



**GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY**

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

**A Celebration of Love and Joy:
The Music of André Thomas**

University Arts Chorale
Anima Vocal Ensemble
Varsity Glee Club
Univeristy Singers

7:30 P.M.
Saturday, April 1, 2023
St. Cecilia's Music Center
Grand Rapids, MI

Program

University Singers

Shirley Lemon, conductor

I Dream a World

Go Down 'n the Valley and Pray

Anima Vocal Ensemble

Kody Wallace, conductor

I Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray

Fences

Varsity Glee Club

Chuck Norris, Conductor

Keep Your Lamps

Swing Down Chariot

University Arts Chorale

Kody Wallace, conductor

I've Just Come from the Fountain

Rockin' Jerusalem

Combined Choirs and Chamber Orchestra

André Thomas, conductor

Mass: A Celebration of Love and Joy

I. Kyrie

II. Gloria

III. Credo

IV. Sanctus

V. Agnus Dei

Brandon Harris and Ja'Leeyna Smith-Dooley, soloists

University Singers Personnel

Brooklyn Bowers	Tai Kim
Ben Brown	Elizabeth Klap
Remus Caramagno	Anna Kurtz
Logan Chapman	Grace LaDouceur
Diana DeYoung	Arlee McMiller
Leo Eikenberry-Ureel	Brooke Miller
Shilee Engebretson	Mitchell Porter
Spencer Escareño-Kniat	Jessica Satterfield
MacKenzie Finley	Coda Smith
La'Cier Greene	Kaylea Sobeck
Hudson Hilgert	Anna Tardani
Jackson Irwin	Emma Tracy
Cathy Johnson	Michael Truer
Grace Kessler	Noah Tucker
Isabel Kim	Jayden White

Anima Vocal Ensemble Personnel

Stacey Apeaning	Elizabeth Klap
Brooklyn Bowers	Megan Martenot
Madeline Cooper	Kelley Rose
Linnea Frantz	Anna Tardani
Anna Griewahn	Allyson Telck
Grace Gunderson	Natalie Tripp
Irina Kadantseva	Jayden White

Varsity Glee Club Personnel

Cole Brink	Seth Kane
Flynn Brinks	Benjamin Mondro
Hunter Brown	Nate Nardin
Marshall Harvill	Isaac O'Rourke
Jared Hogan	Matthew Ross
Austin Jackson	Rowland Scheesele
Jarod Jeffrey	Zane Stoner
Lewis Kailing	Nolan Van Houten

University Arts Chorale Personnel

Anna Bremmer
Cole Brink
Hunter Brown
Spencer Escareño-Kniat
Sadie Essex
Julie Farrier
MacKenzie Finley
Anna Griewahn
Anna Kurtz
Kaylana Lozelle
Kaitlyn Markus
Arlee McMiller

Benjamin Mondro
Nate Nardin
Lindsey O'Donnell
Saamanthy Rajenthiran
Matthew Ross
Ari Schneider
Zachary Shoemaker
Jordyn Smith
Hannah St Andre
Nolan Van Houten
Jacob VanNeuren

Chamber Orchestra Personnel

Violin

Letitia Jap
Megan Healy
Mary Kothman
Natalie Hockameier

Viola

Jenny Alman
Leslie Van Becker

Cello

Pablo Mahave-Veglia

Piano

Andrew Focks

Flute

Abigail Walsh

Oboe

Natalie Feldspauch

Bassoon

Jackson Crouse

Clarinet

Lindsey Bos

Trumpet

Alex Wilson
Morgan Hare

Horn

Evan Supplee
Michael Scobee

Trombone

Micah Babinski
Taylor Ward

Percussion

Greg Secor
Samuel Gould

André Thomas Bio

ANDRÉ J. THOMAS is an Associate Artist with the London Symphony Orchestra. He served as Visiting Professor of Conducting and Interim Conductor of the Yale Camerata. (2020-2022). Thomas is an Emeritus Professor of Music at Florida State University. He previously served as a faculty member at the University of Texas, Austin,

Dr. Thomas received his degrees from Friends University (B.A.), Northwestern University (M. M.), and The University of Illinois (D.M.A). He is in demand as a choral adjudicator, clinician, and director of Honor/All-State Choirs throughout North America, Europe, Asia, New Zealand, Australia, and Africa

Dr. Thomas has conducted choirs at the state, division, and national conventions of the Music Educators National Conference (NAfME) and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). His international conducting credits are extensive. They include conductor/clinician for the International Federation of Choral Musicians' summer residency of the World Youth Choir in The Republic of China and the Philippines. He was also the conductor of the World Youth Choir's winter residency in Europe and a premier performance by an American choir (Florida State University Singers) in Vietnam.

