



proudly presents

Conductor's Choice

April 6, 2024
7:30 pm

Fraserview MB Church
11295 Mellis Drive
Richmond, BC

In partnership with



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30 YEARS!

How fortunate we were when she chose to come to Canada in 1982, for it was about twelve years later that the Richmond Chorus, a small but dedicated community group, in search of a new director struck gold. Who they found was an accomplished professional singer/conductor who is our Brigid Coult. And the rest, as they say, is history.

As with most organizations, the arrival of new leadership can at times be stressful. I think it's fair to say that, when Brigid took charge, she saw there was both tremendous potential and work to be done. And work they did. I'm told there was some fear and trepidation in the early days but that soon gave way to joy, excitement, fun and, especially, growth, both individual and collective, that has been experienced under her tutelage. I joined ROCA in 2011 and I remember well, the confident vibe coming from everyone around me. I also recall hearing references to the 2006 trip to Carnegie Hall. That trip had been five years earlier and people were still buzzing about it!

It was after the 2010 Christmas concert that a friend and fellow singer suggested I join. After a straight forward (and only slightly intimidating) audition the answer was yes, and the following Tuesday I found myself among 50 + singers who were a fair bit more seasoned than myself. The first thing I learned about Brigid is that she moves "at one of two speeds, fast and very fast." To borrow one of her phrases, I had just "jumped in at the deep end." The work to be performed in just over 2 months, was Brahms' Ein Deutsches Requiem. Having never heard it before and having missed the first few rehearsals, I found it to be quite the challenge. But she showed me how to break it into small bits, slow it down, and listen, "we have 2 ears and 1 mouth for a reason..." The performance, as I recall, was a tremendous success and I now rank it first on a long list of pieces I've come to know and love. And, for that, I have Brigid to thank. (Great news, we'll be performing Brahms again next season. Stay tuned...)

We chorus members come from a wide range of musical backgrounds with a common, simple thread, we love to sing. It never ceases to amaze me, how much pleasure we've had, how successful we've been, thanks to Brigid. Her encyclopedic knowledge, passion, patience and, seemingly natural ability to recognize and nurture the musical capacity in each of us, are what we have all come to treasure. As Brigid always says, "you can do it!" And nothing beats that warm feeling when the applause starts and Brigid give us her "well done!" smile. We, in ROCA, are where we are today because of her hard work, diligence and faith in us. How fortunate we are.

In addition to being our wonderful leader, Brigid has also given countless hours of her time to musical and other community organizations. In particular, she is a volunteer and supporter of the Regional Animal Protection Society's Cat Sanctuary, and so it is most appropriate to welcome Eyal Lichtmann and RAPS tonight, as our Community Partner. Please be sure to visit their information table in the lobby before the show or at intermission.

Teacher, artist, humanitarian, leader, friend. There's not enough room on this page to address all the accolades that are due. Cheers to 30 fantastic seasons!

Sincerely,



Bernie Barrett, President



**RICHMOND
ORCHESTRA
& CHORUS
ASSOCIATION**



BCChoral
federation
member choir

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Brigid Coult
James Malmberg

CONCERTMASTER

Larisa Lebeda

ACCOMPANIST

Jeon Mok

ADMIN OFFICE MANAGER

Rachel Eaton

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RICHMOND ORCHESTRA & CHORUS ASSOCIATION

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Charitable Registration Number: 119252674 RR0001

Conductor's Choice

Let All The World in Every Corner Sing R. Vaughan Williams
Antiphon from Five Mystical Songs (1872-1958)

Cantique de Jean Racine Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Totus Tuus Henryk Górecki (1933-2010)

Five Hymns in Popular Style John Gardner (1917-2011)

1. Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning
2. Saviour, Again to Thy Great Name
3. Nearer my God, to Thee
4. Abide With Me (*Rachel Eaton, soprano*)
5. Fight the Good Fight

Intermission

Nitohtamok Askîy (*Listen to the Land*) Sheryl Sewepagaham

United in Purpose Rollo Dilworth

Sing Me to Heaven Daniel Gawthrop

Dirait-on (*from Les Chansons des Roses*) Morten Lauridsen

How can I Keep from Singing? Robert Lowry (1826-99)
arr. Sarah Quartel

Light of a Clear Blue Morning Dolly Parton
Amy Koop, soprano arr. Craig Hella Johnson

J'entends le moulin trad. Québécois, arr. Donald Patriquin

Here's to Song Allister MacGillivray, arr. Lydia Adams
Kelsey Lamb, soprano; Max Schmidt, tenor

Brigid Coult, Conductor

Jeon Mok, piano
Dragana Hajduk, flute

Translations

Cantique de Jean Racine

Jean Racine (1639–99)

Word of the Highest, our only hope,
Eternal day of earth and the heavens,
We break the silence of the peaceful night;
Saviour Divine, cast your eyes upon us!
Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace,
That all hell may flee at the sound of your voice;
Banish the slumber of a weary soul,
That brings forgetfulness of your laws!
O Christ, look with favour upon your faithful people
Now gathered here to praise you;
Receive their hymns offered to your immortal glory;
May they go forth filled with your gifts.

Totus Tuus

Maria Boguslawska

*Totus Tuus sum, Maria, Mater nostri Redemptoris
Virgo Dei, Virgo pia, Mater mundi Salvatoris.
Totus Tuus sum, Maria!*

I am completely yours, O Mary, mother of our Redeemer,
Virgin of God, loving one, Mother of the world's Saviour.
I am completely yours, O Mary!

