



PROFESSIONAL CORO CHAMBER CANADA CHOIR

Vision, Mission, Values, and Goals

VISION

Inspired hearts, minds and spirits in all who experience our world class professional chamber choir.

MISSION

Pro Coro Canada, a not-for-profit arts organization, performs and commissions choral music in the Western-European tradition, with an affinity for works of the 20thand 21st centuries; employs professional singers, and provides internships for emerging artists.

Pro Coro Canada fosters and promotes Canadian talent and content, develops best practices in choral music through innovative programming, and maximizes channels to disseminate performances globally.

Pro Coro Canada engages with diverse artistic partners in the search for challenging and satisfying choral music experiences for audiences and performers, while continually striving for excellence.

VALUES

Choral Leadership
Innovation Built on Legacy
Professional Artists
Orchestra of Voices
Excellence
Inspiration

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND GOALS

- Strengthen stability and sustainability
 Strive for Choral Excellence
 Nurture Leadership
- 4. Advance Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

To learn more about Pro Coro's Strategic Plan, visit procoro.ca/strategic-plan-2021-2024

Pro Coro Canada acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

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Pro Coro Canada #309, 10113 - 104 Street NW Edmonton, AB, T5J 1A1 780.420.1247 procoro.ca

Program

<u>Pro Coro Canada</u> Michael Zaugg, conductor

Christus Factus Est

Anton Bruckner

O Crux

Knut Nystedt

The Shadow of Thy Cross

Paul Mealor

Soloist: Annette Martens, soprano

Crux Fidelis

Sarah MacDonald*

A Joyful Noise Roderick Bryce, conductor

God So Loved the World from "The Crucifixion"

Sir John Stainer

Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé

Pro Coro Canada & A Joyful Noise Roderick Bryce, conductor Marnie Giesbrecht, organ

Greater Love hath no man

John Ireland

Soloists: Catherine Kubash, soprano, Peter Malcolm, baritone

~ Intermission ~

Pro Coro Canada & A Joyful Noise

Michael Zaugg, conductor Marnie Giesbrecht, organ Roderick Bryce, baritone Jessica Wagner, soprano

Requiem, Op. 48

- I. Introït et Kyrie
- II. Offertoire
- III. Sanctus
- IV. Pie Jesu
- V. Agnus Dei
- VI. Libera me
- VII In Paradisum

Gabriel Fauré arr. Yves Castagnet

*Canadian Composer

Want to record today's concert on your smartphone and share it with your friends? We have a better option for you! Head to tv.procoro.ca to watch all of Pro Coro's 23.24 Season Experience Series concerts. Please put your phone in do not disturb mode, leave it out of sight for the duration of the concert, and enjoy being present while we perform magnificent choral music for you.

Performers

Pro Coro Canada

Michael Zaugg, conductor

Soprano

Catherine Kubash Annette Martens Camila Patiño Petra Shields Katrina Smith Jessica Wagner

Tenor

Nathan Bootsma Tyson Kerr Oliver Munar Laren Steppler Andrew Whiteside Anthony Wynne

Alto

Kimberley Denis Laura Hawley Britney Huynh Jessica Robertson Adrienne Sitko Julianna Tinga

<u>Bass</u>

Graham Fast Douglas Graham William Ireton Peter Malcolm Josiah Maxfield Colden Palo

