

# Graduate Student Recital

## *Coming Home*

**David Lozano Torres, Conductor**  
with Vocal Affinity and The Scholars

**Ellie Moulton, Piano • Erin Jossie, Organ**

August 2, 2021 | 6 pm PT | Virtual Event

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*program*

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**Journey To Self Discovery**

*Bound for the Promised Land*

Mack Wilburg  
(b. 1955)

*Öhtul*

Pärt Uusberg  
(b. 1986)

*When the Earth Stands Still*

Don MacDonald  
(b. 1966)

Vocal Affinity

**Awakening**

*David's Lamentation*

William Billings  
(1746-1800)

The Scholars

*O Lord, I Have Trusted in Thee*

Robert Manookin  
(1918-1997)

Vocal Affinity

**Finding The Path**

*The Benediction*

Knut Nystedt  
(1915-2014)

The Scholars

*Continued on next page*

*Presented by the University of California, Santa Barbara Division of Humanities and Fine Arts in the College of Letters and Science  
and the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music in partial fulfillment of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree.*

**UC SANTA BARBARA**

## **Mortal Journey**

*O Taste and See*

Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958)

Abbey Stanley, soloist

*Ave Verum Corpus*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
(1756-1791)

The Scholars

*Song of Redeeming Love*

Randall Kempton

Vocal Affinity  
Lindsey Parker, soloist  
Steve Fitch, tin whistle  
Archie Gillespie, percussion

## **Coming Home**

*Homeward Bound*

Mack Wilburg

*The Spirit of God*

Mack Wilburg

Vocal Affinity  
Morgan Parker, soloist  
LeVan Smith, Spencer Bean, Jesse Kaiser, trio  
Steve Fitch and Archie Gillespie, percussion

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*David Lozano Torres is a student of Dr. Nicole Lamartine,  
UC Santa Barbara Professor and Sorensen Director of Choral Music*

## Program Notes - Coming Home

**The sun sets.** At the top of dirt road, he arrives—his horse trodding tiredly through the dirt. He takes in the grass and trees—months older, greener, lost. His wife waits with a small bundle at the front door. He arrives, leaning over to kiss his newborn son.

I stare at her. The planes of her face are familiarly foreign. Tentatively, I walk over and embrace her. The years I lost her melt away. I reach out to the mirror and rest my hand on the tempered glass. Her face looks back at me and smiles, but all I see is me.

“Death is just another path, one that we all must take. The grey rain-curtain of this world rolls back, and all turns to silver glass, and then you see it. ... White shores, and beyond, a far green country under a swift sunrise.”

-Gandalf

## Text and Translations

### **Õhtul**

**Pärt Uusberg (b. 1986)**

*Vaikib linnukene  
ühes tuulega  
uinub lillekene  
kaste kaisussa,*

The little bird grows silent  
as the wind blows.  
The small flower falls asleep  
caressed by the dew.

*Eha punastades  
ööle annab suud-  
mäletus ja vaikus,  
uinund metsapuud.*

Twilight blushes  
as she kisses the night.  
The forest trees sleep  
in memory and silence.

*Igatsedes ainult  
minu lauluke  
nagu mälestus, kui vaikus  
sõuab kaugele*

They are wistful  
for my song,  
now a silent memory,  
as it paddles far away.

### **Ave Verum Corpus**

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)**

*Ave verum Corpus, natum  
de Maria Virgine:*

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin  
Mary,

*Vere passum, immolatum  
in cruce pro homine:*

who has truly suffered, and was  
sacrificed on the cross for mankind,

*Cujus latus perforatum,  
unda fluxit et sanguine:*

whose side was pierced, whence  
flowed water and blood,

*Esto nobis praegustatum in  
mortis examine.*

Be for us a foretaste of heaven, during  
our final trial.

## Program Notes

### ***Bound For The Promised Land* by Mack Wilburg**

Written in 2013 for the Tabernacle Choir, "Bound for the Promised Land" is an American Folk Song that relies on Old Western musical textures and peppy syncopation to capture the optimism and strength the pioneers possessed. Mack Wilburg has worked as the Music Director for the Tabernacle Choir since 2008. Outside of conducting for the choir, Wilburg is still active as a composer, arranger, guest conductor, choral clinician, and pianist throughout the United States.

