

Journey of the Soul

songs of travel & enlightenment



INVERSION
ENSEMBLE

5 PM Sunday, August 12th

Pflugerville First United Methodist Church

Admission Free, Donations Accepted

C-Ø-DA

Note from the Artistic Director



Welcome to the very first performance given by Inversion Ensemble: CODA! I am so pleased we all get to experience something new and special together. This evening's program, "Journey of the Soul", takes us to exotic places, both in our world and in the realms of our minds. These songs cover topics of traveling and various forms of spiritual enlightenment.

This incarnation of Inversion Ensemble is made up primarily of volunteer singers aged 55 and over and includes a few members from our core group as well. Working with CODA has been so much fun and I'm thrilled as I look towards the future of our expanded Inversion Ensemble family!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor F. Shaw".

Trevor F. Shaw
Artistic Director
Inversion Ensemble

Guest Conductor



Phillip Michael Bernard is a teacher, conductor, singer, and composer. He is currently the Assistant Choir Director at Running Brushy Middle School in Leander, Texas. Prior to this, Phillip has served as private voice instructor at Anderson High School and Murchison Middle School (Austin, TX) and before that as Assistant Choir Director at John Horn HS (Mesquite, TX). He holds a bachelor's degree in Music Studies (Choral Emphasis) and a Performance Certificate in Voice from The University of Texas at Austin.

At UT, Phillip sang with many of the university's choral ensembles and for 3 years was the Assistant Conductor of the Collegium Musicum, a student-run chamber choir. In April 2015, he conducted the premiere of *Rose Made Man*, a transgender coming-of-age story (libretto by Tegan McLeod) set as a one-act opera (music by Franklin Piland), as a part of the Cohen New Works Festival. Phillip has performed with the Austin Baroque Orchestra and Chorus, the Dallas Symphony Chorus, the Ars Longa Ensemble, Inversion Ensemble, and the Chorus Austin Chamber Ensemble. He serves as a section leader for the Adult Choir at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin.

Phillip resides in Austin with his two cats, enjoys hiking, kayaking, and riding his bicycle, and practices yoga and meditation regularly. He is a member of TMEA, TCDA, and ACDA.

Inversion Ensemble: Coda

August 12th, 2018 – Pflugerville First United Methodist Church
Trevor F. Shaw, Artistic Director / Phillip Bernard, Guest Conductor

Swallows Travel To and Fro.....Gregory W. Brown

Text: Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

Swallows travel to and fro, And the great winds come and go, And the steady breezes blow, Bearing perfume, bearing love. Breezes hasten, swallows fly, Towered clouds forever ply, And at noonday, you and I See the same sunshine above. Dew and rainfall everywhere, Harvests ripen, flowers are fair, And the whole round earth is bare To the moonshine and the sun; And the live air, fanned with wings, Bright with breeze and sunshine, brings Into contact distant things, And makes all the countries one. Let us wander where we will, Something kindred greets us still; Something seen on vale or hill Falls familiar on the heart; So, at scent or sound or sight, Severed souls by day and night Tremble with the same delight - Tremble, half the world apart.

Bohemian Highway.....Jon Olmstead

Note:

Bohemian Highway is the composer's first work for acapella choir. This piece takes its name from a stretch of road in Sonoma California, known for its stunning natural beauty and great wineries. The initial repeated two note theme is meant to convey the movement of a road trip, and anticipation that one might feel when embarking on an exploration of the Bohemian Highway. Just as one's anticipation turns to discovery and then is left as a memory, so the piece develops out of its initial theme to explore the musical landscape before returning back to an echo of where it started.