<u>Organ</u>

Marnie Giesbrecht

A Joyful Noise Choir

Roderick Bryce, conductor

<u>Soprano</u>

Angela Bober Gail Boutilier Susan Cribbs Sandra Croll Raegina Diceman

Jessica Fereira

Shelagh Hamilton

Carol Hills

Marion Johnson

Eunjin Kim

Margit Knupp

Catherine Kubash*

Monika Lang
Oxanna Lozowy

Colleen Maertens-Poole

Donna McKay

Faye Podruzny

Sheila Savage

Petra Shields*

Debby Shoctor Linda Slater

Lori Stewart

Chelsea Yaknovich

Tenor

Gavin Belik Dale Cooney Eric Maertens-Poole Rob Wakarchuk Anthony Wynne*

<u>Alto</u>

Catherine Armstrong Pat Brin Cathy Clement Lesley Dolman* Lisa Eriksson Jennifer Furlona Cindy Hamilton Marcia Hamm Verna Klimack Linda Lauder Rebecca Martin Jacqueline Martin-Lopez Christa Matichuk Rose-Marie McGee Sandra McMillan Carolyn Meyer Marney Mustard Christine Sawver Tricia Unsworth Debbi Wallace

<u>Bass</u> Bill Cairns

Art Hughes John Kilduff Kevin Lewis Peter Malcolm* Stephen Oloka Chris Truscott

Pro Coro Canada



Founded in 1981 by Canadian Michel Marc Gervais, Pro Coro Canada has performed at the Toronto International Choral Festival (1994 and 2002), the 1988 Olympic Arts Festival, and Canadian Voices (2003 landmark series of concerts celebrating 50 years of professional choral singing in Canada and R. Murray Schafer's 70th year). The choir has commissioned dozens of new works, the majority by Canadian composers. Pro Coro Canada produced the second Edmonton International Choral Festival from May 30th to June 2nd, 2019.

The twenty-four voices of Pro Coro Canada have been shaped by some of the finest choral conductors in the world, including Gervais, Anders Eby (Sweden), Søren Hansen (Denmark), Agnes Grossmann (Austria), and Richard Sparks (USA). Guest conductors have included Frieder Bernius, Eric Ericson, Gary Graden, Maria Guinand, Bo Holten, Elmer Iseler, Tönu Kaljuste, Diane Loomer, Leonard Ratzlaff, Ward Swingle, Ivars Taurins, Jon Washburn, and Erik Westberg. In early 2012 Michael Zaugg was announced as Pro Coro's new Artistic Director and Principal Conductor.

Under the direction of Swiss-born Michael Zaugg, the choir is widely recognized as one of this country's finest. The choir is particularly proud of its composer-in-residence program with internationally renowned composer Alberto Grau; its appointment as Faculty in the Choral Art program at the Banff Centre; and critically acclaimed tours of four provinces. Pro Coro Canada believes strongly in community partnerships and over the past few years has collaborated with many community choirs as well as mentoring young choral artists through their Emerging Artist Program.



Our Conductor

Michael Zaugg Managing & Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Pro Coro Canada

Swiss-native Michael Zaugg has distinguished himself as an innovative and versatile conductor, pedagogue and clinician. Currently in his 11th season as Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the professional chamber choir Pro Coro Canada in Edmonton, Michael also previously led other notable Canadian choirs including, in Montreal, the St. Lawrence Choir (2008-2013) and voces boreales (2006-2015), and the Cantata Singers Ottawa (2005-2014).



As Chorus Master of the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal (2006-2011), Michael successfully prepared groups of up to 1500 singers for OSM Artistic Director Kent Nagano, including the award-winning production Saint François d'Assise by Messiaen. Michael also prepared the Cantata Singers Ottawa for their appearances with the National Arts Centre Orchestra under conductors such as Franz-Paul Decker, Trevor Pinnock, and Helmuth Rilling.

Active as a Guest Conductor, Michael Zaugg has worked with notable groups including the Vancouver Chamber Choir, National Youth Choir of Canada, the BBC Singers, Vancouver's musica intima, Thirteen Strings, as well as the Longueuil Symphony Orchestra. Michael's US debut was with the Grammy-nominated Choir of Trinity Wall Street in New York. He has led a 60-voice male choir, with singers selected from across Canada, the US and the Ukraine, to perform the Resurrection Liturgy by Fr. John Sembrat (Alberta) in tours across the Prairies and to Toronto, Philadelphia, Rochester and New York City.

