

# Ars Nova

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Our 36<sup>th</sup> Season

2021-2022

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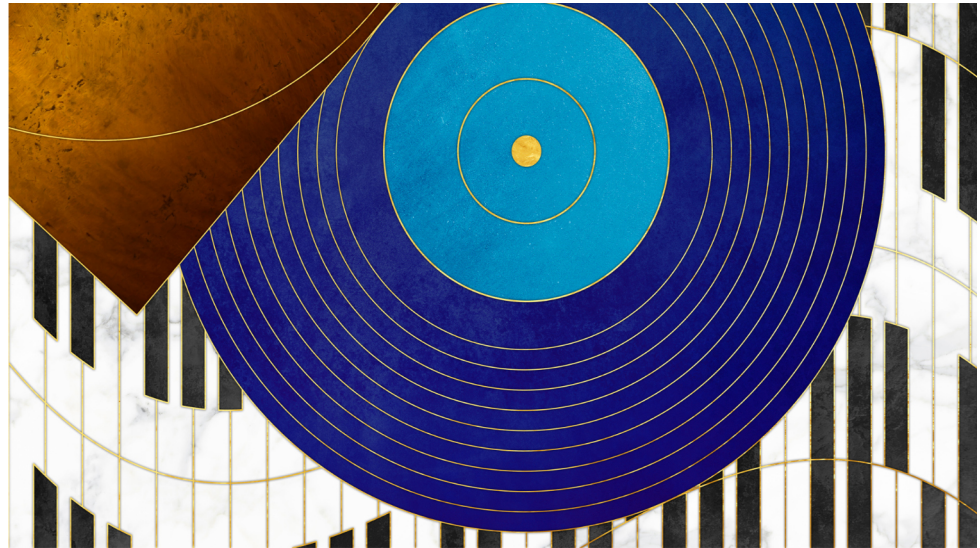
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(October, 2018)

Kimberly Brody, *Executive Director*



## Made Cool

### PROGRAM

Mass in Blue, op. 28 (2003)

Will Todd

1. Kyrie
2. Gloria
3. Credo
4. Sanctus
5. Benedictus
6. Agnus Dei

Kathryn Radakovich, *soprano*

Scott Martin, *piano*

Mark Diamond, *bass*

Russ Meissner, *drums*

Thomas Edward Morgan, *conductor*



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## SACRED JAZZ! Music of Will Todd

Written in 2003 in response to a commission by Hertfordshire Chorus, and originally premiered under the title *Jazz Mass*, English composer Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* is a brilliant blend of driving jazz grooves and clear, strong, choral writing against which the solo piano and solo soprano voice weave and blend in a delightful aural tapestry. The work reflects not only the composer's love of jazz music and his admiration of jazz performers, but also his own experience as an improviser. It also allows Todd to make use of his extensive choral skills which he deploys so effectively in works such as the oratorios *The Burning Road* (op. 10) and *Saint Cuthbert* (op. 7) or the chorus writing of his opera *The Blackened Man*. It is a confident work by a composer who understands and responds to the jazz idiom, making free use of the 12 bar blues sequence (which has been fundamental in the development of jazz music) as well as more complex harmonic processes.

The *Kyrie* opens with an energetic cadenza for the trio section which builds into the first set tempo of the work. Over this the first vocal entry is heard, a bluesy theme reminiscent of negro spirituals and therefore apt for the text *Kyrie eleison* - Lord have mercy. Gradually other lines join the initial melody until the full choir is singing. On a move to the sub-dominant B-flat the choir ecstatically bursts forth with *Christe eleison* and as this music subsides we hear the soprano enter on a soulful melody with a strong improvised feel, which builds over the return of the original key of F minor. The music of the *Kyrie eleison* is repeated with the soloist interwoven around the vocal lines in a virtuosic display. The movement slows and closes on a thrilling F minor 11 chord.

The *Gloria* is set up with a fanfare which punctuates the whole movement. From the moment the choir enters there is an uplifting rhythmic drive to this setting with the piano adding a distinctive color. In the central section of the Gloria a pulsating 5/8 time is set up which gradually builds until a recapitulation of the opening material brings the movement to a close.

