# MGBNIUS

— 19 — SEASON — 20 —

true concord voices & orchestra



# — 19 — **CENIUS** — 20 —

#### We Are True Concord

- > A GRAMMY-nominated professional chamber choir and orchestra
  - ➤ Innovative programming
- > Intimate and acoustically excellent performances across the region
- ➤ Voices and instrumentalists of the highest caliber from across the country
  - > With a mission to create experiences that move, enrich and inspire!



"Join us to explore the miracle of human genius!
With works from the world's greatest minds to the ingenious simplicity of songs that we all know and love

this is a season not to be missed!"
 <u>Eric Holtan, Founding Music Director</u>



# Welcome to True Concord's 16th Season, a time to be InGENIUS!

"It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them.

They went out and happened to things."

Leonardo da Vinci

Humankind has relied on creative minds, inventors and problem solvers — and we need them today as much as ever. Being able to see things differently, expand others' horizons, and bring a new focus to our reality is a gift beyond measure. These geniuses have added beauty and quality to our lives. In 2019-20, True Concord invites you to immerse yourself In Genius.

#### THIS PAST LUMINOUS SEASON SAW...

- ► Another year of record breaking ticket sales
- World class luminaries Dale Warland and Morten Lauridsen
- ➤ New masterpieces with Jake Runestad's extraordinary *Dreams of the Fallen* and Martin Sedek's *Beauty of Cosmic Things*
- ➤ Masterworks including Bach's St. Matthew Passion and Mozart's Requiem
- Memorable performances by Corinne Winters, Adam del Monte, Jeffrey Biegel and all the artists of True Concord!

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMING YEAR INCLUDE...

- ➤ The world premiere of the third annual Stephen Paulus Emerging Composers Competition winner, with text from Shakespeare's Sonnet No. 8, the inspiration for True Concord's name
- ➤ A multi-dimensional exploration of the mind of da Vinci, with the Arizona premiere of *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci* for choir, orchestra and video projections
- ➤ The magic and warmth of community gathering together for the annual tradition of Lessons & Carols by Candlelight
- ➤ The rich and powerful voice of Morris Robinson, bass, singing music of Copland and beloved spirituals
- The 250th birthday celebration of Beethoven, with his "Choral Fantasy" and Mass in C Major
- ➤ And, you can't address genius without Bach!



#### "THE TRUE CONCORD OF WELL-TUNED SOUNDS..."

Shakespeare, Sonnet No. 8

"How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank!

Here will we sit and let the sounds of music creep in our ears: soft stillness and the night become the touches of sweet harmony."

Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice | Act 5, Scene 1

Step into the world of arguably the greatest genius of the English language. Music is a language, and language can be music, so it is only fitting that William Shakespeare uses and refers to well over one hundred songs in his works.

The cornerstone of the concert is English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams's **Serenade to Music** featuring 16 vocal soloists. Heartfelt melodies swell and ebb like a gentle breeze of sound with text from William Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*. It is said that Sergei Rachmaninoff, in attendance at the premiere of the *Serenade*, was reduced to tears by its beauty.

"A great poet is the most precious jewel of a nation."

Ludwig van Beethoven

This concert premieres the third annual **Stephen Paulus Emerging Composers Competition** winner, with text from Shakespeare's *Sonnet No. 8*, the inspiration for True Concord's name.

In its first two years this competition has received more than 70 entries from across the country and has resulted in the world premiere of two works.

Don't miss the birth of this next work of art!

"The man that hath no music in himself,
Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems and spoils....
...Let no such man be trusted."

Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice | Act 5, Scene 1

Friday, October 11, 7:00pm
St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church, Green Valley

Saturday, October 12, 7:30pm Catalina Foothills High School

Sunday, October 13, 3:00pm Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church



## JOYFUL | EXALTED | BRILLIANT REACHING TO THE HEAVENS

"Neither a lofty degree of intelligence nor imagination nor both together go to the making of genius.

Love, love, love, that is the soul of genius."