He has been the guest conductor of such distinguished orchestras and choirs as the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in England, guest Conductor for the Berlin Radio Choir and the North German Radio Choir in Germany, the Netherlands Radio Choir, The Bulgarian Radio Choir and Orchestra, the Charlotte Symphony, Tallahassee Symphony, China's People's Liberation Orchestra and the Czech National Symphony Orchestra. From 1988-2019, he also served as Artistic Director of the Tallahassee Community Chorus.

Thomas has also distinguished himself as a composer/arranger. Hinshaw Music Company, Mark Foster Music Company, Fitzsimons

Music Company, Lawson Gould, Earthsongs, Choristers Guild, and Heritage Music Company publishes his compositions and arrangements.

Dr. Thomas has produced two instructional videos, “What They See Is What You Get” on choral conducting, with Rodney Eichenberger, and “Body, Mind, Spirit, Voice” on adolescent voices, with Anton Armstrong. His recent book “Way Over in Beulah Lan’ Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritual” has quickly become a significant resource in this area of study.

Various musical organizations have recognized Thomas. The African Diaspora Sacred Music honored Dr. Thomas as a Living Legend. In 2011, Thomas’ dedication to and accomplishments in the choral arts was recognized by his peers in Chorus America when the organization presented Dr. Thomas with its Distinguished Service Award. In March of 2017, ACDA presented Thomas with its highest honor the Robert Shaw Award, and in November of 2017, NCCO (National Collegiate Choral Organization presented Thomas with its Lifetime Achievement Award. In January 2019, he was inducted into the Florida Music Educator’s Hall of Fame. In 2022 he was presented with the Award of Excellence from the Southern Region of ACDA. Yale School of Music presented Thomas with the Simon Samuel Sanford Award. It is their highest honor in the School of Music.

He is a past president of the Florida ACDA and the past president of the Southern Division of ACDA and the current President of National ACDA.

GVSU Music Faculty

Corie Auger	Sam Gould	Danny Phipps
Christopher Belland	Dan Graser	Bill Ryan
Rachael Bergan	Ying-Jou Huang	Justin Sarns
Ryan Blok	Letitia Jap	Dale Scriemer
Richard Britsch	Gary June	Joel Schut
Mark Buchner	Shirley Lemon	Greg Secor
Arthur Campbell	Andrew Lenhart	Rebekah Shomsky
Paul Carlson	Kája Lill	Kathryn Stieler
Sookkyung Cho	Pablo Mahave-Veglia	Paul Swantek
Greg Crowell	Helen Marlais	Kevin Tutt
Michael Drost	Barry Martin	Marlen Vavrikova
Lisa Feurzeig	John Martin	Kody Wallace
Andrew Focks	Christopher Mason	Abigail Walsh
Tim Froncek	Thomas Moss	Mark Williams
Beth Gibbs	Chuck Norris	Alex Wilson
Patricia Gordon	Victoria Olsen	

Upcoming MTD Events

- April 2 at 2:00 PM - *The Importance of Being Earnest*. KBB, PAC
April 2 at 4:00 PM - Early Music Ensemble. SVS, PAC
April 3 at 7:30 PM - GVSU Trombone Ensemble. LAT, PAC
April 5 at 7:30 PM - Chamber Music Recital. SVS, PAC
April 6 at 7:30 PM - Guest Artist: Clara Christian, piano. SVS, PAC
April 11 at 7:30 PM - Symphony Orchestra. LAT, PAC
April 13 at 7:30 PM - Jazz Night II. LAT, PAC
April 14 at 7:30 PM - Wind Symphony and Concert Band. LAT, PAC
April 16 at 3:00 PM - FrenchFest #5. The Block, Muskegon
April 17 at 7:00 PM - FrenchFest #5. Park Church, Grand Rapids
April 18 at 7:30 PM - Varsity Glee Club. CDC, GVSU

For updated information on Music, Theatre, and Dance events, please visit
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.

The use of cameras, video cameras, or recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please remember to turn off your cell phones.