A Little Gust of Wind.....Marjorie Halloran

Text: Marjorie Halloran

A little gust of wind when you're standing on the precipice, A little gust of wind can push you into the abyss, A little extra salt to pour onto your sandwich, A little extra salt to run into the wound Keep your chin up boy, I know it hurts and it'll hurt for a while, life is hard and the best you can do is sometimes just keep hanging on, 'till the wind subsides, They'll kick you when you're down and know the wind right out of you, They'll kick you when you're down and take your wallet and run, Bad things come in threes, and fours and fives and sixes. Bad things come in droves and they'll try to your soul, Keep your chin up boy, I know it hurts and it'll hurt for a while, life is hard and the best you can do is sometimes just keep hanging on, 'till the wind subsides Look into my eyes and see the light, I'll be a guiding star so you don't have to lost your way, Take my hand and hold on tight, I'll be an anchor to keep you from blowing away It's gonna be okay, maybe not tomorrow, A day when this too shall pass Keep your chin up boy, I know it hurts and it'll hurt for a while, life is hard and the best you can do is sometimes just keep hanging on, 'till the wind subsides

Note:

“A Little Gust of Wind” was originally written as a pop song for Halloran’s debut album, Ready For Anything (2015). This version, for SATB a cappella, was arranged for the August 2015 Vermont College of Fine Arts choral workshop. The text, written by the composer, is meant to bring comfort and reassurance to people battling difficult thoughts of depression, anxiety, or simply just having a bad day. The idea of “a little gust of wind” being the catalyst to metaphorically push someone over the edge [of depression] was inspired in part by Michael Garrett Steele, to whom this piece is dedicated

Darkness as Light.....Adrienne Inglis

Text: Psalm 139: 7-12 , NRSV Bible

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,’ even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.
Note:

Darkness as Light by Adrienne Inglis (ASCAP) for SATB chorus and harp or keyboard is loosely based on a Venezuelan pasaje rhythm with modified Dorian modality typical of Andean mestizo music. This musical setting of Psalm 139:7-12 was composed in 2005 and revised in 2018 for Inversion Ensemble Coda.

The Soul’s Own Speech.....Andrea Ramsey

Text: Anonymous

For the common things of everyday, God gave us speech in a common way, for the common things, God gave us speech. For the deeper things we think and feel, God gave the poet words to reveal, For the things we feel, God gave the poet words to reveal. For the heights and depths that know no reach, God gave us music the soul's own speech. For what knows no reach, God gave us music the soul's own speech.

O Anima fugitiva.....Alexander Johnson

Text: Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)

O Anima fugitiva,	fleeting Soul,
esto robusta,	you shall be strong,
et indue te arma lucis.	and wear your armor of light.

Note:

This brief text is an excerpt from Hildegard’s liturgical drama Ordo Virtutum. The earliest known work of its kind, Ordo tells the story of the Anima, or the Soul of Humanity, that is torn between the sixteen Virtues and the Devil. The text excerpted for this piece is sung by the Virtues as they plead for the Anima, who is weary and desperate for salvation, to come to the side of goodness and light and be healed by God. I set this text not for its sacred implications, but for a more universal application that appears to me when this excerpt is taken out of context as it has been for this piece. There are times in all human lives when we need to be reminded that the power to overcome adversity is in fact within ourselves, and I believe that this is a part of the message that Hildegard wished to communicate.

Triptych for Flute.....Robbie LaBanca

I. Travellers	II. Tinkerers	III. Dreamers
Adrienne Inglis, Flute		Cathie Parsley, Piano

Note:

These three short pieces for flute and piano were inspired by the various nomadic peoples around the globe. The first movement is pastoral and serene as they journey from one place to the next. The second movement uses imitative rhythmic figures to conjure the sounds of a craftsmen hammering metal and making wares. The final movement is the dream of the weary traveller as they have stopped for the night and the ethereal sounds that fill their head when they imagine their next home.

On a Journey.....Robbie LaBanca

Text: Hermann Hesse (1877-1962)

Don't be downcast, soon the night will come, When we can see the cool moon laughing in secret Over the faint countryside, And we rest, hand in hand. Don't be downcast, the time will soon come When we can have rest. Our small crosses will stand On the bright edge of the road together, And rainfall, and snowfall, And the winds come and go.

Note:

This lovely poem by the prolific novelist Hermann Hesse of *Steppenwolf* fame inspired this simple piece for women's voices and piano. The text creates an image for me of two people separated by time or distance and one of the pair is speaking to the other telling them that no matter what keeps them apart that one day, perhaps in death, they will be reunited.