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

It is almost impossible to overstate the impact Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart had on the world. For musicians and non-musicians alike, hearing his name conjures up images of genius and an artistic miracle.

Commonly known as the "Solemn Vespers," Mozart's **Vesperae solennes de confessore** stands among his finest operas and choral masterpieces, prefiguring his great Mass in C Minor and Requiem. You will not want to miss the transcendent Laudate Dominum.

"I awoke, only to find that the rest of the world is still asleep."

Leonardo da Vinci

2019 marks the 500th anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci's death, and celebrates the immeasurable contribution the artist and inventor made on the entire world.

Inspired by words, drawings and subjects in da Vinci's personal notebooks, rising star and American composer Jocelyn Hagen explores the mind and world of da Vinci. In an Arizona premiere, *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci* includes a video projection over the choir and orchestra showing the actual drawings of one of the greatest minds of all time.

"(Hagen's) musical lines flow as poetry in sound, as she guides the listener from one delight to the next."

Dominick DiOrio, Composer & Conductor

Friday, November 22, 7:00pm Valley Presbyterian Church, Green Valley

Saturday, November 23, 7:30pm Catalina Foothills High School

Sunday, November 24, 3:00pm Catalina Foothills High School



True Concord Choir and Guy Whatley, organ

# LESSONS & CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Songs of the Magi

12 - 15 **DECEMBER** 

# WARMTH | COMMUNITY PEACE | BEAUTY | WONDER

"But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these were the wisest. Of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest.

Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi."

O. Henry, The Gift of the Magi

True Concord brings you the gift of beauty and peace, continuing its tradition of new and traditional carols performed in some of the area's most beautiful churches.

Surround yourself with warmth, the light of candles, the velvet sound of voices, and the community of people joined together to celebrate the beauty and mystery of a gift given fully from the heart.

"Anything can make me stop and look and wonder, and sometimes learn."

Kurt Vonnegut

Experience the gift of music inspired by the Magi in this annual tradition of Lessons & Carols by Candlelight, telling the Christmas story through readings and song.

"...the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was...

Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of frankincense and of myrrh."

Matthew 2:9 - 12

Thursday, December 12, 7:30pm Christ the King Episcopal Church

Friday, December 13, 7:00pm
St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church, Green Valley

Saturday, December 14, 7:30pm St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church

Sunday, December 15, 3:00pm Catalina United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 15, 7:30pm St. Alban's Episcopal Church



True Concord Choir, Chamber Players and Morris Robinson, bass

### **AMERICA SINGS!**

Celebrating the diverse voices of America

— from folk songs and spirituals to
musical theater and jazz

24 – 26 **JANUARY** 

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TUCSON DESERT SONG FESTIVAL

## DIRECT, SIMPLE, PURE | OF AND FROM THE LAND AS IF YOU KNEW THIS MUSIC BEFORE YOU WERE BORN

"Any fool can make something complicated. It takes a genius to make it simple."

Woody Guthrie

Aaron Copland and Stephen Foster have been called "fathers of the American sound" in classical music. Copland's *Old American Songs*, timeless songs by Stephen Foster, and spirituals performed by African American bass *Morris Robinson* demonstrates how these brilliant artists gave a sound to a nation. Join us as we explore how individuals have influenced this nation through song.

Robinson returns to Tucson after his triumphant debut in the very first Tucson Desert Song Festival, when he wowed audiences with Verdi's Requiem in performances with the Tucson Symphony Orchestra.

Copland's **Old American Songs** take on themes — political and religious, folk and theatrical — that present a diversified portrait of America itself.

He gathers revivalist tunes, hymns, and even whimsical children's songs to reveal the beauty of the sound of America. These songs point to the composer's desire to return to a less complicated time, perhaps best known in *Simple Gifts*.

Like Copland, Stephen Foster's music added to the rich history of popular and folk songs that reflected, and changed, the American story.

Ours is a history of voices of common people, gathered together in concord, ringing full and strong. The person next door is just that, until they change the world.