The *Credo* features the soprano in a colorful 12 bar blues in 12/8 time. There is a strong gospel feel with the choir repeating lines from the soloist and humming soft backing harmony. Again in three sections, the first blues part gives way to a more sombre section at the *Crucifixus*, and after *Et sepultus est* (and he was buried) a piano solo leads the band into a blazing depiction of the moment of resurrection. The *Et resurrexit* is set with a scorching up-tempo swing which eventually cuts back into the 12/8 as the movement builds to a thrilling climax.

Like the *Gloria* the *Sanctus* is set for the choir and trio without the soloist. It is a beautiful, slow ballad set up initially on the piano. The movement provides a welcome period of tranquility and reflection after the sheer energy of the previous 3 movements.

The *Agnus Dei* grows out of the dying echoes of the *Hosanna* with a haunting soprano ballad accompanied by piano. In the stirring maestoso which follows, we hear the main themes of the work on high trumpet fanfares and strong trombone chords. Once again the strong 12-bar blues harmony underpins the texture. A huge climactic entry from the choir subsides into a gentle A minor section in which intricate choral lines are woven over a simple, repeated chordal structure. After another big build this time with the chorus featured, the music returns to the opening ballad theme, the soprano now accompanied by soft choir and brass. This is a substantial movement and is more than beautiful – it is painful, plaintive, a cry for mercy and a prayer for peace. Traditionally the mass would end here, but in another dramatic master-stroke Will Todd leaves the altos hanging on a soft E after the last chord of the *Agnus Dei*. The air of expectation grows as the sopranos softly recapitulate the *Credo* theme. Gradually the music builds with the soloist entering and then the tenors and basses. Suddenly the driving 12/8 beat of the *Credo* is forcing the music forward as the choir sing *Et expecto resurrectionem* (we look for the resurrection) and the music comes back to the key in which the work began, F minor. The emphatic final chords of the work leave the listener not in quiet contemplation but jerked forward into praise and belief. *Credo, Amen!*

— notes by Ralph Woodward © 2003. Used by permission.

Will Todd's flagship work is the jazz mass setting *Mass in Blue*, which has been performed hundreds of times around the world since its 2003 premiere. His anthem *The Call of Wisdom* was commissioned by St Paul's Cathedral for the Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Service for Queen Elizabeth II in June 2012, and his arrangement of *Amazing Grace* was performed as part of the BBC Nelson Mandela Thanksgiving Service, as well as at the private ceremony for President Obama's second inauguration. Other notable works include the opera *The Blackened Man*, a prizewinner in the International Verdi Opera Competition; the oratorio *Saint Cuthbert*, which has been recorded by the Hallé Orchestra; the music theatre work *The Screams of Kitty Genovese*, produced most recently by Tête à Tête Opera in London and Edinburgh; a setting of Keats' *Ode to a Nightingale* for Hertfordshire Chorus; and the highly acclaimed *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* for Opera Holland Park.

Will has worked with many of the UK's leading ensembles including The Sixteen, The BBC Singers and the BBC Concert Orchestra. He has had a fruitful collaboration with the award-winning chamber choir Tenebrae, with whom he has made the highly acclaimed albums *The Call of Wisdom* and *Lux et Veritas*. (The latter was voted one of the top 20 albums of 2014 by Classic FM.) The album recorded by Opera Holland Park of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* hit the specialist classical charts at No. 1 in July 2015, and following three sell-out seasons of the show a new indoor production at the Linbury Theatre at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden also sold out in November 2015. Will has also collaborated with celebrated children's author Michael Rosen to create *Lights, Stories, Noise, Dreams, Love and Noodles*, a cantata commissioned by David Hill for The Bach Choir and more recently *If I Had Wings*, based on the Icarus myth, for Herts Music Service for their Royal Albert Hall performance.

Will frequently performs as a jazz pianist, leading the Will Todd Ensemble, and is a regular visitor to mainland Europe and the US, where he is in high demand as a workshop leader and conductor of his own music.