Originally an accomplished tenor, Michael became the first Swiss conductor to be accepted to the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm, Sweden in its prestigious post-graduate program for Professional Choir Conducting. Mr. Zaugg also holds degrees in voice and music education from the University in Basel. In 2018 he was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Music (Hon DMus) by Scotland's King's College, University of Aberdeen.

In 2020 Michael Zaugg, together with Pro Coro Canada, received the Choral Canada national Award for Outstanding Innovation for the CHORAL ART at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. He was also a 2020 recipient of the Edmonton Artists Trust Fund Award, and the recipient of the Con Spirito Award from Choir Alberta in 2022.

A Joyful Noise Choir Roderick Bryce, Conductor



A Joyful Noise Choir Association (AJN) is a family of three adult choirs, founded by Eva Bostrand in 2004, giving everyone, regardless of musical experience, a place to find their voice safely and confidently.

AJN is firmly committed to Eva's original belief that singing is a natural and powerful means of expression, and that everyone can learn, given the opportunity. The primary goal for all three choirs (including Wednesday choir for absolute beginners, Monday choir for intermediately experienced singers, and Thursday choir for more experienced singers) is to build musical confidence by developing vocal skills, studying music theory, and sharing in the joy of performing for an audience. Now under the direction of Roderick Bryce, A Joyful Noise continues to offer a comprehensive choral program, providing a rich choral experience to singers of varying levels of experience and time commitment.

Performing in today's concert, Thursday choir is AJN's most advanced choir, composed of over fifty experienced singers wishing to tackle the full gamut of the choral repertoire. Thursday choir meets weekly for rehearsals, and typically sings 3 concerts each season, as well as many outreach performances in varied venues such as prisons, hospital wards and seniors' homes.

If you would like to learn more about A Joyful Noise, please visit their website: www.ajoyfulnoisechoir.ca.

Guest Performer: Marnie Giesbrecht, Organ



A passionate keyboard artist, Marnie Giesbrecht performs and records as organ soloist, collaborative musician (organ, piano, harpsichord) and with Joachim Segger as Duo Majoya. Dr. Giesbrecht is Professor Emerita at the University of Alberta (1988 to 2014), Adjunct Professor of Music at The King's University, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

An enthusiast and advocate for the development of organ music in Edmonton and Canada, Marnie has served in many local, regional and national leadership roles in the Royal Canadian College of Organists; she serves on a variety of local, national and international competition juries and panels. CD recordings include solo organ, collaborative organ works, piano duets, and duets for the combination of organ and piano. A broad range of duet repertoire is also recorded on the Duo Majoya Youtube channel.

Marnie Giesbrecht and Joachim Segger are Duo Majoya, the unique and innovative keyboard team that tours extensively and performs a distinctive repertoire of commissioned, original and arranged works. Commissions include more than twenty pieces for organ duet and organ/piano by Canadian and international composers. The duo was inducted into the Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame (2014) for their individual careers and exceptional work as Duo Majoya and were named Honorary Fellows of the Royal Canadian College of Organists (2015). The duo serves First Presbyterian Church in Edmonton as Music Directors.

Our Board of Directors

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Wendy Boje

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Nakita Edwards

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Sandra Croll

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Sumit Kanwar

Michael Phair

Alex Wesolowski

Singer Representatives

Kimberley Denis Tyson Kerr

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Pro Coro Canada is a proud member of the following organizations:









Choral Canada Association of Canadian Canada Choral Association des communautés

Support the Pro Coro Endowment Funds

Endowment Funds create a permanent legacy felt over generations. An endowment fund with **Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF)** invests gifts through independent investment managers. Each year, a percentage of this family of funds is granted to Pro Coro Canada, to be invested according to their intended purpose.

The Pro Coro Canada Endowment Fund

Ensures the long-term prosperity of the ensemble. This fund directly assists the general operations of the choir on-stage and behind the scenes.





