



CANDLELIGHT VOX PRESENTS

A S C E N S I O N

FEATURING DIVISI

SUNDAY 5TH MAY - 4.30 PM - OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we perform, and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

Conductor's Note from Aidan McGartland

Conducting Candlelight VOX has been an absolute pleasure, particularly alongside co-director Grace Gallur, as well as Hilary Ekins and George Cox. Grace and myself founded the choir in 2018 as a choir dedicated to performing new and recent music, predominantly for students of the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music. Over the past 16 months, Grace and myself have developed greatly as choral conductors - particularly under the guidance of our mentor, Pat Miller. As well as being conductors, we are also choristers - and this ensures that we are equal members of the choir as well as leaders. As a choir, we have improved massively in areas such as sight-reading, intonation, blending, rhythm and diction, and continue to do so.

Ascension is our most ambitious programme to date. We are performing two large contrasting modern works that pose an array of exciting challenges. As choristers, we have a variety of new musical hurdles we have overcome, from the mixed meters of the Bernstein, to the seemingly pulseless transitions of the Meador; and from the striking discords of the Bernstein to the sublime diatonic clusters in the Meador. This diversity is vital in an era of diverse, often polystylistic compositions where anything is possible. Collaborating with a range of instrumentalists has also been most rewarding, adding a new range of tone colours to our ever-expanding palette. We have a string orchestra, headed by Jake Ryan Deans, for Meador's Stabat Mater and a rather funky ensemble for Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, featuring James Earl on organ, Laura Winter on harp and Bridget Bourne on percussion. *Ascension* celebrates the importance of multiculturalism from the traditionally paschal Stabat Mater through to the collage-like Hebrew psalms infused with aspects of music theatre and modernist moments. We are very grateful to be using the beautiful space of Our Lady of Mt Carmel. It has a bright, glorious interior with a powerful organ, perfect for *Ascension*.

About the Choir

Candlelight VOX is a not-for-profit, student led chamber choir based in Melbourne, Australia. We were founded by Grace Gallur and Aidan McGartland in 2017 for the purpose of performing works by living composers.

Candlelight VOX hopes to fill the gap in the Melbourne choral scene for “new music”. There is an array of stunning new compositions that barely get performed, in favour of programming the much-loved standard repertoire. We believe this is partly due to the negative connotations surrounding “new music” – the belief that it is inaccessible. This is simply not the case. Much of the choral music we explore is stylistically innovative, but more importantly, deeply moving.

Candlelight VOX is comprised of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music voice students, instrumentalists, and singers from the wider University of Melbourne, as well as some from other local universities.

Program Notes

Ave Maria (1959) – Franz Biebl

Franz Biebl’s Ave Maria was first published in 1964 and has experienced enduring popularity as a choral piece after it was performed in the United States by the Cornell University Glee Club in 1970. The original arrangement for male voices will be performed today, but Biebl later created arrangements of Ave Maria for female and male voices.

Stabat Mater (2009) – Paul Mealor

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Paul Mealor was born in 1975 and studied composition at the University of York. In 2011 the composer came to international attention when his motet Ubi Caritas was heard by 2.5 billion people when it was performed at the wedding of His Royal Highness Prince William and Catherine Middleton. Mealor’s Stabat Mater was written in 2009 and was premiered by the St Andrews Chorus and Heisenberg Ensemble in 2010. The text of Stabat Mater describes Mary’s anguish at the sight of her son Jesus on the cross.

INTERVAL

O Salutaris Hostia (2015) - Ēriks Ešvalds

Ēriks Ešvalds graduated from the Latvian Academy of Music in 2004, and wrote *O Salutaris Hostia* in 2009. The piece is performed a cappella, and the text is taken from a 1264 Eucharistic poem by St. Thomas Aquinas. The piece is led by two soprano soloists, who take turns carrying the melodic line, before their lines are woven together in a striking display of harmony.

Chichester Psalms (1965) – Leonard Bernstein

Chichester Psalms was written by Leonard Bernstein during a one-year sabbatical taken by the composer, eight years after the success of his Broadway musical, *West Side Story*. Bernstein was commissioned to compose the choral work by the Very Reverend Walter Hussey, Dean of the Chichester Cathedral in Sussex, England, who was looking for a piece to be performed at the Grand Music Festival at Chichester Cathedral. *Chichester Psalms* is performed entirely in Hebrew, with Bernstein saying at the time that he “could only think of these Psalms in the original Hebrew.”