### Kathryn Radakovich, *soprano*

Noted as a “very expressive soprano” (Opus Colorado), Kathryn Radakovich enjoys a varied career performing works from the modern, classical, baroque, and jazz idioms. A recent transplant to Philadelphia, this season, Kathryn makes her debut with The Crossing, returns to Helena's Musikanten Montana as a soloist in Viva Vivaldi! Kathryn's solo engagements from seasons past include appearances with; Musikanten Montana in Bach's *St. John Passion*, as Musica and Ninfa in Monteverdi's *Orfeo* with Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado under the direction of Stephen Stubbs, the Colorado Springs Philharmonic in *Bernstein: On Stage and Screen*, the Victoria Bach Festival in Bach's *Magnificat*, among others. Kathryn performs regularly with professional ensembles around the United States, including; Oregon Bach Festival's Berwick Chorus, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and the Victoria Bach Festival.



### Scott Martin, *piano*

Scott Martin has performed professionally in a wide variety of musical styles and roles. He began his career as a studio musician in New York City working with artists including Carly Simon, Mariah Carey, Philip Bailey of Earth Wind and Fire and Robert Lamm of Chicago. He co-wrote and produced the title track to the Steps Ahead album *Magnetic*, featuring Dianne Reeves and Michael Brecker. As a jazz pianist, he has played with Mike Stern, Bill Watrous, Miroslav Vitous, Billy Hart, Mike Mainieri, Joe Lovano, Victor Lewis, Javon Jackson, Harry Allen, Ron Miles, Carl Fontana, Pete Condoli, Red Holloway, Hiram Bullock, Tia Fuller, and many others. He currently leads the jazz band Devoted to the Standards and produces music for Songdrops, a kids' music site with over 300 million YouTube views. He has performed in two national tours of the Broadway hit musical *Jersey Boys*.



### Mark Diamond, *bass*

Mark's hard-grooving acoustic bass sound was birthed in the New York area, where he learned to play many musical styles. His professional career started in New Jersey in the early 1970s at Family & Friends with Jeff Kohnberg and Lisa Cerasia. In 1980 he moved to Colorado with the band Arabesque and has since been a sought-after sideman on over 100 albums, including Grammy award winner Tim O'Brien, Mollie O'Brien, Sally Taylor, (daughter of James Taylor and Carly Simon), James Van Buren with Richie Cole, Keith Oxman, Mary Flower, and Mary Ann Moore. He has played for President Bill Clinton and other luminaries over the years. Mark has toured Europe, and regularly appears at festivals and clubs across the country. He has performed with such legends as Earl Klugh, Nnenna Freelon, Spike Robinson, Richie Cole, James Moody, Ernestine Anderson, Ben Sidran, Peter Rowan, Kenny Loggins, New Orleans piano sensation Henry Butler,

Fred Wesley (of the James Brown funky horn section), Buddy Tate, (of the original Count Basie Band), Bruno Carr ( the drummer for Ray Charles, Herbie Mann, and many jazz greats), blues men Eddie Kirkland and Mark Hummel, and a couple of great New York-based jazz vocalists Allan Harris and Tom Lellis. Mark has opened shows for B.B. King, Kenny Rogers, Wilson Pickett, Koko Taylor, Buddy Guy and Junior Wells, to name a few.



### Russ Meissner, *drums*

New York drummer/composer Russ Meissner is currently involved with several projects including Jim Campilongo and Honeyfingers, the Sean Smith Quartet, the Matt Renzi Trio, the Kenny Wessel Group, the JC Sanford Quartet, the Pre-War Ponies, the Jack Grace Band and the Silos. He also co-leads a group with bassist David Ambrosio; their new album *Moments in Time* is out on SteepleChase Records. Russ grew up in Toronto, Canada and attended William Paterson University in New Jersey where he studied with John Riley and Rufus Ried, graduating with a BA in jazz performance. As a vital part of the New York music scene, Russ has performed with diverse artists including John Abercrombie, Bill Charlap, Norah Jones, Lucy Wainwright Roche and many others. He can be heard on more than thirty albums and has performed throughout the US, Canada, Europe, Israel and Japan.



Will Todd, Mass in Blue

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.  
Laudamus te; benedicimus te; adoramus te; glorificamus te.  
Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.  
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.  
Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
Qui sedes ad dextram Patris, miserere nobis.  
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus,  
Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe.  
Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.

