli
And I will comfort as one who his own mother comforts.
Given by Jerald M. Byrd in memory of Carl Anderson's beautiful grandmother, Gra-Gra
Given by Candace McCollough in memory of Rich Nanista

Look on me then, for it was but a little time labor and trouble were mine, yet I have found at last comfort. *Given by Shelton Jones in memory of John L. Robinson*

VI

Hebrews 13:14; I Corinthians 15:51-52, 54-55; Revelation 4:11

Here on earth have we no continuing place, wherefore we seek one to come. Lo, I will show unto you a mystery: we shall not all sleep here forever. But we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the sound of the trumpet. *Given by Ellen Hicks in memory of Kathy Hicks* For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall all be changed. *Given by Fran Spinelli in memory of Frances Carman & John Spinelli* Then, what the prophet hath told, the saying shall be brought to pass, for death is swallowed in victory. *Grave, where is thy victory? Death, where is thy sting? Given by Felicia Hernandez in memory of Asbley Rhinebart* Lord, Thou art worthy of honor, praise and glory and might. By Thee alone were all things created, and by Thy good will all creatures have their being.

VII

Revelation 14:13

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, from henceforth.

Given by John Sabine in memory of Dr. Joseph Flummerfelt, Artistic Director Emeritus, Westminster Choir College Sayeth the Spirit: that they rest from their labors, and that their works do follow after them. Given by the William Baker Choral Foundation in memory of Kenneth Charles Babcock

Please visit iTunes and Spotify to browse several new album releases by The William Baker Festival Singers

The Choral Foundation staff recommends the 1984 recording of Brahm's REQUIEM by Robert Shaw with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra & Chorus, Telarc CD-80092, for continued enjoyment of the work

The Summer Singers of Atlanta expresses deep appreciation to The Reverend Dr. Hannah Garrett-Johnson, Senior Minister & The Reverend Mr. George Butler, Minister of Music, and the people of St. John United Methodist Church in Atlanta for hosting today's performance

The Summer Singers of Atlanta expresses deep appreciation to The Reverend Beth LaRocca-Pitts, Senior Minister & Mr. Jonathan Easter, Director of Fine Arts, and the people of Saint Mark United Methodist Church in Atlanta, for bosting rehearsals of the 30th anniversary season.

You Are Invited to Join the 2020 Summer Singers of Atlanta

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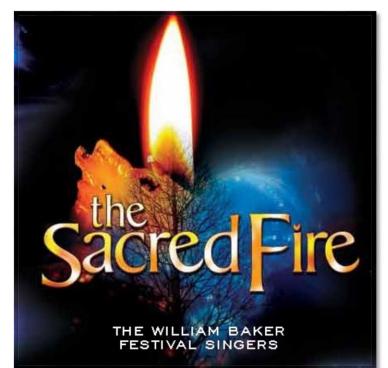
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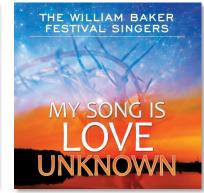
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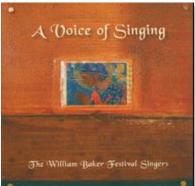


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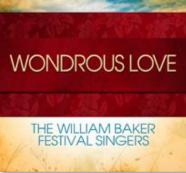


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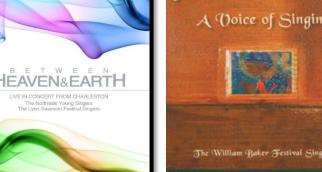
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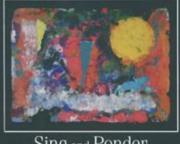


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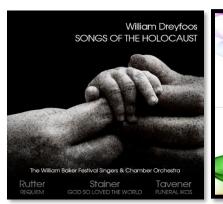
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For more information or to Design your own workshop!

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The William Baker Choral Foundation Temple Emanu-El and Zimria Festivale Atlanta present



A Joyous Chanukah Festival Concert

Choral Membership, Rehearsal and Concert Information

Performance Date: December 15, 2019, 4:00 PM

Performance and all rehearsals located at Temple Emanu-El, 1580 Spalding Dr, Sandy Springs, GA 30350 Rehearsals: Thursday nights 7:30-9:30, October 24th-December 12th (excluding Thanksgiving) Dress Rehearsal: December 15, 1:00 pm

Program:

Extended Excerpts from Handel's Judas Maccabeus. Performed with Orchestra and Soloists. Additional Chanukah music

The goal of this project and concert is to begin to expose the Atlanta concert-going community and choral singers to a different choral experience, one of Jewish-themed choral music—to explore the richness of this kind of literature. More workshops like this are planned in the future. This concert will be free to the general public. We want it to be accessible to the whole community.

We seek chorus members, open to the whole community—singers who can read music and have some choral singing experience. Music will be performed in English and Hebrew. No knowledge of Hebrew is required...we will teach pronunciation. And you don't have to be Jewish to participate, we really want this to be a learning experience for everyone. There is no tuition for this workshop. Donations always gladly accepted.

Contact information:

Amy Thropp, Director, Zimria Festivale Atlanta and Congregation Beth Shalom Choir, athropp@festivalsingers.org Lauren Adesnik, Cantor, Temple Emanu-el Ladesnik@templeemanuelatlanta.com Melissa Fontaine, Director, Temple Emanu-el Choir fontainesoprano@gmail.com Phone: 678.429.2622

The William Baker Choral Foundation

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205 913-488-7524

The William Baker Festival Singers, Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998

The Summer Singers of Atlanta, Midtown Atlanta, 1990 William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director-Elect

The New South Festival Singers, Atlanta, Georgia, 1985 Gwinnett Festival Singers, 1985-1998 William Baker Festival Singers Atlanta, 1998-2015 Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, 2015-2017 Andrew Phillip Schmidt, MM, Music Director & Conductor

> Zimria Festivale Atlanta, Dunwoody, Georgia, 2014 Amy Thropp, MM, Music Director & Conductor

The Summer Singers of Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999 William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Cobb Summer Singers, Marietta, Georgia, 2006 Norma Raybon, DMA, Music Director

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014 William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Lynn Swanson Chorale, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 2020 Lynn Swanson, MME, Music Director & Conductor

The Institute for Healthy Singing, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2015 Jamea J. Sale, MME, Director

Kansas City Bronze, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018

Choral Conversations Podcast with Patrick Neas & William Baker, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2018

The Jane Sullivan Choral Resource Library, Roeland Park, Kansas, 2016

Amber Waves Music Publishing

William O. Baker, DMA, President R. Douglas Helvering, DMA, Contributing Editor

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