In the Jewish tradition, the name of God remains unspoken, and appears in the Torah as a series of unpronounceable characters. The word ‘Adonai’ is used instead, which translates as ‘Lord’ or ‘Lords’, and this is heard many times in *Chichester Psalms*. Bernstein incorporated musical material into the choral piece which was originally written for *West Side Story*. It is interesting to note the musical was first envisioned by Bernstein as a love story between a Jewish woman and a Catholic man over the course of a Sabbath weekend.

Program notes by Stella Joseph-Jarecki

Texts and Lyrical Translations

Ave Maria

<p>Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae et concepit de Spiritu sancto. Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Maria dixit: Ecce ancilla Domini, fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum. Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Et verbum caro factum est et habitavit in nobis. Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. Sancta Maria, mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus. Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.</p>	<p>The Angel of the Lord announced unto Mary and she conceived by the Holy Ghost. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Mary said: Behold the handmaiden of the Lord, let it be according to Thy word. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. And the word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners. Holy Mary, pray for us, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.</p>
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Stabat Mater

<p>Stabat Mater dolorosa Iuxta crucem lacrimosa Dum pendebat Filius.</p> <p>Cuius animam gementem Contristatam et dolentem Pertransivit gladius.</p> <p>O quam tristis et afflicta Fuit illa benedicta Mater unigeniti!</p> <p>Quae moerebat et dolebat, Pia Mater, dum videbat Nati poenas incliti.</p> <p>Quis est homo qui non fleret, Matrem Christi si videret In tanto supplicio?</p> <p>Vidit suum dulcem natum Moriendo desolatum Dum emisit spiritum.</p> <p>Eja Mater, fons amoris Me sentire vim doloris Fac, ut tecum lugeam.</p> <p>Fac, ut ardeat cor meum In amando Christum Deum Ut sibi complaceam.</p> <p>Sancta Mater, istud agas, Crucifixi fige plagas cordi meo valide.</p> <p>Fac ut portem Christi mortem, passionis fac consortem,</p>	<p>The grieving Mother stood weeping beside the cross where her Son was hanging.</p> <p>Through her weeping soul, compassionate and grieving, a sword passed.</p> <p>O how sad and afflicted was that blessed Mother of the only-begotten!</p> <p>Who mourned and grieved, seeing and bearing the torment of her glorious child.</p> <p>Who is it that would not weep, seeing Christ's Mother in such agony?</p> <p>She saw her sweet child die desolate, as he gave up His spirit.</p> <p>O Mother, fountain of love, make me feel the power of sorrow, that I may grieve with you.</p> <p>Grant that my heart may burn in the love of Christ my God, that I may greatly please Him.</p> <p>Holy Mother, may you do thus: place the wounds of the Crucified deep in my heart.</p> <p>Make me to bear Christ's death, sharing in His passion,</p>
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<p>et plagas recolare.</p> <p>Inflammatum et accensus per te, Virgo, sim defensus in die iudicii.</p> <p>Fac me cruce custodiri morte Christi praemuniri confoveri gratia.</p> <p>Quando corpus morietur, fac ut animæ donetur Paradisi gloria. Amen.</p>	<p>and commemorate his wounds.</p> <p>Inflame and set on fire, may I be defended by you, Virgin, on the day of judgment.</p> <p>Let me be guarded by the cross, armed by Christ's death and His cherished by His grace.</p> <p>When my body dies, grant that to my soul is given the glory of paradise. Amen.</p>
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O Salutaris Hostia

<p>O salutaris Hostia, Quae caeli pandis ostium: Bella premunt hostilia, Da robur, fer auxilium. Uni trinoque Domino Sit sempiterna gloria, Qui vitam sine termino Nobis donet in patria. Amen.</p>	<p>O saving Victim, opening wide, The gate of heaven to man below! Our foes press on from every side; Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.</p> <p>To Thy great name by endless praise, Immortal Godhead, one in Three; Oh, grant us endless length of days, In our true native land with Thee. Amen</p>
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Chichester Psalms