Credo in unum Deum; Patrem omnipotentem,  
Factorem coeli et terrae, visibilium omnium et invisibilium.  
Credo in unum Dominum Jesum Christum,  
Filium Dei unigenitum,  
Et ex Patre natum ante omnia secula.  
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero,  
Genitum non factum, consubstantialem Patri:  
Per quem omnia facta sunt.  
Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram salutem  
Descendit de coelis; et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto  
Ex Maria Virgine: et homo factus est.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato,  
Passus et sepultus est.  
Et resurrexit tertia die secundum Scripturas.  
Et ascendit in coelum: sedet ad dexteram Patris.  
Et iterum venturus est cum gloria,  
Judicare vivos et mortuos:  
Cujus regni non erit finis.

Credo in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum, et vivificantem:  
Qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.  
Qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur:  
Qui locutus est per Prophetas.

Credo in unam  
Sanctam catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam.  
Confiteor unum baptisma, in remissionem peccatorum.  
Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum  
Et vitam venturi seculi. Amen.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Osanna in excelsis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Miserere nobis.  
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,  
Dona nobis pacem.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory be to God in the highest.  
And in earth peace to men of good will.  
We praise Thee; we bless Thee; we worship Thee; we glorify Thee.  
We give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.  
Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.  
Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord,  
Thou only art the most high, Jesus Christ.  
Together with the Holy Ghost in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

I believe in one God; the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
The only begotten Son of God,  
Begotten of the Father before all worlds;  
God of God, light of light, true God of true God,  
Begotten not made; being of one substance with the Father,  
By whom all things were made.  
Who for us and for our salvation  
Descended from heaven; and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost,  
Of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate,  
Died and was buried.  
And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures:  
And ascended into heaven. He sits at the right hand of the Father;  
And He shall come again with glory  
To judge the living and the dead;  
And His kingdom shall have no end.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified;  
As it was told by the Prophets.

And I believe in one  
Holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.  
And I await the resurrection of the dead  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
Have mercy upon us.  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
Grant us peace.



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As of February 11, 2022

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Bet Quigley  
Skip and Mari Rapp  
Alyssa Ravenelle  
Katherine Reed  
J Beau Rezendes  
Jim Ringel  
Jean Hamm Rivard  
Jane Roach  
Beth Rosbach  
Sharon Russell  
Randall Rutsch  
Sally and Charlie Sand  
Walter Sanders  
William Saxby  
Merryll Saylan  
James Schafer  
Elizabeth Schoeberlein  
Susan Schroeder  
Kathleen Sears  
Kathryn Secrest  
Paula Sewall  
Carol Shannon  
Sarah Shed  
Judy Sherman  
Glenn Short  
Maria Beatriz Silveira M.D.  
Beth Simmons  
Liz Simmons-O'Neill  
Elaine Simon  
Laurie Sindt  
Amy Skaife  
Tracy Slaughter  
Louise Sliman  
Bruce Smith  
Joel Smith  
Noah Sochet  
Clyda Stafford  
Jean Stevenson  
Erin Stone  
Sally Symanski  
Barbara Tennis  
Candy Terry  
Ann Thomas  
Jane Thomas  
Maria Thomas-Ruzic  
Diane Thoms  
KJ and Nisargo Troy  
Elaine Everett Turpin  
Larry Utter  
Carla Valentino  
Theodore Vawter  
Susanna Villano  
Bruce Vincent  
Leanne Walther

Peter Warren  
Christine Weeber  
Vaughn Weiss  
Lisa Wilson  
Theresa Wolf  
Maria Wolfrom  
Christine Zanoni  
David Zorrilla

***We are grateful for gifts  
in honor/memory of:***  
George Aiken  
Kathy Asta  
Kimberly Brody  
Evanne Browne  
Elena Butterfield  
Matthew Dane and Christina Jennings  
Patricia Delany  
Bruce Doenecke  
Carolyn Etter  
Dale Hartigan  
Rol Hoverstock  
Peggy Hamm Lemmon  
Lucile Lynn  
Jean Allison Melville  
Ruth Morgan  
Tom Morgan  
Tom Morgan and Nicky Kroge  
Wendy Redal  
Delanie M. Ross  
Ray and Jeanette Short  
St. John's Music Program  
Lucy Warner  
Kathy Wellman  
Drs. Lynn and Evelyn Whitten  
Steve Winograd