### ***Õhtul* by Pärt Uusberg**

"Õhtul" or "Evening" was written to capture the idea of evening and the beautiful sounds commonly associated with dusk. Uusberg is an Estonian composer and conductor known for his calm bright-sorrowful atmosphere and existential subjects. Uusberg has won various competitions including the VII competition for youth conductors in 2018. The crescendoing ebbs and flows of "Õhtul" are based on the poem by Estonian poet Ernst Enno. The simplicity and sway of the dynamics captures the "bending" the world and disappearance of the sun in the poem.

### ***When the Earth Stands Still* by Don MacDonald**

"When the Earth Stands Still" was released on MacDonald's third album *breaTH*. Currently working in the Selkirk University's Contemporary Music and Technology program, MacDonald is an award-winning composer of film and concert music. The quiet, thoughtful presence of "When Earth Stands Still" creates an intimate atmosphere between the listener and choir while its lyrics such as "will you take the time to hold me while the earth stands still" invoke the necessarily vulnerable atmosphere present in an earth standing still.

### ***David's Lamentation* by William Billings**

Based on 2 Samuel 18:33, "David's Lamentation" was first published in Billings' collection of songs *The Singing Master's Assistant*. Despite his numerous works, Billings was only an amateur composer, primarily working as a singing schoolteacher and a tanner in Boston. Billings' patriotic and sacred anthems were quintessential to the early musical scene in America. Exuberant, the intense tones of "David's Lamentation" capture the grief David felt for his son Absalom. The brief periods of quiet found throughout the song intensify the feeling of grief already found in swelling crescendos.

### ***O Lord, I Have Trusted in Thee* by Robert Manookin**

Manookin was an LDS composer and professor of composition at Brigham Young University. As a Christian composer, Manookin used his talents to bring closer to Christ. Some of Manookin's hymns were featured in the 1985 hymnal for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. "O Lord, I Have Trusted in Thee" is a beautiful *a cappella* piece set for SATB.

### ***The Benediction* by Knut Nystedt**

Written in 1966, "The Benediction" is an SATB *a cappella* chorus. Nystedt was one of Norway's most important composers and held a fairly concrete position as a conductor for years amid shifting musical currents. Nystedt's music is experimental with a large range of styles that still keep his romantic, often nationalistic, voice. The smooth unison of "The Benediction" combined with the stray branches of harmony creates a nest of peaceful worship of God.

### ***Oh Taste and See* by Ralph Vaughan Williams**

"O Taste and See" was composed for the coronation of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in June of 1953. Williams was an English composer and one of the best symphonists of the 20th century. Williams helped to edit *The English Hymnal* and inserted some of his own works in there such as the popular "For All the Saints." One sole voice starts off singing the melody and words of "O Taste and See" until it is joined by an SATB chorus. The joining harmonies and added strength the song is akin to a congregation coming together with their various different lives to appreciate "how gracious the Lord is."

***Ave Verum Corpus by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart***

"Ave Verum Corpus" is a simple motet written in the final year of Mozart's life for a small-town choir as a form of payment to one of Mozart's friends. Mozart was a highly notable and influential composer during the Classical period. His taste and range of expression make him one of the most universal composers, and yet, Mozart composed for specific audiences, curtailing his songs to the needs of the choir and audience (such as for this song). "Ave Verum Corpus" was written to be sung on the Feast of Corpus Christi—a day celebrating the Real Presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the body of the Eucharist. The quiet "simplicity" invokes meditation on the body of Christ that died and acts as sacrament for Christians every Sunday.

***Song of Redeeming Love arranged by Randall Kempton***

Kempton's "Song of Redeeming Love" is based on Alma 5:26 in the Book of Mormon. Kempton works as the Director of Choral Activities and conductor for the Collegiate Singers at BYU-Idaho. At BYU-Idaho, Kempton helps students attain vocal excellence and spreads Christ's song of redeeming love through his music.

***Homeward Bound arranged by Mack Wilburg***

"Homeward Bound" is originally heartfelt WWI era song that carries a hopeful message of the end of war and families reuniting with their lost loved ones. In this arrangement by Wilberg, the flute lightly floats over the choir and orchestra with folksy tones that convey pastoral ideas. The rich timbre of the male vocal harmonies combined with the airy female harmonies create an earthy feel that cements the nostalgia and joy of coming home.