<p>עוֹרָה, הַנְּבֵל וְכִנּוֹר; אֶעֱרֶה שֹׁחַר.</p>	<p>Urah, hanevel, v'chinar! A-irah shaḥar</p>	<p>Awake, psaltery and harp: I will rouse the dawn!</p>
<p>הֲרִיעוּ לַיהוָה, כָּל־הָאָרֶץ. עֲבֹדוּ אֶת־יְהוָה בְּשִׂמְחָה; בְּאוֹ לִפְנֵי, בְּרִנְנָה. דַּע-- כִּי יְהוָה, הוּא אֱלֹהִים: הוּא־עָשָׂנוּ, וְלֹא (וְלוֹ) אֲנַחְנוּ-- עַמּוֹ, וְצֹאן מִרְעִיתוֹ. בְּאוֹ שִׁעְרָיו, בְּתוֹדָה-- חֲצִרְתָּיו בְּתִהְלָה; הוֹדוּ־לוֹ, בְּרַכּוּ שְׁמוֹ. כִּי־טוֹב יְהוָה, לְעוֹלָם חַסְדּוֹ; וְעַד־דֹּר וָדֹר, אֲמוֹנָתוֹ.</p>	<p>Hari'u l'Adonai kol ha'arets. Iv'du et Adonai b'simḥa Bo'u l'fanav bir'nannah. D'u ki Adonai Hu Elohim. Hu asanu v'lo anahnu. Amo v'tson mar'ito. Bo'u sh'arav b'todah, Ḥatseirotav bit'hilah, Hodu lo, bar'chu sh'mo. Ki tov Adonai, l'olam ḥas'do, V'ad dor vador emunato.</p>	<p>Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God. He made us, and we are his. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Come unto His gates with thanksgiving, And into His court with praise. Be thankful unto Him and bless His name. the Lord is good, His mercy everlasting And His truth endureth to all generations.</p>
<p>יְהוָה רֹעִי, לֹא אֶחָסֵר. בְּנֵאוֹת דְּשָׂא, יִרְבִּיצֵנִי; עַל־מֵי מְנוּחֹת יִבְהַלֵּנִי. נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבֵב; יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְּלֵי־צֶדֶק, לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ. גַּם כִּי־אֵלֶךְ בְּגֵיא צַלְמוֹת,</p>	<p>Adonai ro-i, lo eḥsar. Bin'ot deshe yarbitseini, Al mei m'nulhot y'nahaleini, Naf'shi y'shovev, Yan'h'eini b'ma'aglei tsedek, L'ma'an sh'mo. Gam ki eilech B'gei tsalmavet,</p>	<p>The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul, He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness, For His name's sake. Yea, though I walk Through the valley of the shadow of death,</p>

<p>לֹא־אֵירָא רַע-- כִּי־אַתָּה עִמָּדִי; שִׁבְטְךָ וּמִשְׁעַנְתֶּךָ, הֵמָּה יִנְחַמְנִי.</p> <p>לְמָה, רָגְשׁוּ גוֹיִם; וּלְאֻמִּים, יִהְיוּ־רִיק. יִתְצַבּוּ, מְלִכֵי־אָרֶץ-- וְרוֹזְנִים נוֹסְדוּ־יַחַד: עַל־יְהוָה, וְעַל־מְשִׁיחֹו. נִבְתָּקָה, אֶת־מוֹסְרוֹתַימוּ; וְנִשְׁלִיכָה מִמֶּנּוּ עֲבֹתַימוּ. יֹשֵׁב בַּשָּׁמַיִם יִשְׁחַק: אֲדֹנָי, יִלְעַג־לָמוּ.</p> <p>תַּעֲרֹךְ לִפְנֵי, שְׁלֹחַן-- נֶגֶד צָרָי; דִּשַׁנְתָּ בְּשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי, כּוֹסֵי רִיָּה.</p> <p>אֲךְ, טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי-- כָּל־יְמֵי חַיִּי; וְשָׁבְתִי בְּבֵית־יְהוָה, לְאֶרֶךְ יָמִים.</p>	<p>Lo ira ra, Ki Atah imadi. Shiv't'cha umishan'techa Hemah y'naḥamuni.</p> <p>Lamah rag'shu goyim Ul'umim yeh'gu rik? Yit'yats'vu malchei erets, V'roznim nos'du yaḥad Al Adonai v'al m'shiḥo. N'natkah et mos'roteimo, V'nashlichah mimenu avoteimo. Yoshev bashamayim Yis'hak, Adonai Yil'ag lamo!</p> <p>Ta'aroch l'fanai shulḥan Neged tsor'rai Dishanta vashemen roshi Cosi r'vayah.</p> <p>Ach tov vaḥesed Yird'funi kol y'mei ḥayai V'shav'ti b'veit Adonai L'orech yamim.</p>	<p>I will fear no evil, For Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff They comfort me.</p> <p>Why do the nations rage, And the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together Against the Lord and against His anointed. Saying, let us break their bands asunder, And cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens Shall laugh, and the Lord Shall have them in derision!</p> <p>Thou preparest a table before me In the presence of my enemies, Thou anointest my head with oil, My cup runneth over.</p> <p>Surely goodness and mercy Shall follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.</p>
<p>יְהוָה, לֹא־גְבָה לִבִּי-- וְלֹא־רָמוּ עֵינַי; וְלֹא־הִלַּכְתִּי, בְּגִדְלוֹת וּבְנִפְלְאוֹת מִמֶּנּוּ. אִם־לֹא שָׁוִיתִי, וְדוּמַמְתִּי-- נֶפֶשִׁי: כְּגַמְל, עַלִּי אִמוּ; כְּגַמְל עַלִּי נֶפֶשִׁי. יַחַל יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֶל־יְהוָה-- מֵעַתָּה, וְעַד־עוֹלָם.</p>	<p>Adonai, Adonai, Lo gavah libi, V'lo ramu einai, V'lo hilachti Big'dolot uv'niflaot Mimeni. Im lo shiviti V'domam'ti, Naf'shi k'gamul alei imo, Kagamul alai naf'shi. Yaḥel Yis'rael el Adonai Me'atah v'ad olam.</p>	<p>Lord, Lord, My heart is not haughty, Nor mine eyes lofty, Neither do I exercise myself In great matters or in things Too wonderful for me to understand. Surely I have calmed And quieted myself, As a child that is weaned of his mother, My soul is even as a weaned child. Let Israel hope in the Lord From henceforth and forever.</p>
<p>הִנֵּה מַה־טוֹב, וּמַה־נְּעִים-- שֵׁבֶת אֲחִים גַּם־יַחַד.</p>	<p>Hineh mah tov, Umah na'im, Shevet aḥim Gam yaḥad</p>	<p>Behold how good, And how pleasant it is, For brethren to dwell Together in unity.</p>