**SPECIAL THANKS**  
Lydia Morrongiello  
Susan Olenwine and Frank Polermo  
David Korevaar  
Nicky Kroge

**USHERS**  
John and Linda Black  
Jessie Booze  
Risa Booze  
Joan Cleland  
Traci Enholm  
Fr. Francis  
Amy French and Jack Rook  
Charlie and Kathe Lujan  
Miki Laws  
Janice Moore  
Caley Morgan  
Jamey Morgan  
Steven Russo  
Carol Shannon

## Ars Nova Singers Board of Directors

February, 2022

Dan Armour  
Kimberly Brody  
Cate Colburn-Smith  
Bruce Doenecke, *chair*  
Brant Foote  
Molly Hardman  
Janice Moore  
Tom Morgan  
Jan Osburn  
Chris Wolfrom

*Consider putting YOUR name on this list!  
We're seeking energetic individuals to serve  
on the Board for this dynamic organization.  
See our website for details.*

[www.arsnovasingers.org](http://www.arsnovasingers.org)

Avenir Foundation



*Thank you!*

**2021-2022 – Our 36<sup>th</sup> Season**

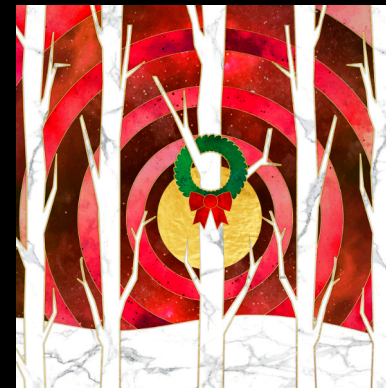
**Made Perfect** *Music of Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

October 15-16, 2021



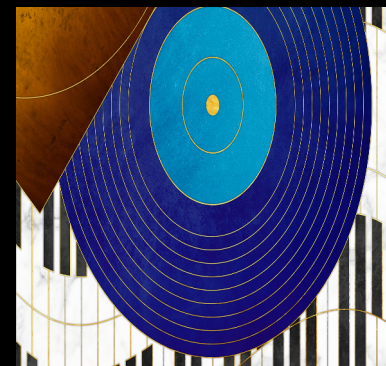
**Made Merry** *Ars Nova Singers Holiday Concerts*

December 10-17, 2021



**Made Cool** *Will Todd's Mass in Blue*

February 18, 2022

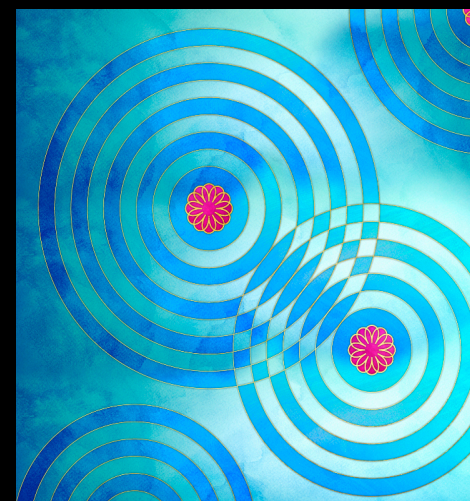


**Up Next!**

**Made Fragile** *Fauré's Requiem and Music of Reena Esmail*

ARS NOVA SINGERS welcomes the early, fragile Spring with a program that honors the uncertainty of our shared experiences and the trust we place in one another. We open with sinuous works by Indian-American composer **Reena Esmail**, riffing on the seemingly unordered yet hauntingly beautiful sounds of traditional Hindustani *raga*. *Raga* (or *Raag*), melodic frameworks in traditional Indian classical music which offer endless improvisation, rely on trust—between musician, listener, and space. They are a framework, not a mandate, much like the quivering faith of Fauré's beloved *Requiem*.  
Special Guests: Matthew Dane, *viola* and Christina Jennings, *flute*

FRI • APR 1 • 7:30pm – Central Presbyterian Church  
SAT • APR 2 • 7:30pm – First United Methodist Church, Boulder  
*This performance will be livestreamed.*



**Made Real**

June 3-5, 2022



**Ars Nova  
SINGERS**

[arsnovasingers.org](http://arsnovasingers.org)