The Russ and Johann Mann Endowment Fund Facilitates the creation and commission of new choral works by Canadian and International composers for performances by Pro Coro Canada and choirs across Canada.

The Maria David Evans Memorial Endowment Fund In the spirit of educating the leaders of tomorrow, the Maria David Evans Memorial Fund facilitates the educational work of Pro Coro Canada with emerging choral leaders, young singers and the local choral community at-large.



We would like to thank all families and individuals who are, in a sustainable way, generously supporting Pro Coro through the ECF endowment funds*:

Alexandra Schepansky
Alida Flynn
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Edmonton Swiss Men's Choir

John & Jennifer Maxfield Leroy & Barbara Hiller Mary Lynne Campbell Patrick Kalita Peter Malcolm Robert & Pamela Barrett Russ & Johann Mann Sandra Croll Stan Climie Susan Rockwood

*Funds received in 2022

To donate, visit procoro.ca/endowment

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FEATURING MEMBERS FROM

Axios Men's Ensemble
Pro Coro Canada
Soloists from Ukraine and North America
Michael Zaugg, Conductor

WORLD PREMIERE

April 14th, 2024 at 3:00 pm St. Basil's Ukrainian Catholic Church 7007-109 St NW, Edmonton



Tickets available at axioschoir.com





Texts & Translations

Christus Factus Est Anton Bruckner

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.

Versus vel Responsorius Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen. Christ became obedient for us unto death, even to the death, death on the cross.

Verse Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him a name which is above all names.

O Crux Knut Nystedt Text: Venantius Fortunatus

O crux splendidior cunctis astris, mundo celebris,
Hominibus multum amabilis sanctior universis.
Quae sola fuisti digna portare talentum mundi.
Dulce lignum, dulce clavos, dulcia ferens pondera.
Salva praesentem catervam, in tuis hodie laudibus congregatam.

O Cross, more radiant than the stars, celebrated throughout the earth, Beloved of all the people.
Holier than all things,
Which alone was found worthy to bear the light of the world.
Blessed Tree. Blessed Nails,
Blest the weight you bore:
Save the flock
which today is gathered to praise you.

The Shadow of Thy Cross Paul Mealor Text: G.A. Studdert Kennedy

If He could speak, that victim torn and bleeding, Caught in His pain and nailed upon the Cross, Has He to give the comfort souls are needing? Could He destroy the bitterness of loss? Give me, for light, the sunshine of Thy sorrow, Give me, for shelter, shadow of Thy Cross; Give me to share of Thy morrow, Gone from my heart, the bitterness of loss.

Crux Fidelis Sarah MacDonald Text: Emily Dickenson & Emelia Lanier

Eclipse at Midnight
It was dark before Sunset at Easter
Blindness on the Dawn
Faint Star of Bethlehem Gone down!
His harmlesse hands vnto the Crosse they nailde
Betweene two theiues, vnpitied, vnbewailde,
With sharpest pangs and terrors thus appailde,
To know just how He suffered would be dear
To know if any Human eyes were near
To whom He could entrust His wavering gaze
Until it settle broad on Paradise
"Remember me, remember me," implored the thief!"
Before Sunset at Easter
A Guest in Paradise.

God So Loved the World, from "The Crucifixion" Sir John Stainer Text: John 3:16-17

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

Ubi Caritas Maurice Duruflé Text from the liturgy for Maundy Thursday

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Where charity and love are, God is there. The love of Christ has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be glad in Him. Let us fear him, and love the living God. And may we love one another with a sincere heart.

Greater Love Hath No Man John Ireland Words taken from the Scriptures: Canticles 8, St John 15. I Peter 2. I Corinthians 6: Romans 12

Many waters cannot quench love,

neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.

Greater love hath no man than this,

that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,

that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified,

ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;

that ye should show forth the praises of him

who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,

that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice,

holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Requiem, Op. 48 Gabriel Fauré

I. Introït et Kyrie

Choir. tenors

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine

et lux perpetua luceat eis

Grant them eternal rest, o Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them

Sopranos

Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion

et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem

Thou, o God, art praised in Sion, and unto Thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

Choir

Exaudi orationem meam

ad te omnis caro veniet

Hear my prayer,

unto Thee shall all flesh come.