Candlelight VOX Members and Guests

(Guests denoted by *)

CONDUCTORS



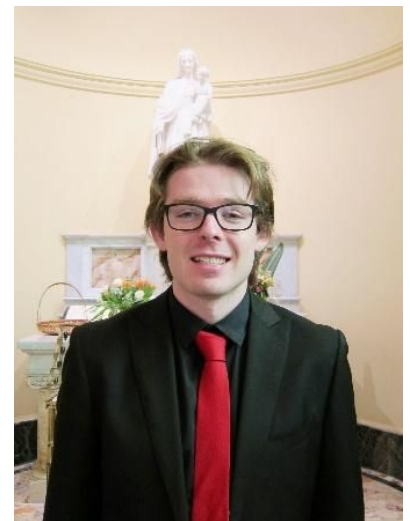
Grace Gallur is a young conductor, soprano, and actor passionate about the power of storytelling to inspire catharsis in audiences. She is currently completing her third year in a Bachelor of Music (Performance) at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, and is also studying with 16th St Actors Studio in their 2018/2019 Part Time Program. Grace co-founded Candlelight VOX with Aidan in 2017, of which she is now Co-Artistic Director and General Manager.

Most recently, Grace has performed in the Victorian Opera Chorus for Wagner's *Parsifal*. In 2018, Grace performed with MCM Early Voices, singing as a soprano soloist in Mozart's *Vesperae Solemnes de Confessore*, conducted by Erin Helyard, and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with the Melbourne Baroque Project, directed by Hilary Ekins. She was also a member of the cover cast for MCM's 2018 production of Poulenc's *Dialogues of the Carmelites*.

She aspires to a career in both acting and music, and greatly looks forward to exploring more of the operatic repertoire as her voice matures.

Aidan McGartland is studying a Bachelor of Music and a Diploma of Languages (Italian) at the University of Melbourne, where he has been awarded a singing scholarship in 2017. He currently learns singing from Suzanne Johnston, piano from Timothy Young and conducting from Pat Miller.

Aidan was chorally trained in the Australian Boy's Choir. He then performed in the children's chorus with Melbourne Opera and Opera Australia. In 2011, Aidan was the first boy in Victorian Opera's *The Magic Flute* and had the title role of the *Son of Getron* at Newman College. In 2012, he was in the Sydney Symphony's Sinfonietta Composition Project under Richard Gill.



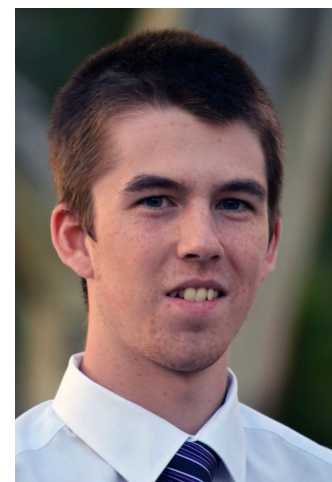
With Victorian Opera, Aidan has participated in youth operas, VOYCE, *William Tell* and *Parsifal*. In 2017, he was in the Conservatorium's *L'Orfeo*. He was the bass scholar at St George's Anglican Church, Malvern from 2018-2019. In 2019, Aidan received a scholarship to study at McGill University in Montréal for the second half of the year.