Loch Lomond.....arr. Trevor Shaw

Text: Traditional

By yon bonnie banks and by yon bonnie braes, Where the sun shines bright on Loch Lomond, Where me and my true love were ever wont to be, On the bonnie bonnie banks of Loch Lomond, You'll take the high road and I'll take the low road, And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, Where me and my true love will never meet again, On the bonnie bonnie banks of Loch Lomond, I mind where we parted in yon shady glen, On the steep, steep side of Ben Lomond, Where in purple hue the Highland hills we view, And the moon coming out in the gloaming, The wee birdies sing, and the wild flowers spring and in sunshine the waters are sleeping, But the broken heart it kens nae second spring, Though the world knows not how we are grieving, You'll take the high road and I'll take the low road, And I'll be in Scotland afore ye, Where me and my true love will never meet again, On the bonnie bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.

Seven Line Supplication to Guru Rinpoche.....Harry Einhorn



Text: Traditional Tibetan Prayer (translation by Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche)

In the northwest of the land of Udiyana on a blooming lotus flower. You have attained supreme wondrous Sidhi, you are renowned as Pad Ma Kara. Surrounded by your retinue of many dakinis, we practice following your example. Please approach and grant your blessing, GURU PEMA SIDHI HUM.



Note:

The Seven Line Supplication to Guru Rinpoche is a traditional Tibetan prayer invoking Padmasambhava, the Tantric Buddhist master who helped establish Buddhism in Tibet sometime in the 8th Century and gave numerous teachings which are still being discovered today. This prayer is said to clear outer, inner, and secret obstacles on the path to full, complete, awakening. Contained within is a sacred text still practice and revered by many people around the world. In Himalayan culture and Buddhist practice in general, it is customary that such texts are not placed directly on the ground, stepped on or stepped over, or carelessly thrown away.



Trevor Shaw, Artistic Director 
Robbie LaBanca, Managing Director 

Phillip Michael Bernard, Guest Conductor

Adrienne Inglis 
Alexander Johnson 
Becky Mercado
Betty Armstrong
Bill Lasher
Bonnie Lockhart
Chris Tuggey
Christine Duval
Diane Skeel
Gary W. Pyle
Jennifer Inglis Hudson
Joshua Chai
Lissa Anderson
Lynn Lindsay
Mary Lou Dye
Meri Liston
Michel Kennell
Nancy Ebert
Radhia Gleis
Rene Simone
Shawn Harrison
Sherrille Reed
Suzette Emberton
Thomas Kolenda

Cathie Parsley, Pianist

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*Sustaining Donors

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributes to the existence of Inversion Ensemble. We are completely funded by your generous support. Donations made to our organization through our fiscal sponsor, Fractured Atlas, are tax-deductible and ensure we can do things like print programs, hire accompanists, secure performance venues, and so much more. Visit www.inversionensemble.com to make a donation.



INVERSION ENSEMBLE

Presenting our 2018-2019 Season!

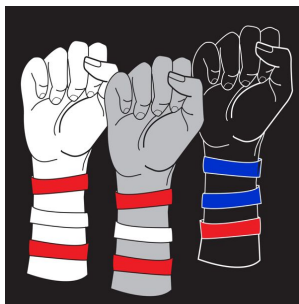
Our season promises to continue our exploration of innovative choral works and creation of new music, especially in the Austin area. Your ears can be the first to hear premiers, fresh off the press, as well as new compositions not yet widely performed.



August New Music Mixer
Sponsored by KMFA and Sightlines

Tuesday, August 14, 2018 @ 5 pm Inversion Ensemble and get \$1 off pints!

Friends and Allies Brewing Company
979 Springdale Rd #124, Austin, TX 78702



I. Too, Sing America
songs of our shared history

Saturday, October 6th, 2018 7 PM
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Sunday, October 7th, 2018 3 PM
Redeemer Presbyterian Church



Dream Keeper
songs of sleep & visions

Saturday, March 2, 2019 7 PM
Pflugerville First United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 3, 2019 3 PM
Redeemer Presbyterian Church



Heroes/Monsters
songs of legends & beasts

Saturday, June 1, 2019 7 PM
Central Christian Church

Sunday, June 2, 2019 3 PM
Redeemer Presbyterian Church