Friday, January 24, 7:00pm St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church, Green Valley

> Saturday, January 25, 7:30pm Catalina Foothills High School

Sunday, January 26, 3:00pm Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church



#### UPLIFTING POWER | JOYOUS EXALTATION

"Tones sound and roar and storm about me until I have set them down in notes." Ludwig van Beethoven

This year the world celebrates the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth — a sign of how much impact he has had on humanity. Another sign is that one work, composed in 1824, is still used today across the globe as a rallying message of unity — a call to be our best selves. That work is the incomparable Ninth Symphony, and the "Choral Fantasy" is often considered its forerunner.

At its premiere, Beethoven himself played the piano part and the opening solo gives us an inside look at his creative improvisational style. **Jeffrey Biegel** will take on that role, coming off his debut with True Concord this past November with Jake Runestad's *Dreams of the Fallen*.

Beethoven was at a high point of his creative genius at the time he wrote the *Mass in C Major*, the ambitious forerunner to *Missa Solemnis*.

"Genius is finding the invisible link between things."

Vladimir Nabokov

Johannes Brahms's *Alto Rhapsody*, Op. 53, for contralto, male chorus and orchestra, was written as a wedding gift and unrequited love letter for Robert and Clara Schumann's daughter, Julie.

Brahms used verses from Harzreise im Winter, a poem by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe inspired by the writer's ascent of the Harz mountains. Goethe was a novelist, playwright, natural philosopher, scientist, artist and diplomat whose great drama, Faust, is considered to be a near-perfect commentary on the condition of modern man.

Goethe reached the summit in deep snow, with the landscape below him shrouded in clouds. The gorgeous *Alto Rhapsody* teems with passion and angst, all highlighted by alto soloist **Emily Marvosh**.

Friday, February 21, 7:00pm Valley Presbyterian Church, Green Valley

Saturday, February 22, 7:30pm Catalina Foothills High School

Sunday, February 23, 3:00pm Catalina Foothills High School



#### AND NOW FOR THE GENIUS OF GENIUSES!

"Why waste money on psychotherapy when you can listen to the *B-Minor Mass*?"

Michael Torke

The world's greatest musicians, creators and philosophers have uniformly marveled at J.S. Bach. The monumental **B-Minor Mass**, for choir, soloists and orchestra, is one of Bach's "cathedrals in sound" and the pinnacle of his life's work.

Coming off the 2018-19 critically acclaimed and sold-out performances of Bach's St. Matthew Passion, this is a perfect finale for True Concord Voices & Orchestra's season In Genius.

"The Mass in B Minor is as lofty in design, scope and expression as anything written by the hand of man."

National Public Radio

"If one were asked to name one musician who came closest to composing without human flaw, I suppose general consensus would choose Johann Sebastian Bach..."

Aaron Copland

"Any musician, even the most gifted, takes a place second to Bach's at the very start."

Paul Hindemith

"Bach is the beginning and end of all music." Max Reger "Bach is thus a terminal point.

Nothing comes from him;
everything merely leads to him."

Albert Schweitzer

"The most stupendous miracle in all music!" Richard Wagner

"Study Bach. There you will find everything."

Johannes Brahms

# EXPERIENCE FOR YOURSELF THE GENIUS OF BACH'S MASTERPIECE!

Friday, March 27, 7:00pm Valley Presbyterian Church, Green Valley

> Saturday, March 28, 7:30pm Catalina Foothills High School

Sunday, March 29, 3:00pm Catalina United Methodist Church



In just 15 years, True Concord has become a leader in the arts and cultural life of Southern Arizona while gaining regional and national recognition for its musical excellence.

We are grateful to the many audience members who have recognized the quality of True Concord's performances and choose to provide financial support each season.

True Concord chooses to keep ticket prices as affordable as possible. As a result, just 31% of annual expenses are covered by ticket revenue. The remainder comes from the generosity of those individuals, foundations and businesses that provide additional support in the way of contributions!

Those giving \$500 or more become members of the True Concord Circles of Support. Won't you consider joining them?