Vocal Soloists - Stabat Mater mvt 2: Alex Toussaint Jackson. Chichester Psalms mvt 2: Lisha Ooi. Chichester Psalms additional solos: Stella Joseph-Jarecki, Amelia Sheppard, Lily Ekins, Matt Shackleton, and Riley Brooks. O Salutaris Hostia: Samantha Hargreaves, Amanda Hargreaves.

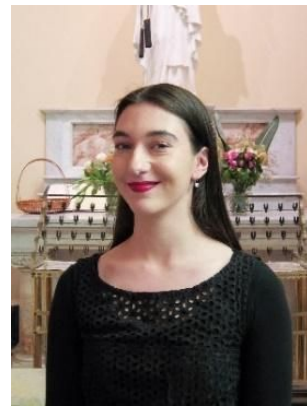


Featured Instrumentalists

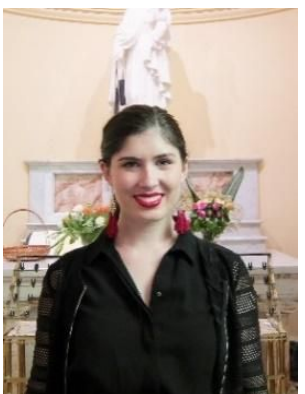
Harp: Laura Winter - Percussion: Bridget Bourne - Organ: James Earl



Sopranos - Grace Gallur, Samantha Hargreaves, Amanda Hargreaves, Stella Joseph-Jarecki, Brianna Ekberg, Emily Singleton, and Charlotte Waters. *Not pictured:* Billie Turmakin* and Julia Krivoshev*



Altos - Amelia Sheppard, Tatjana Brandson, Lisha Ooi, Hilary Ekins, and Beth Potter*. *Not pictured:* Anna Sing*



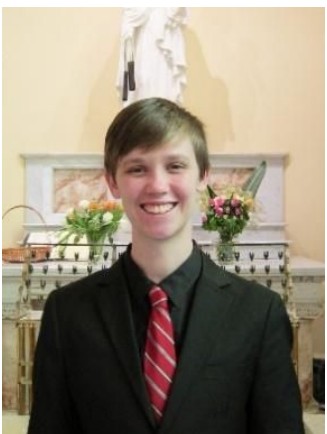
Tenors - John Rice-Whetton Matt Shackleton, Mattie Richards, Riley Brooks, and Nyan Win. *Not pictured:* Jessop Maticovski Shumack, Alex Gorbato* and Sam Rowe*.



Basses - Aidan McGartland, Michael Ng, Keelan Murphy, George Cox and Ned Dixon* *Not pictured:* Tiernan Maclaren and Bailey Montgomerie*



String Ensemble* - *Concert Master:* Jake Ryan Deans. *Violin 1:* Jackson Fumberger and Aja Casama. *Violin 2:* Dario Zhang and Annabelle Wan. *Viola:* Gab Ruttico, Eugenie Lyons, and Eddie Nagul. *Cello:* Vanessa Marryatt and Eamonn Shorter. *Not pictured:* Damien Melis (double bass) and Hanul Lee (violin 2).



DIVISI

Soprano - Julia Krivoshev and Breeana Stuart

Alto - Syrah Torii and Lisha Ooi

Tenor - Sam Rowe and Alex Gorbatov

Bass - Bailey Montgomerie and James Emerson



Candlelight VOX would like to express our deep gratitude to all who have contributed to our performance this afternoon, all who have helped us along the way.

We would like to thank the following staff from the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music: The Director of the Conservatorium, Professor Gary McPherson, for his ongoing support to the choir, James Hutchinson, for assisting us in obtaining sheet music, and Peter Neville, head of percussion, for allowing us to loan the instruments.

We would also like to thank Pat Miller for his expertise and support.

From Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, we would like to thank Anne Lerardo for organising everything, as well as the Parish Priest Father Hugh Brown.

We would like to thank all the artists who have collaborated with us to make this program possible. In particular, we would like to thank James Earl, for being with us during our rehearsals, as well as Bridget Bourne and Laura Winter, for sticking with us through thick and thin.

From our own ranks, we would like to thank Grace and Aidan for their incredible commitment to this group, as well as the rest of the committee members; George, Amelia, Tiernan, Emily, Hilary, Tatjana, and Jessop, for the extra time and labour they have given to keep our choir alive and make our performances possible.

Program and photographs by Amelia Sheppard.

