



**GRAND VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY**<sup>®</sup>

**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC,  
THEATRE, AND DANCE**

**University Arts Chorale**

Charles Norris, conductor  
Ryan Blok, collaborative pianist

7:30 P.M.  
Wednesday, November 1, 2023  
Cook-Dewitt Center  
GVSU Allendale Campus

# Program

Three Folksong Arrangements                      Aaron Copland

Ching a Ring Chaw                                      (1900-1990)

Long Time Ago

I Bought Me a Cat

*Frostiana: Seven Country Songs*                      Randall Thompson

1. The Road Not Taken                                      (1899-1984)

2. The Pasture

3. Come In

4. The Telephone

5. A Girl's Garden

6. Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening

7. Choose Something Like a Star

## University Arts Chorale Personnel

Anna Bremmer, Grand Haven  
Cole Brink, Hudsonville  
Hunter Brown, Ludington  
Madeline Cooper, Ludington  
Spencer Escareño-Kniat, Muskegon  
Mackenzie Finley, Oxford  
Anna Griewhahn, Grand Rapids  
Chase Groothuis, Hudsonville  
Grace Gunderson, Canton  
Kaitlyn Haen, Greenville  
Immanuel Hall, Chicago, IL  
Rayleecana Hayward Brandt, Portage  
Austin Jackson, Grand Rapids  
Benjamin Mondro, Haslett  
Lindsey O'Donnell, Allendale  
Saamanthy Rajenthiran, Novi  
Matthew Ross, Battle Creek  
Dylan Sawyer, Spring Lake  
Aron Schneider, Elmhurst, IL  
Zachary Shoemaker, Holland  
Hannah St. Andre, Grand Rapids  
Anna Tardani, Muskegoh  
Natalie Tripp, Marquette  
Nolan Van Houten, Hamilton

## Chamber Orchestra Personnel

Abigail Walsh, Flute	Letitia Jap, violin
Gary June, Clarinet	Noah Abdelkader, violin
Lea Carter, Oboe	Matthew Durose, viola
Evan Supplee, Horn	Pablo Mahave-Veglia, cello
Annie Petit, Bassoon	Cullen DeCou, double bass

# Texts

## Three Folksong Arrangements

### Ching a Ring Chaw

*Ching-a-ring-a ring ching ching, boa dinga ding kum larkee,  
Ching-a-ring-a ring ching ching, boa ding kum larkee.*

*Brothers gather round, listen to this story,  
'Bout the promised land, an' the promised glory.*

*You don' need to fear, if you have no money,  
You don' need none there, to buy you milk and boney.*

*There you'll ride in style, coach with four white horses,  
There the evenin' meal, has one two three four courses.*

*Nights we all will dance to the harp and fiddle,  
Waltz and jig and prance, "cast off down the middle!"*

*When the mornin' come, all in grand and splendour,  
Stand out in the sun, and bear the holy thunder.*

*Brothers bear me out, the promised land's a-comin,  
Dance and sing and shout, I bear them harps a strummin'.*

### Long Time Ago

*On the lake where droop'd the willow long time ago,  
Where the rock threw back the billow brighter than snow.*

*Dwelt a maid beloved and cherish'd by high and low,  
But with autumn leaf she perished long time ago.*

*Rock and tree and flowing water long time ago,  
Bird and bee and blossom taught her love's spell to know.*

*While to my fond words she listen'd murmuring low,  
Tenderly her blue eyes glisten'd long time ago.*

## I Bought Me a Cat

*I bought me a cat, my cat pleased me, I fed my cat under yonder tree.  
My cat says fiddle eye fee.*

*I bought me a duck, my duck pleased me, I fed my duck under yonder tree.  
My duck says, "Quaa, quaa", my cat says fiddle eye fee.*

*I bought me a goose, my goose pleased me, I fed my goose under yonder tree.  
My goose says, "Quaw, quaw", my duck says. . .*

*I bought me a hen, my hen pleased me, I fed my hen under yonder tree.  
My hen says, "Shimmy shack, shimmy shack", my goose says. . .*

*I bought me a pig, my pig pleased me, I fed my pig under yonder tree.  
My pig says, "Griffey, griffey", my hen says. . .*

*I bought me a cow, my cow pleased me, I fed my cow under yonder tree.  
My cow says "Moo, moo", my pig says . . .*

*I bought me a horse, my horse pleased me, I fed my horse under yonder tree.  
My horse says, "Neigh, neigh", my cow says. . .*

*I bought me a wife, my wife pleased me, I fed my wife under yonder tree.  
My wife says, "Honey, honey", my horse says "Neigh, neigh" . . .*

## Frostiana: Seven Country Songs

### 1. The Road Not Taken

*Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same.*

*And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

*I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

## 2. The Pasture

*I'm going out to clean the pasture spring;  
I'll only stop to rake the leaves away  
(And wait to watch the water clear, I may):  
I sha'n't be gone long. You come too.*

*I'm going out to fetch the little calf  
That's standing by the mother.  
It's so young, it totters when she licks it with her tongue.  
I sha'n't be gone long. You come too.*

## 3. Come In

*As I came to the edge of the woods, thrush music — bark!  
Now if it was dusk outside, inside it was dark.*

*Too dark in the woods for a bird by sleight of wing  
To better its perch for the night, though it still could sing.*

*The last of the light of the sun that had died in the west  
Still lived for one song more in a thrush's breast.*

*Far in the pillared dark thrush music went —  
Almost like a call to come in, to the dark and lament.*

*But no, I was out for stars; I would not come in.  
I meant not even if asked; and I hadn't been.*

## 4. The Telephone

*When I was just as far as I could walk from here to-day,  
There was an hour all still  
When leaning with my head against a flower I heard you talk.  
Don't say I didn't, for I heard you say —  
You spoke from that flower on the window sill —  
Do you remember what it was you said?*