- ➤ Maestoso Circle: "Maestoso," music that is played or sung in a majestic manner, also represents individuals, foundations and companies who support True Concord with annual gifts of \$5,000 or more.
- ➤ Accelerando Circle: Meaning "to grow faster," members of this Circle support True Concord with annual gifts of \$1,000 or more.
- ➤ Sostenuto Circle: "Sostenuto" means sustained, and members of this circle provide annual gifts of \$500 or more.

Donations of any amount are welcomed and appreciated!

Gifts can be made in several easy ways:

- > On our secure website: www.trueconcord.org
- > By telephone: (520) 401-2651
- ► By mail: P.O. Box 64912, Tucson, AZ 85728

Thank you for your support!

# SUBSCRIBE TO SAVE MONEY & GUARANTEE YOUR SEATS!

#### **Subscription Plans**

#### THREE WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE

- 1. ONLINE AT TRUECONCORD.ORG
- 2. CALL 520.401.2651
- 3. USE THE FORM BELOW AND PAY BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD.

#### **FULL SEASON SUBSCRIPTION**

SIX CONCERTS: RESERVED*
(TUCSON ONLY)

#### **FLEXIBLE SUBSCRIPTION**

FIVE CONCERTS: RESERVED*
(TUCSON ONLY)

#### **SINGLE TICKETS**

Please indicate concert selections on next page.

<sup>\*</sup>True Concord will contact Reserved Seat patrons to select your choice of seats.

#### SELECT YOUR CONCERTS BELOW

SHAKESPEARE IN SONG	AMERICA SINGS!	
○ FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 7:00 PM – GV	○ FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 7:00 PM – GV	
TICKETS	TICKETS	
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 7:30 PM	SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 7:30 PM	
TICKETS  SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 3:00 PM	TICKETS	
TICKETS	SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 3:00 PM TICKETS	
	TICKETS	
MOZART & DA VINCI	BEETHOVEN & GOETHE	
○ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 7:00 PM − GV	○ FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 7:00 PM - GV	
TICKETS	TICKETS	
○ SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 7:30 PM	○ SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 7:30 PM	
TICKETS	TICKETS	
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 3:00 PM TICKETS	SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 3:00 PM TICKETS	
IICKLI3	IICNETS	
LESSONS & CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT	BACH B-MINOR MASS	
○ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:30 PM	FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 7:00 PM – GV	
TICKETS	TICKETS	
○ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13,7:00 PM − GV	SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 7:30 PM	
TICKETS	TICKETS	
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 7:30 PM	SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 3:00 PM	
TICKETS	TICKETS	
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 3:00 PM TICKETS		
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 7:30 PM		
TICKETS		
Name:		
Address:		
City/State/Zip:		
Phone: Email:		
PAY BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD		
Card Number:		
Exp. Date: Billing Zip:		
Signature:		

#### **OUR VENUES**

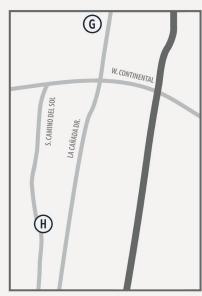
#### **TUCSON**

- **A.** Christ the King Episcopal Church 2800 West Ina Road
- **B.** St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal 4440 North Campbell Avenue
- **C.** Catalina Foothills High School 4300 East Sunrise Drive
- **D.** St. Alban's Episcopal Church 3738 North Old Sabino Canyon Road
- **E.** Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church 2331 East Adams Street
- **F.** Catalina United Methodist Church 2700 East Speedway Boulevard

TANGERINE

#### **GREEN VALLEY**

- **G.** St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church 600 South La Cañada Drive
- **H.** Valley Presbyterian Church 2800 South Camino del Sol





Nonprofit ORG

US Postage **Permit** #2216 Tucson AZ PAID



Tucson, AZ 85728-4912 P.O. Box 64912

www.trueconcord.org 520.401.2651





**Dorothy Dyer Vanek** 

Andy & Cammie Watson