***The Spirit of God arranged by Mack Wilburg***

"The Spirit of God" was originally written by LDS composer W.W. Phelps in 1836 for the dedication of the Kirtland Temple. The song has been featured in every LDS church hymnal since it was added last minute to the first one. The song is a rousing Christian hymn detailing the joy of coming closer to God and the growth and coming forth of Christ's church. The hymn is featured at all dedications for LDS temples. In this arrangement, Wilberg uses a full orchestra and organ accompaniment to build into a euphonous swell of joy and celebration.

## Vocal Affinity

### Soprano

Rebecca Harrell  
Adrienne Juarez de Leon  
Lindsey Parker  
Kerrilyn Bewley  
Abigail Stanley\*

*Idaho*  
*Idaho*  
*California*  
*Minnesota*  
*North Carolina*

### Alto

Julianna Cole  
Kelsey De Pree\*  
Meganne Jarvie  
Bonnie Perez  
Haley Holbrook

*California*  
*Texas*  
*Utah*  
*Washington*  
*Utah*

### Tenor

Spencer Bean\*  
Morgan Parker  
LeVan Smith  
Caleb Holbrook

*Nevada*  
*Alabama*  
*Arkansas*  
*Utah*

### Bass

Bradley Cardenaz  
Jesse Kaiser\*  
Joshua Romo  
Luke Crockett  
Andrew Woodruff

*Utah*  
*South Carolina*  
*California*  
*Utah*  
*Oklahoma*

(\*) Section Leader

## Scholars

### Soprano

Abigail Stanley  
Lindsey Parker  
Adrienne Juarez de Leon

*North Carolina*  
*California*  
*Idaho*

### Alto

Kelsey De Pree  
Bonnie Perez

*Texas*  
*Washington*

### Tenor

Spencer Bean  
Morgan Parker  
LeVan Smith

*Nevada*  
*Alabama*  
*Arkansas*

### Bass

Jesse Kaiser  
Joshua Romo  
Luke Crockett  
Andrew Woodruff

*South Carolina*  
*California*  
*Utah*  
*Oklahoma*

## About the Artist

David Torres began conducting thirteen years ago, creating his own wind ensemble and concert series in Los Angeles. Leaving his native Southern California to pursue collegiate studies, Mr. Torres earned a BA in music with a conducting emphasis from Brigham Young University, Idaho and then returned to earn an MM in Choral Conducting from Azusa Pacific University. He has studied conducting with Dr. Rebecca Lord (BYU Idaho), Diane Soelberg (BYU Idaho), Dr. Donald Neuen (UCLA), and Dr. John Sutton (Azusa Pacific University).

While at BYU Idaho, Mr. Torres served as an assistant conductor for various choirs and teaching assistant for conducting courses. He formed the BYU Idaho Chamber Singers which performed for dignitaries, commencement, devotionals, department concerts, and much more. Following graduation, he was hired as an adjunct instructor to teach Men's and Women's Choir, basic and advanced conducting courses, and maintain a private conducting studio. Additionally, he served as a substitute conductor for instrumental and orchestral ensembles. He was a head conductor and contributor for the University's televised (PBS) guest artist productions in the 15,000-seat I-Center.

Mr. Torres has conducted the music and choirs for two 2018 worldwide televised broadcast events of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Annual General Conference and Young Adult Fireside). He was the artistic director of the first South-Eastern production of Rob Gardner's oratorio *Lamb of God*, which involved a 150-member chorus, orchestra, and professional soloists from Idaho and Utah. During his graduate studies at APU, Mr. Torres served as an assistant conductor for the APU Choral Scholars (graduate choir), University Choir, Symphonic Band, and as graduate teaching assistant. In the community, he held the position of artistic director and conductor of the Los Angeles-based *Echo Luminos*. He also served as Conducting Associate to Southern California's reputed *Angeles Chorale*. Mr. Torres graduated *Summa Cum Laude*, earning high honor recognition for his scholarship and excellence in music during his graduate studies.

Current appointments for Mr. Torres include service as artistic director and conductor of the elite choral ensemble *Vocal Affinity*, in Rexburg, Idaho, which was featured as one of the performing choirs in the Northwest American Choral Directors Association Regional Conference 2020. Mr. Torres also conducts the newly formed ensemble under *Vocal Affinity Corporation: The Scholars*. He is pursuing a Doctoral of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting at the University of California Santa Barbara, where he serves as the conductor for UC Santa Barbara's *Lumina* (Women's Choir) and as graduate teaching assistant for the choral department. He is under the tutelage and mentorship of renowned conductor and Sorensen Director of Choral Music at UC Santa Barbara, Dr. Nicole Lamartine.