Kyrie eleison,

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,

Lord have mercy

II. Offertoire

Altos tenors

O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriae libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu

O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriae libera animas defunctorum

de ore leonis

ne absorbeat eus Tartarus ne cadant in obscurum.

Altos, tenors, basses
O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriae
ne cadant in obscurum.

Baritone solo

Hostias et preces tibi Domine, laudis offerimus tu suscipe pro animabus illis quarum hodie memoriam facimus Fac eas, Domine, de morte transire ad vitam Quam olim Abrahae promisisti et semini eus.

Chorus

O Domine, Jesu Christe, Rex Gloriae libera animas defunctorum de poenis inferni et de profundo lacu ne cadant in obscurum.

III. Sanctus

Sopranos, tenors, basses Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua Hosanna in excelsis. Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hells and from the bottomless pit. Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, Deliver them from the lion's mouth, nor let them fall into darkness.

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, neither the black abyss swallow them up.

neither the black abyss swallow them up.

We offer unto Thee this sacrifice of prayer and praise Receive it for those souls whom today we commemorate. Allow them, o Lord, to cross from death into the life which once Thou didst promise to Abraham and his seed.

Lord Jesus Christ, King of glory, deliver the souls of all the faithful departed from the pains of hells and from the bottomless pit. nor let them fall into darkness.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth heaven and earth are full of Thy glory Hosanna in the highest.

IV. Pie Jesu

Soprano solo

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem dona eis requiem sempiternam requiem

Merciful Jesus, Lord, grant them rest grant them rest, eternal rest.

V. Agnus Dei

Tenors, choir

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi

dona eis requiem

O Lamb of God,

that takest aways the sin of the world, grant them rest

Choir

Agnus Dei,

qui tollis peccata mundi dona eis requiem

O Lamb of God,

that takest aways the sin of the world, grant them rest

Tenors

Agnus Dei,

qui tollis peccata mundi dona eis requiem sempiternam requiem.

O Lamb of God,

that takest aways the sin of the world,

grant them rest everlasting rest.

Choir

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine Cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis May eternal light shine on them, o Lord, with Thy saints for ever, because Thou are merciful.

Grant them eternal rest, o Lord, and may perpetual light shine on them.

VI. Libera me

Baritone solo

sunt et terra

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna

in die illa tremenda Quando coeli movendi

Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem

Deliver me, o Lord, from everlasting death on that dreadful day

when the heavens and the earth $% \left\{ \left(1\right) \right\} =\left\{ \left(1\right)$

shall be moved

when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire

Choir

Tremens factus sum ego et timeo dum discussio venerit atque ventura ira

Dies illa dies irae calamitatis et miseriae dies illa, dies magna et amara valde

Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine et lux perpetua luceat eis

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda Quando coeli movendi sunt et terra Dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem

meo I quake with fear and I tremble awaiting the day of account and the wrath to come.

That day, the day of anger, of calamity, of misery, that day, the great day, and most bitter.

Grant them eternal rest, o Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Deliver me, o Lord, from everlasting death on that dreadful day when the heavens and the earth shall be moved when thou shalt come to judge the world by fire

VII. In Paradisum

Sopranos

In Paradisum deducant Angeli in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem

Chorus Jerusalem

Sopranos

Chorus Angelorum te suscipiat et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem

Chorus

Aeternam habeas requiem

May the angels receive them in Paradise, at they coming may the martyrs receive thee and bring thee into the holy city Jerusalem

Jerusalem

There may the chorus of angels receive thee, and with Lazarus, once a beggar, may thou have eternal rest.

May thou have eternal rest.

OUR NEXT CONCERT

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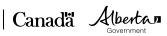


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