CCM

CHORAL AND ORCHESTRA SERIES

PRESENTS

CCM PHILHARMONIA "A SEA SYMPHONY"

Mark Gibson, music director

Joe Miller, guest conductor

Featuring the CCM Chamber Choir and CCM Chorale

Friday, November 20, 2026
Corbett Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

University of CINCINNATI | COLLEGE-CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

PROGRAM

Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes (1944-1945)

Benjamin Britten
(1913-1976)

I. Dawn
II. Sunday Morning
III. Moonlight
IV. Storm

Xiaohe Yang, conductor*

A Sea Symphony (1909)

Ralph Vaughan Williams
(1872-1958)

I. Song for all seas, all ships
II. On the beach at night alone
III. Scherzo – The Waves
IV. The Explorers

Dr. Joe Miller, conductor
Sarah Rosales, soprano
Benjamin Chen, baritone

**Ms. Yang is a Masters conducting student of Prof. Mark Gibson*

PROGRAM NOTES

Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes, Op. 33a (1945)

Drawn from Britten's opera Peter Grimes, the Four Sea Interludes evoke the coastal landscape of East Anglia, where the sea serves as both a natural force and a reflection of human conflict. Through vivid orchestral colors, shifting textures, and dramatic contrasts, Britten portrays four distinct seascapes— Dawn, Sunday Morning, Moonlight, and Storm—while capturing the psychological intensity at the heart of the opera.

Symphony No. 1, "A Sea Symphony" (1909)
Text: Walt Whitman (1819-1892), Leaves of Grass

I. Song for all seas, all ships

Behold, the sea itself,
And on its limitless, heaving breast, the ships;
See, where their white sails, bellying in the wind, speckle the green and blue,
See, the steamers coming and going, steaming in or out of port,
See, dusky and undulating, the long pennants of smoke.
Behold, the sea itself,
And on its limitless, heaving breast, the ships.

To-day a rude brief recitative,
Of ships sailing the seas, each with its special flag or ship-signal,
Of unnamed heroes in the ships — of waves spreading and spreading far as the eye can reach,
Of dashing spray, and the winds piping and blowing,
And out of these a chant for the sailors of all nations,
Fitful like a surge.
Of sea-captains young or old, and the mates, and of all intrepid sailors,
Of the few, very choice, taciturn, whom fate can never surprise nor death dismay,
Picked sparingly, without noise by thee, old ocean, chosen by thee,
Thou sea that pickest and cullest the race in time, and unitest the nations,
Suckled by thee, old husky nurse, embodying thee,
Indomitable, untamed as thee.

Flaunt out, O sea, your separate flags of nations!
Flaunt out visible as ever the various ship-signals!
But do you reserve especially for yourself and for the soul of man one flag above all the rest
A spiritual woven signal for all nations, emblem of man elate above death,
Token of all brave captains and of all intrepid sailors and mates,
And all that went down doing their duty,
Reminiscent of them, twined from all intrepid captains young or old

A pennant universal, subtly waving all time, o'er all brave sailors,
All seas, all ships.

PROGRAM NOTES

II. On the Beach at Night Alone

On the beach at night alone,
As the old mother sways her to and fro singing her husky song,
As I watch the bright stars shining, I think a thought of the clef of the universes and of the future.
A vast similitude interlocks all,
All distances of space however wide,
All distances of time,
All souls, all living bodies though they be ever so different,
All nations, all identities that have existed or may exist,
All lives and deaths, all of the past, present, future,
This vast similitude spans them, and always has spanned,
And shall forever span them and shall compactly hold and enclose them.

III. The Waves (Scherzo)

After the sea-ship, after the whistling winds,
After the white-gray sails taut to their spars and ropes,
Below, a myriad, myriad waves hastening, lifting up their necks,
Tending in ceaseless flow toward the track of the ship,
Waves of the ocean bubbling and gurgling, blithely prying,
Waves, undulating waves, liquid, uneven, emulous waves,
Toward that whirling current, laughing and buoyant with curves,
Where the great vessel sailing and tacking displaced the surface,
Larger and smaller waves in the spread of the ocean yearnfully flowing,
The wake of the sea-ship after she passes, flashing and frolicsome under the sun, A motley procession with many a fleck of foam and many fragments,
Following the stately and rapid ship, in the wake following.

IV. The Explorers

O vast Rondure, swimming in space,
Covered all over with visible power and beauty,
Alternate light and day and the teeming spiritual darkness,
Unspeakable high processions of sun and moon and countless stars above,
Below, the manifold grass and waters,
With inscrutable purpose, some hidden prophetic intention,
Now first it seems my thought begins to span thee.

Down from the gardens of Asia descending,
Adam and Eve appear, then their myriad progeny after them,
Wandering, yearning, with restless explorations,
With questionings, baffled, formless, feverish, with never-happy hearts
With that sad incessant refrain, –
"Wherefore unsatisfied soul? whither O mocking life?"
Ah who shall soothe these feverish children?
Who justify these restless explorations?
Who speak the secret of the impassive earth?