Nitohtamok Askîy

Woodland Cree Y-dialect

Nitohtamosk askîy Listen to the land
Mamawi nâkatihitan We must take care of it together
Kiskin wahamakanaw mistahi kikwi. It teaches us many things.

Dirait-on

Rainer Maria Rilke, from *Les Roses*

*Abandon entouré d'abandon, tendresse touchant aux tendresses...
C'est ton intérieur qui sans cesse se caresse, dirait-on;*

Abandon surrounding abandon, tenderness touching tenderness...
Your oneness endlessly caresses itself, so they say:

*se caresse en soi-même, par son proper reflet éclairé.
Ainsi tu inventes le thème du Narcisse exaucé.*

Self-caressing through its own clear reflection.
Thus you invent the theme of Narcissus fulfilled.

ABOUT ROCA

In 1986, a small group of Richmond musicians had the desire to make music for their community and the Richmond Orchestra & Chorus was formed. Since then the organization has grown to almost 100 members, all committed to providing an opportunity for musicians to share the joy of music in practice and performance.

Our talented singers and instrumentalists present a variety of music throughout the season, from the beauty of the classics, through seasonal traditions and the uplifting passion of sacred and spiritual, to the delights of folk, jazz, modern and show tunes. Members range in age from high school students to seniors; they come from all walks of life, and welcome the opportunity to share their love of music with a wider audience.

BRIGID COULT | Artistic Director (Chorus)

Brigid Coult trained and worked in England until coming to Canada in 1982. She has been the conductor of Richmond Chorus since 1994, and in her hands the Chorus has grown both in numbers and musicianship. She has recently retired from a 21-year post as Director of Music at St Mary's Kerrisdale Anglican Church, and she has also served on diocesan and national church committees. She has been a member of Canada's award-winning women's choir, Elektra.

Ms. Coult was President of the British Columbia Choral Federation (BCCF) for 13 years, and is still heavily involved with the organization today, as its Project Manager; she has served on the Board of Choral Canada as BC representative and as President. She was involved in the planning and execution of the World Symposium on Choral Music (III) held here in Vancouver in 1993, the World of Children's Choirs - 2001, and the joint CC/BCCF ChorPodium conference, held in Victoria in 2006. She has served as an adjudicator and choral clinician for festivals throughout BC and is a devoted volunteer and supporter of Richmond's Cat Sanctuary!



Our Community Partner



25+ YEARS



OUR MISSION

Saving and improving the lives of animals



OUR VISION

To make lives, families, neighbourhoods and communities safer, healthier and happier by strengthening bonds between companion animals and people.



OUR VALUES

We demonstrate respect for animals and people through direct care for homeless, abandoned, stray and surrendered companion animals and by educating people about the benefits and responsibilities of animal companionship.

REGIONAL ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY

SAVING AND IMPROVING THE LIVES OF ANIMALS

RAPS is one of Canada's largest and most innovative animal-serving agencies. We are re-imagining no-kill rescue by helping animals ... *and their people.*





RICHMOND CHORUS

SOPRANO

Adele Armstrong
Doris Bruce
Michelle Chan
Alison Cole
Rachel Eaton
Mary Hanson
Kathy Hori
Amy Koop
Roxanne Koop
Kelsey Lamb
Anne Parker
Laura Rhead
Siân Smith
Susan Stolberg
Karen Tardif
Ann Zhang

ALTO

Helen Andow
Cindy Bartrop
Christy Borthistle
Bernadette Chong
Jennifer Dufour
Laura Herrera
Kate Howie
Pat Koepke
Lavonne Koskitalo
Karen Lachance
Liz MacDonald
Letty Mills
Elizabeth Oh
Lea Starr
Genny Trigo-Gonzalez

TENOR

Don Moir
Max Schmidt
Chris Skipper
Graeme Stager

BASS

Bernie Barrett
**Peter Bayley*
Charles Cohen
Tony Davies
Brian Dobbin
Harry Gray
Jordan Price
Victor Schmid
Will Wendowsky

**on leave*



JEON MOK | Piano

Jeon Mok is an active piano accompanist in Vancouver, passionate in choral, vocal, and instrumental accompaniment. He earned a Bachelor of Music from the University of British Columbia under the tutelage of pianist Amanda Chan. Jeon began learning piano at age 6, and worked with choirs since the age of 10. Presently, he accompanies many different levels of choirs ranging from elementary to university, such as St. Patrick Regional Secondary Choirs and UBC's Choral Union and chamber choirs. He also frequently collaborates with soloists for their concerts, auditions, juries and competitions. Aside from the piano, Jeon is an organist for both Lutheran and Catholic church services, weddings, and funerals.

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2024 BCCF RAFFLE

The BC Choral Federation's annual raffle helps to support participating choirs in accessing funds to pay professional fees, or to buy music or equipment.

Deadline: Friday, April 12, 2024 at 11:59 pm
Draw: Monday, April 22, 2024 at 11:00 am



bccf.rafflenexus.com

Single Tickets: \$5 | 5-Ticket Pack: \$20 | Select "ROCA" from the dropdown menu, or use our affiliate link!

SUPPORTERS

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our many supporters whose commitment to the Richmond Orchestra and Chorus Association is invaluable.

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May 4, 2024 – 7:30 pm

Orchestra performs Star Wars
& Brahms's *Violin Concerto*

Tickets Online in April!