



*presents*

# *Sounds of Praise*

**SPRING CHORAL CONCERT**

Featuring the *Robert Ray Gospel Mass* with full combo

**Saturday, May 11 | 7:00pm**

**Fr. Robert V. Carney Performing Arts Center  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater**

**Thomas Ajack, Director  
Jason Meissner, Accompanist**

## PROGRAM NOTES

### Expanding the Choral Frontier through the Robert Ray *Gospel Mass*

For centuries, when composers wanted to create a large choral work, they turned to the text of the Mass. Palestrina, Schubert, Haydn, Mozart, Bach and Bernstein are just some of the composers who used the framework of this historic text as a way to present their art.

To understand the *Gospel Mass* presented tonight, we need some background about Gospel Music. In the early twentieth century, in urban Chicago, not in Southern rural communities, Thomas Dorsey is credited with creating this format in the 1930's. His bluesy piano influence combined with sacred song is what we now classify as Gospel. One of his most well-known songs is *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*.

Gospel music is significantly different than spirituals. Spirituals are detailed concert pieces meant to be performed exactly as the arranger intended. Gospel music often presents a framework which is infused with vocal and instrumental improvisation and live arranging. The choral parts are often arranged Soprano-Alto-Men (SAM) which creates a unique brilliant vocal tone. A rhythm combo of piano, bass and drums often accompany the music. Gospel music "specials" or ad-lib repeated sections with terraced emotional levels are frequently employed.

In 1979, Gospel composer and arranger Robert Ray, from Chicago, composed and presented his *Gospel Mass*. A traditional classical choral form was re-fitted within the Gospel music context. Within the span of two weeks, he wrote the five standard movements of the Mass: Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus and Agnus Dei. The night before the premiere he was inspired and wrote the Acclamation and added it as a sixth movement. It was taught by rote!

The appeal of this Mass is not in being compositionally complex, but rather in the success of its spirit. In 2019, choirs across the United States and beyond are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Mass by programming it. The *Gospel Mass* is an embodiment of unity, diversity and ecumenical spirit, making it deserving of a commemorative performance.

## UPCOMING CHORAL MUSIC EVENTS

- 5/19** Baccalaureate Mass in the Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater – 2pm – ATMC and TC
- 5/20** Performance at St. Joseph Convent Chapel – 1pm – Madrigals and Ladies in Waiting
- 5/22** National Anthem at the Brewers Game – 12pm – Concert Choir
- 5/25** Music and Drama Banquet – 5pm – Hart Park

## PROGRAM

### CONCERT CHOIR AND TOURING CHOIR

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- River Medley..... arr. Thomas Ajack  
*\*Arranged for Pius XI NYC Tour 2019*
- Esto Les Digo.....Kinley Lange

### CONCERT CHOIR

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- Let My Love Be Heard .....Jake Runestad

### MADRIGALS

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- Dieu! Qu'il la fait bon regarder!..... Claude Debussy
- Sicut Cervus.....Giovanni Palestrina
- O Nata Lux.....Christopher Ducasse

### MENS OCTET

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- Ain't a That Good News.....arr. William Dawson

### LADIES IN WAITING

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- Fruits of the Selfless Heart.....Elizabeth Atkinson
- How Merrily We Live ..... Michael Este

### COMBINED CHOIRS

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- Gospel Mass ..... Robert Ray
- I. Kyrie
  - II. Gloria
  - III. Credo
  - IV. Acclamation
  - V. Sanctus
  - VI. Agnus Dei
- Love Will Be Our Home .....arr. John Higgins  
*Recognition of Seniors and Alumni*

## PERSONNEL

### TREBLE CHOIR

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Julia Armstrong  
Margaret Baisley  
Kylie Catlett  
Delaney Driscoll  
Rosa Gomez Sierra  
Xiafei (Camila) Hao

Samantha Hueschen  
Seirra Johnson  
Victoria Junior  
Paige Kearney  
Emily Muellenbach  
Madeline Ostap

Emma Reed  
Andriona Robinson  
Jocelyn Salazar Sanchez  
Aleana Torres  
Yuxuan (Anita) Zhang

### ADVANCED MEN'S CHOIR

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Zachary Bailey  
Paydon Carroll  
Timothy Chrisbaum

Gabriel Huertas  
Jeremiah Lyons  
Nahjee Robinson  
Zachary Rolf

Joseph Schaefer  
Hanlin (Jason) Yan  
Yue (Frank) Yu

### ADVANCED WOMEN'S CHOIR

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Bridget Brown  
Jordyn Clark  
Bella Dompke  
Zena Jiardini

Emma Knowlton  
Leah McClelland  
Elisabeth Nelson  
Mya Peavy

Gabriella Ramsey  
Iliana Reyes  
Aaliseyah Winston

### CONCERT CHOIR

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Damali Acosta  
Noah Bayer  
Noah Beihoff  
Bridget Browne  
Meaghan Buckholdt  
Rosalie Burzynski  
Robert Chelius  
Jialing (Caroline) Chen  
David Chrisbaum  
Marissa Cobb  
Grace Gierach  
Sophia Girard  
Lindsey Girman  
Samuel Gutierrez

