

## THE OXFORD PHILHARMONIC

Since 1998, the Oxford Philharmonic has brought inspirational performances to Oxford and beyond. The Orchestra prides itself on creating unique musical experiences, bringing new and engaging interpretations to well-loved works in the classical repertoire. Its continual search for excellence is underpinned by the uncompromising standards of its Founder and Music Director Marios Papadopoulos, who with some of the UK's and Europe's finest instrumental musicians has shaped the Orchestra's distinctive sound.

### Special Acknowledgements:

Marios Papadopoulos, MBE, Music Director, Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra  
Eleanor McCowan, Personnel Manager, Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra  
Janet Marsden, Planning Manager, Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra  
Katja Behrens, Communications Manager, St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge  
Eilana Lappalainen, General Manager & Artistic Manager, MidAm International

### MIDAM INTERNATIONAL, INC.

265 Sunrise Highway, Suite 1-183  
Rockville Centre, NY 11570  
Phone: (212) 239-0205  
[www.midamerica-music.com](http://www.midamerica-music.com)

MidAmerica Productions, Inc. was founded by Peter Tiboris in 1983. Now in its 40<sup>th</sup> season, MidAmerica presents conductors, soloists, and choral and instrumental ensembles from around the world in New York's Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, and Alice Tully Hall and David Geffen Hall, Lincoln Center. MidAm International was founded in 2005 and presents concerts in international locations including Vienna; Salzburg; Florence; Verona; Venice; Paris; Prague; Berlin; Warsaw; Krakow; Lisbon; Porto; London; Oxford; and in Syros, Greece (The International Festival of the Aegean). To date, MidAmerica Productions and MidAm International have produced more than 1,400 concerts worldwide.

PRESENTED BY  
MIDAM INTERNATIONAL, INC.

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season

**THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2023 7:00 PM**

PETER TIBORIS, FOUNDER, GENERAL DIRECTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR  
NORMAN DUNFEE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND PRODUCTION MANAGER, EMERITUS  
JOHN RITTER, CONDUCTOR LAUREATE

WITH MEMBERS OF THE  
OXFORD PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
**DAN FORREST JUBILATE DEO**

MIKE HORANSKI, CONDUCTOR

STAN A. GIBBS, GUEST  
ALEXZANDRA BARR, GUEST  
ORGANIST MELVIN GOODWIN

PARTICIPATING CHORUS:  
VIENNA CHORAL SOCIETY, AIRFAK, VA (MIKE HORANSKI, DIRECTOR)



Mike Horanski, Conductor



Jeffrey Faux, Conductor



Song Sepulveda, Conductor



Shulamit Hoffmann, Conductor

**DAN FORREST TE DEUM**

JEFFREY FAUX, CONDUCTOR

ORGANIST THOM DELESSIO

ARR. MOSES HOGAN MY SOUL'S BEEN ANCHORED IN THE LORD  
MOSES HOGAN HEAR MY PRAYER

ARR. MOSES HOGAN OLD TIME RELIGION

ARR. JESTER HAIRSTON IN DAT GREAT GITTIN' UP MORNIN'

**SONJA SEPULVEDA, CONDUCTOR**

SOPRANO MAKINSEY ROSSER

TENOR HERBERT JOHNSON

**OLA GJEILO DARK NIGHT OF THE SOUL**

SHULAMIT HOFFMANN, CONDUCTOR

SOPRANO LAUREN HABER

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST ANNA KHAYDAROVA

PARTICIPATING CHORUSES:

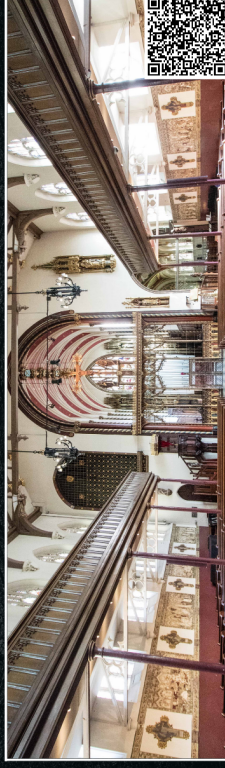
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BONITA SPRINGS, FL (JEFFREY FAUX)

PALMETTO VOICES SPIRITUAL ENSEMBLE, SUMTER, SC (SONJA SEPULVEDA, DIRECTOR)

SWEETWATER SINGERS, DOUGLASVILLE, GA (GANDIRA CHANDLER, DIRECTOR)

VIVA LA MUSICAL, FOSTER CITY, CA (SHULAMIT HOFFMANN, DIRECTOR)

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, KNIGHTSBRIDGE  
**LONDON, ENGLAND**



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ANDREA NIEDERMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, PUBLICATIONS AND AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT, AT  
(212) 239-0205 EXT. 7 OR AT [ANIEDERMAN@MIDAMERICA-MUSIC.COM](mailto:ANIEDERMAN@MIDAMERICA-MUSIC.COM)

Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 7:00 PM  
St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, London, England  
40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season 1983 to 2023

MIDAM INTERNATIONAL

Peter Tiboris, *Founder, General Director and Music Director*  
John Rutter, CBE, *Conductor Laureate*

Presents

DAN FORREST: *Te Deum*

- I. Praise to the Trinity
- II. Prayers
- III. Praise to Christ

JEFF FAUX, Conductor  
THOM DeLESSIO, Organ

Members of the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra

*An American Legacy, the Spiritual*

ARR. MOSES HOGAN: "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord"  
(soprano, tenor and chorus)

MOSES HOGAN: "Hear My Prayer" (chorus)

ARR. MOSES HOGAN: "Old Time Religion" (soprano, tenor and chorus)  
ARR. JESTER HAIRSTON: "In Dat Great Gittin' Up Mornin'" (tenor and chorus)

SONJA SEPÚLVEDA, Conductor  
MAKINSEY ROSSER, Soprano  
HERBERT JOHNSON, Tenor

OLA GJEILO: "Dark Night of the Soul"

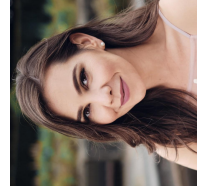
SHULAMIT HOFFMANN, Conductor  
LAUREN HABER, Soprano  
ANNA KHAYDAROVA, Piano

*Combined choirs:*

First Presbyterian Church of Bonita Springs: Jeffrey Faux, Director  
Palmetto Voices Spiritual Ensemble: Sonja Sepúlveda, Director

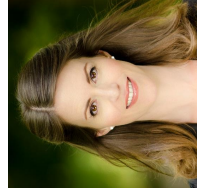
*Mike Horanski, cont.*

He is currently serving as the All-Virginia Band, Chorus and Orchestra Event Chairperson and was named VMEA Outstanding Music Music Educator in 2017. Mr. Horanski is currently the President-Elect for the Virginia Music Educators Association.



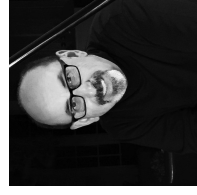
**RACHEL CROASH, Soprano**

Dublin soprano Rachel Croash is an alumna of the Irish National Opera Studio. Notable roles include Marzelline in *Fidelio*, Musetta in *La Bohème* and Valencienne in *Die Lustige Witwe* for Lyric Opera Productions (Dublin), Mimi in *La Bohème* and Susanna in *Le Nozze Di Figaro* at Cork Opera House. Concert engagements include Barber Knoxville: Summer of 1915 with the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra and performances with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra.



**RACHAEL LLOYD, Mezzo-soprano**

British Mezzo-soprano Rachael Lloyd enjoys an international career, notable engagements include Dido in *Dido & Aeneas*, Miss Jessel in *The Turn of the Screw* and Pitti-Sing in *The Mikado* at English National Opera. Appearances on the concert platform include Ravel's *Trois Poèmes de Stéphane Mallarmé* and Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man: A Mass For Peace* with the London Philharmonic Orchestra.



**MELVIN GOODWYN, Organ**

Melvin Goodwyn served as choral director for 24 years in the Prince William County, Virginia School division at Gar-Field, Potomac, and C. D. Hylton High schools. He has worked with such notable conductors as Weston Noble, Jerry Blackstone, Eph Ely, and Jo-Michael Scheibe. He has served as the staff accompanist for the ACDA Voices United Summer Conference for over 13 years. Mr. Goodwyn holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Westminster Choir College where he studied piano with Walter Brennan and Harold Zabrack and a Master of Music in choral conducting from Catholic University, Washington, D.C.



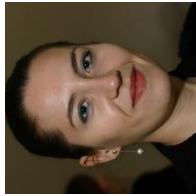
### **LAUREN HABER, Soprano**

Lauren Haber is currently the principal soloist with Viva la Musica, under the direction of Shulamit Hoffmann. She recently performed with Viva in Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living* at Carnegie Hall as well as Forrest's *Jubilate Deo* while on tour in the Baltics. Lauren made her international debut in the title role of Puccini's *Suor Angelica* with the Sienna Music Festival. Lauren's concert repertoire include Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man*, Vivaldi's *Dixit Dominus*, Kim André Arnesen's *Magnificat* (all with Viva la Musica), Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Mozart's *Requiem* and Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*.



### **ANNA KHAYDAROVA, Piano**

Anna Khaydarova earned her Master of Music degree in Piano Performance with an Award of Excellence from Notre Dame de Namur University and a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy with honors from Tashkent State Conservatory, in Uzbekistan. She won Second Place in the Bartok-Prokofiev-Kabalevski International Piano Competition in Redford, VA, and First Place in the Notre Dame Concerto Competition, in Belmont, CA. She is a collaborative pianist for Viva la Musica Choir, Peninsula Musical Arts Association community choir, and Folsom Lake College Choral Program.