*First tell me what it was you thought you heard.*

*Having found the flower and driven a bee away,  
I leaned my head, and holding by the stalk,  
I listened and I thought I caught the word—  
What was it? Did you call me by my name? Or did you say—  
Someone said 'Come' — I heard it as I bowed.*

*I may have thought as much, but not aloud.*

*Well, so I came.*

## 5. A Girl's Garden

*A neighbor of mine in the village likes to tell how one spring  
When she was a girl on the farm, she did a childlike thing.*

*One day she asked her father to give her a garden plot  
To plant and tend and reap herself, and he said, "Why not?"*

*In casting about for a corner he thought of an idle bit  
Of walled-off ground where a shop had stood, and he said, "Just it."  
And he said, "That ought to make you an ideal one-girl farm,  
And give you a chance to put some strength on your slim-jim arm."*

*It was not enough of a garden, her father said, to plough;  
So she had to work it all by hand, but she don't mind now.*

*She wheeled the dung in the wheelbarrow along a stretch of road;  
But she always ran away and left her not-nice load.*

*And hid from anyone passing and then she begged the seed.  
She says she thinks she planted one of all things but weed.*

*A bill each of potatoes, radishes, lettuce, peas,  
Tomatoes, beets, beans, pumpkins, corn, and even fruit trees.*

*And yes, she has long mistrusted that a cider apple tree  
In bearing there to-day is hers, or at least may be.*

*Her crop was a miscellany when all was said and done,  
A little bit of everything, a great deal of none.*

*Now when she sees in the village how village things go,  
Just when it seems to come in right, she says, "I know!"*

*It's as when I was a farmer—Oh, never by way of advice!  
And she never sins by telling the tale to the same person twice.*

## 6. Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening

*Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.*

*My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farm-house near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.*

*He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sounds the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.*

*The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.*

## 7. Choose Something Like a Star

*O Star (the fairest one in sight), we grant your loftiness the right  
To some obscurity of cloud—it will not do to say of night, since dark is what brings  
out your light.*

*Some mystery becomes the proud. But to be wholly taciturn in your reserve is not  
allowed.*

*Say something to us we can learn by heart and when alone repeat.*

*Say something! And it says, 'I burn.'*

*But say with what degree of heat. Talk Fahrenheit, talk Centigrade.*

*Use language we can comprehend. Tell us what elements you blend.*

*It gives us strangely little aid but does tell something in the end.*

*And steadfast as Keats' Eremite, not even stooping from its sphere,*

*It asks a little of us here. it asks of us a certain height,*

*So when at times the mob is swayed to carry praise or blame too far,*

*We may choose something like a star to stay our minds on and be staid.*

## Notes

*Frostiana: Seven Country Songs* was commissioned by the town of Amherst, Massachusetts in celebration of its 1959 bicentennial. Originally composed for choir and piano, the composer scored the accompaniment for chamber orchestra in 1965 (this evening's edition). The texts of *Frostiana* are seven composer-selected poems of Robert Frost, who served on the faculty at Amherst College. The composer employed SATB, SSAA and TTBB voicings in a over-arching symmetrical, palindromic pattern: The first, middle and final movements are SATB while the second and seventh are TTBB and the third and sixth are SSAA. The texts of all movements are pastoral in nature, with the except of the last, which is metaphorically focused on the heavens (as its title suggests).



## GVSU Music Faculty

Christopher Belland	Samuel Gould	Danny Phipps
Rachael Bergan	Adam Graham	Bill Ryan
Ryan Blok	Dan Graser	Dale Scriemer
Richard Britsch	Letitia Jap	Joel Schut
Mark Buchner	Gary June	Dan Scott
Arthur Campbell	Olivia Kieffer	Greg Secor
Paul Carlson	Andrew Lenhart	Kathryn Stieler
Sookkyung Cho	Pablo Mahave-Veglia	Paul Swantek
Greg Crowell	Helen Marlais	Kevin Tutt
Michael Drost	Barry Martin	Marlen Vavříková
Lisa Feurzeig	John Martin	Abigail Walsh
Andrew Focks	Sarah Mo	Mark Williams
Tim Froncek	Chuck Norris	Alex Wilson
Beth Gibbs	Victoria Olsen	Ruth Wilson
Patricia Gordon		Molly York

## Upcoming MTD Events

- November 2 at 7:30PM – Varsity Glee Club and Anima Vocal Ensemble.  
November 6 at 7:30PM – Piano Chamber Series #2. SVS, PAC  
November 9 at 7:30PM – New Music Ensemble. LAT Lobby, PAC  
November 13 at 7:30PM – Saxophone Studio Quartets. SVS, PAC  
November 14 at 7:30PM – Guest Artist: Julia Siciliano. SVS, PAC  
November 15 at 7:30PM – Symphony Orchestra. LAT, PAC  
November 16 at 7:30PM – CORNOcopia. SVS, PAC  
November 17 at 7:30PM – Opera Theatre Presents: *Rent*. KBB, PAC  
November 18 at 7:30PM – Opera Theatre Presents: *Rent*. KBB, PAC  
November 18 at 7:30PM – Dr. Cho's Studio Project: Mozart Concerti. SVS  
November 19 at 7:30PM – Opera Theatre Presents: *Rent*. KBB, PAC

For updated information on Music, Theatre, and Dance events, please visit  
[www.gvsu.edu/mtd](http://www.gvsu.edu/mtd).

If you are interested in supporting Music, Theatre, and Dance programs, please consider contacting Grand Valley's University Development Office at 616-331-6000 or [universitydevelopment@gvsu.edu](mailto:universitydevelopment@gvsu.edu).

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