Jade Hall  
Sophia Keppler  
Robert Knapp  
Michael Kraetz  
Arabella Loera  
Justin Loth  
Max Luksich  
Lily Lustig  
Reilly Madigan  
Luis Mendez  
Allyson Mills  
James Mullooly  
Ryan Nolan  
Zackary Orton

Annabella Poulos  
Mahriana Pyant  
Lyle Rivera  
Emily Rohde  
Matthew Sanchez  
Zoe Sanders  
Katherine Schoenbeck  
Zihao (Jack) Sheng  
Alexys Strahm  
Benjamin Wells  
Isabella Ybarra  
Teresa Zampino  
Jiayi (Rachel) Zhu

### LADIES IN WAITING

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Damali Acosta  
Ky Catlett  
Bella Dompke  
Lindsey Girman

Jade Hall  
Zena Jiardini  
Sophia Keppler  
Elisabeth Nelson

Madeline Ostap  
Mya Peavy  
Gabriella Ramsey  
Katherine Schoenbeck

**PERSONNEL CONT.**

**MADRIGALS**

Meaghan Buckholdt  
Rosalie Burzynski  
Robert Chelius  
David Chrisbaum  
Grace Gierach

Sophia Girard  
Samuel Gutierrez  
Michael Kraetz  
Max Luksich  
Lily Lustig  
Luis Mendez

Allyson Mills  
James Mullooly  
Ryan Nolan  
Mahriana Pyant  
Teresa Zampino

**FACULTY & STAFF**

Thomas Ajack,  
Director of Choirs

Jason Meissner, Piano  
Paul Gildersleeve, Bass  
Carl Stormiolo, Drums

Leslie Fitzwater, Voice  
Todd Fortier, Voice  
Ellie Quint, Voice



**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Dance Into Spring**

Friday, May 17, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Saturday, May 18, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

**Spring Band & Orchestra Concert:  
WIS-Concert!**

Tuesday, May 21, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater

**Comedy Company Senior Show**

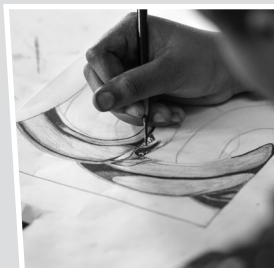
Thursday, May 23, 2019 | 7:00 PM  
Pius XI Black Box Theater

**For tickets and more information  
visit [www.piuspac.org](http://www.piuspac.org) | 414-290-0204**

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Snapp Macheel  
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A. Maduscha  
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## FATHER ROBERT V. CARNEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

135 North 76<sup>th</sup> Street, Milwaukee, WI 53213

414.290.0204 | [www.piuspac.org](http://www.piuspac.org) | [pacinfo@piusxi.org](mailto:pacinfo@piusxi.org)

### STAFF

Theater Manager ..... Patrick G.H. Schley  
Technical Director ..... Terry Harvey  
Assistant Technical Director.....Casey Matson  
Resident Stagehands .....Marisa Abbott, Molly Schafer  
House Managers..... Devan Schneider, Chris Segedy  
Ticket Office Volunteers ..... Paula McClelland, Greg Smrz, Turquoise Welch-Loera  
Theater Management Interns ..... Meaghan Buckholdt, Emma Knowlton

### INFORMATION

**Ticket Information:** Tickets are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at [www.piuspac.org](http://www.piuspac.org). To order tickets by phone, please contact OvationTix at 866.811.4111. Phone service hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm and Saturday-Sunday 9am-5pm. Our ticket booth is open for walk-up sales one hour prior to each performance in the Wendy Joy Lindsey Theater.

**Food and Beverage:** At select performances our concession stand offers water and snacks. Proceeds benefit Performing Arts Programs at Pius XI Catholic High School. Bottled water is permitted in the theatre. Food is not allowed in the theatre.

**Electronic Devices:** Please silence cellular phones, pagers and alarm watches. Photography and recording are strictly prohibited during the performance. Please refrain from using electronic devices or text messaging during the performance.

**Latecomer Policy:** Latecomers will be seated at a suitable break in the performance, as determined by House Management.

**Emergency Calls:** In case of emergency, messages may be left with the House Manager by calling 414.290.0204. If possible, please indicate the seat location of the person to be reached.

**Lost and Found:** Please call 414.290.7000 to inquire about lost items.

**Ushers:** We welcome volunteers of all ages to usher for performances and see the show for free! E-mail [pacinfo@piusxi.org](mailto:pacinfo@piusxi.org) to be added to our volunteer list.

**Theater Rentals:** The Father Robert V. Carney Performing Arts Center is the perfect place for your next event! Contact Patrick G.H. Schley at 414.290.7454 or [pschley@piusxi.org](mailto:pschley@piusxi.org), or visit [www.piuspac.org/rentals](http://www.piuspac.org/rentals) for rates and information.