PROGRAM NOTES

Yet soul be sure the first intent remains, and shall be carried out,
Perhaps even now the time has arrived.
After the seas are all crossed,
After the great captains have accomplished their work,
After the noble inventors,
Finally shall come the poet worthy that name,
The true son of God shall come singing his songs.

O we can wait no longer, we too take ship O Soul,
Joyous we too launch out on trackless seas,
Fearless for unknown shores on waves of ecstasy to sail,
Amid the wafting winds (thou pressing me to thee, I thee to me, O Soul),
Caroling free, singing our song of God,
Chanting our chant of pleasant exploration.

O Soul thou pleasest me, I thee,
Sailing these seas or on the hills, or waking in the night,
Thoughts, silent thoughts, of Time and Space and Death, like waters flowing,
Bear me indeed as through the regions infinite,
Whose air I breathe, whose ripples hear, lave me all over,
Bathe me, O God, in thee, mounting to thee,
I and my soul to range in range of thee.

O thou transcendent,
Nameless, the fibre and the breath,
Light of the light, shedding forth universes, thou centre of them.
Swiftly I shrivel at the thought of God,
At Nature and its wonders, Time and Space and Death,
But that I, turning, call to thee O Soul, thou actual me,
And lo, thou gently masterest the orbs,
Thou matest Time, smilest content at Death,
And fillest, swellest full the vastnesses of Space.

Greater than stars or suns,
Bounding O Soul thou journeyest forth;

Away O Soul! hoist instantly the anchor!
Cut the hawsers – haul out – shake out every sail!

Sail forth – steer for the deep waters only.
Reckless O Soul, exploring, I with thee, and thou with me,
For we are bound where mariner has not yet dared to go,
And we will risk the ship, ourselves and all.

O my brave Soul!
O farther, farther sail!
O daring joy, but safe! Are they not all the seas of God?
O farther, farther, farther sail!

BIOGRAPHY

Sarah Rosales is a Salvadoran-American soprano from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Recent appearances include a role debut as Musetta (la bohème, Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music). Sarah is very excited to sing the soprano solo this evening in A Sea Symphony by Vaughan Williams. Prior roles include Alícia (The House on Mango Street, The Glimmerglass Festival), covering the role of Isabella Stewart Gardner (American Apollo, Des Moines Metro Opera), and Lauretta (Gianni Schicchi, Cedar Rapids Opera). She has received awards from organizations including The Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competition, Washington International Voice Competition, Annapolis Opera, Opera Mississippi, The Schubert Club, The National Society of Arts & Letters, Musicians Club of Women, & The George Shirley Vocal Competition. She currently attends Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music and studies under the tutelage of Dr. Gwen Coleman.

Benjamin Chen, baritone, made his professional debut in 2025 with Anchorage Opera as Prince Yamadori (Madama Butterfly), praised for his "smooth baritone [that] brings warmth and dignity" (American Presswire). Recently, Ben spent his summer with Central City Opera covering Washington Dandy 3 (The Ballad of Baby Doe), performing in the CCO Short Works program, and featured in CCO's Drag me to the Opera event. Ben has performed the roles of Il Conte (Le nozze di Figaro), the title role of Don Giovanni, Second Priest and covered Papageno in The Magic Flute, and covered the baritone solo in Vaughan William's A Sea Symphony. Additional past credits include the Surindendant des plaisirs (Cendrillon), King Melchior (Amahl & the Night Visitors), and Dandini (La Cenerentola). This upcoming season at CCM, Ben will debut the baritone solo of Vaughan William's A Sea Symphony as well as the role of Tolomeo (Giulio Cesare).

Born in Colorado, Ben grew up in the Bay Area of California before acquiring his Bachelors of Music in Vocal Performance and Music Education from Temple University. He is now under the tutelage of Kenneth Shaw at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

Outside of music, Ben is a big foodie, an avid line dancer, and Dungeons & Dragons enthusiast.

ROSTER

CCM PHILHARMONIA
Joe Miller, guest conductor

Soloists
Sarah Rosales, soprano
Benjamin Chen, baritone

Violin I
Karis Dharmawirya, *concertmaster*
Annie Donato, *assistant*
Kerrigan Mandrell
Jiaqi Wang
Edgar Lucena
Ruike Y ang
Eileen Currie
Emily Beckner
Lauren Geerlings
Ramel Price
Tzu-Ting Chen

Violin II
Olivia Szor, *principal*
Jason Colón, *assistant*
Alexa Lang-V ega
Emily Gladstone
Christine Park
Minyue Zheng
Peilin Jiang
Jingjia Wang
Rain Go
Fengyi Yang

Viola
Maggie Lytle, *principal*
Nilli Tayidi, *assistant*
James Hankius
Gabriel Caal
Hinami Koyama
Juliette Mikautadze
Alyssa Cabassa
Lauren Wilson
Harper Knopf
Aidan Knox
Junting Yang
Cuong Diep
Zach Hutchinson