### **MIKE HORANSKI, Conductor**

Mike Horanski began his teaching career in the Pennsylvania public school system in the fall of 1997. Choirs under Mr. Horanski's direction were invited to be featured performers for the National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Convention, the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association and the Eastern Division of the American Choral Directors Association. Mr. Horanski served as a District Representative for VMEA, served as President of the Virginia Choral Directors Association from 2015-2016.



### *Program, cont.*

Viva La Musical; Shulamit Hoffmann, Director  
Sweetwater Singers; Sandra Chandler, Director

### **20 MINUTE INTERMISSION**

#### **DAN FORREST: "Jubilate Deo"**

- I. Jubilate Deo... (chorus)
- II. Ve adthdor vador (soprano, alto, and choir)
- III. Ta cao chang de yang (soprano and choir)
- IV. Ngokujabula! (chorus)
- V. Bendecid su nombre (soprano and choir)
- VI. Alleluia (Song of the Earth) (chorus)
- VII. ...Omnis Terra! (chorus)

MIKE HORANSKI, Conductor

RACHEL CROASH, Soprano

RACHAEL LLOYD, Mezzo-soprano

MELVIN GOODWYN, Organ

Members of the Oxford Philharmonic

Vienna Choral Society

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### **MEET THE ARTISTS**



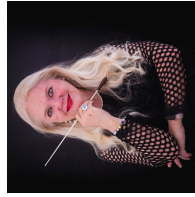
#### **JEFF FAUX, Conductor**

Jeff Faux is the Director of Sacred Arts at First Presbyterian Church in Bonita Springs, where he oversees a large program that includes ten vocal and instrumental ensembles. The choir has a recording, *Great Hymns of the Faith* available online and has performed in Florence, Italy, Barcelona, Spain, and Paris, France. He is a graduate of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ. He served as an adjunct instructor of Music Education at Westminster Choir College and graduated from Michigan State University with a Masters in Choral Conducting and is pursuing a doctorate in Worship Studies at the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies.



**THOMAS DeLESSIO, Organ**

Thomas DeLessio is Organist and Associate Director of Sacred Arts for First Presbyterian Church, Bonita Springs, FL. Thom is also Collaborative Pianist for the Naples Philharmonic Chorus and Youth Chorus, and an assisting organist at St. William Church, Naples. HE holds an undergraduate degree in Music Education and Organ from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ and a graduate degree in Theology and Ministry from La Salle University in Philadelphia, PA. Prior to his move to Florida, he had been the Director of Music and Principal Organist for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen, NJ, and the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi from 2001-2021.



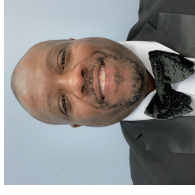
**SONJA SEPÚLVEDA, Conductor**

Sonja Sepúlveda is the Artistic Director of the Palmetto Voices Spiritual Ensemble and former Director of the Winston-Salem Youth Chorus. She was the Director of Choral Activities and professor of Theory at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina for 11 years. She came to Salem following positions at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky and Brewton Parker College in Mt. Vernon, Georgia. She sang with the Robert Shaw Festival Chorus for eight years and is in demand as a choral adjudicator and clinician, as well as being known for her TEDx Talk “Being a Woman Conductor and Overcoming the Prejudice.” Sepúlveda is Conductor-in-Residence/Program Development Associate and Director of Program Development for MidAm International of MidAmerica Productions.



**MAKINSEY ROSSER, Soprano**

Makinsey Rosser is the Music Director at First United Methodist Church, Cordele, Georgia. She is a graduate of Valdosta State University where she majored in voice and music education. She taught in the public school system working with middle and high school level bands and choirs for two years before joining FUMC.



**HERBERT JOHNSON, Tenor**

Herbert Johnson was born in Sumter, South Carolina in 1979; he concurrently serves as director of choirs for Sumter High School and for Morris College of Sumter, SC. His teaching assignments as assistant professor of music include music theory, sacred music, African American music and music appreciation. He was presented the Presidential Staff award (the highest award presented to a faculty/staff member) after his first year teaching at the college. He received the bachelors and masters of music degrees from Winthrop University (SC) and is currently working on the doctorate of music education degree at Liberty University (VA). He is a two-time National Grammy Music Education Enterprise Award Recipient (2011), (2015).



**SHULAMIT HOFFMANN, Conductor**

Shulamit Hoffmann founded Viva la Musica in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2001. Choir-and-orchestra tours include the Forrest *Jubilate Deo* and Gjeilo *Dark Night of the Soul*, Vilnius, Riga, Tallinn, Helsinki, St. Petersburg, (2017); under MidAmerica Productions auspices: Rutter *Mass of the Children* under Rutter (2008), Vivaldi *Gloria* (2009), and Forrest *Requiem for the Living* (2019), Carnegie Hall, New York. Shulamit earned her doctorate from Teachers College, Columbia University. She is a licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music, London, and the University of South Africa. She has twice received U.S. Congressional Recognitions (2002, 2013) and her biography is entered into the Congressional Records.