Cello
Krish Subramanian, *principal*
Arowyn Almeida, *assistant*
Joanna Frank
Zhixu Cheng
Elliott Watras
Ada Ortan
Yinchen Feng
Caitlin Cross
Xinrui Y an
Ellery Schade
Rory Gallo
Andres Celis

Double Bass
Fischer Friend, *principal*
Georgia Holt, *assistant*
Angshen Sun
John Mason Copeland
Lyla Besaw
Jo Arnold
Jaeli Kanko

Flute
Laura Lin[1], *flute/piccolo*
Kamryn Lindley, *piccolo*
Maria Milano[2], *flute/piccolo*

Oboe
Reed Carter[1]
Dylan Reynallt[2]
Mekhi Tyree, *english horn*

Clarinet
Jo-Ya Lin[2]
GeunWoo Kim[1]
Jasmine Mathisen
Sarah Eom

Bassoon
Alex Prok, *contrabassoon/ bassoon*
Cedric Quinn[1]
Hung-Hsuan Tang[2]

Horn
Jackson Krumnow
Matias Rivera
Duoran Wang[2]
Alyssa Webb
Michael Zelinski[1]

Trumpet
Luke Halling
Austin Park[2]
Onyu Park
Zhiyang Xia[1]

Trombone
Isaac Campbell
Yuxin Chen[2]
Sean LaRoy[1]
Tom Toth

Tuba
Nicholas Todorov

Harp
Lily Primus[1, 2]
Linhuan Wei

Timpani
Matthew Hanson[1]
Emma Zemancik[2]

Percussion
Elliot Hungler
Meg Lynch
Koen Scheid

Graduate Assistants
Benjamin Keating
Eugenius Vivaldy Pranowo
Juan Vasquez Acero
Xiaohe Yang
Frejya Zackrison

Librarians
Kerrigan Mandrell
Jingjia Wang

1 denotes principal player in Four Sean Interludes from Peter Grimes
2 denotes principal player in A Sea Symphony

ROSTER

CCM CHAMBER CHOIR

Dr. Joe Miller, conductor
Hannah Duff, assistant conductor
Maxwell Trombley, assistant conductor
Dr. Therese Sutula, rehearsal pianist

Soprano
Sofiya Chvojka
Hannah Duff
Saige Hoffman
Katherine Lawrence
Mary Okotie
Jenny Smith
Sara Springett
Savannah Weldon

Alto
Melina Bartzis
Ellie Elmore
Elaina Hill
Cooper Johnson
Meredith Nguyen
Alexia Rivera
Sofia Santana
Beth Satariano
Nikki Tayidi

Tenor
Alberto de la Paz
Josh Lisner
Andrew Miller
Liam Norton
Alex Roesler
Ryan Szafranski
Maxwell Trombley
Shunbin Zhou

Bass
Even Brock
Benjamin Chen
Kristiann Galano
Gabe Harley
Caleb Hixon
Wyatt Johnston
John Lazzeroni
John Monk
Rupert Peacock

CCM CHORALE

Dr. L. Brett Scott, conductor
Dami Choi, assistant conductor
Zachary Lindquist, assistant conductor
Dr. Therese Sutula, rehearsal pianist

Soprano
Ella Borstelman
Mina Brooks-Schmidt
Lily Clark
Mira Desai
Lindsay Feldman
Morgan Huheey
Kayla Lee
Zihan Lu
Lauren Maynus
Taylor-Marie Robinson
Sloan Smith
Victoria Smith
Rachelle Snyder
Georgia Thomas
Carrie Yu

Alto
Charitha Anamala
Megan Austin
Tillie Averre
Iris Bogin
Dami Choi
Caroline Cupar
Eva Delgado
Gretha Fergus
Charlie Hinckley
Sofia Kelly
Mia Mortman
Angela Mueller
Anna Reed
Sara Shiff

Tenor
Jack Bunch
Diego Castro-Lainez
Liam Huntley
Zachary Lindquist
Ethan Mellema
Ray Muenzer
Andrew Mullins
Connor Paap
James Pendergast
Bracken Potter
Carlos Rodriguez
Andrew Tran
Chris Velasco

Bass
Lazuli Bruno-Clark
Tyler Cailteux
John Depinet
Daniel Hagenbuch
Jacob Huffty
Ethan Klee
Seth Koons
Lucas Maceroni
Ben Roller
Noyi Soto-Anglade
Michael Temesi
DeShaun Tost
Daniel Wicks
Aoming Yang

NEXT ONSTAGE

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7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 24
Orchestra Series
ROMANTIC TITANS: FAITH AND FIRE
CCM Concert Orchestra
Aik Khai Pung, music director and conductor
BERLIOZ: Overture Le Corsaire
SCHUMANN: Konzertstück for Four horns
MENDELSSOHN: Symphony No. 5 "Reformation"
Estimated run time: 75 minutes
Location: Corbett Auditorium
Admission: FREE

Tonight's concert is presented by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Hirschhorn, with additional support from Elizabeth Ann Leman Muennich MD, PhD, in memory of John Leman; Jan Rogers; and Willard and Jean Mulford Charitable Fund of the Cambridge Charitable Foundation.

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