

GCSU Department of Music

GCSU Choral Ensembles

Nature and the Divine

Women's Ensemble

Max Noah Singers

University Chorus

Jennifer Flory and Dana Gorzelany-Mostak, directors

Hue Jang and Lev Ryabinin, pianists

Raphael Fusco, guest conductor and composer

Joey Johnson, Meghan Bennett, and Charles Pepper,
student conductors

Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, 7:30 p.m.

Russell Auditorium

and live streamed on facebook.com/GCMusicDepartment



Program Combined Choirs

The Music of Living

Dan Forrest
(b. 1978)

Taryn Hutsenpiller, violin
Forrest Starling, horn
Cameron Sparks, timpani
Kai Williams, percussion
Lev Ryabinin, piano
Jennifer Flory, conductor

Women's Ensemble

Dana Gorzelany-Mostak, director | Hue Jang, pianist | Gabrielle Van Patten, rehearsal assistant

Hymns from the Rig Veda: Hymn to the Dawn

Gustav Holst

Hymns from the Rig Veda: Hymn to the Waters

(1874-1934)

Hymns from the Rig Veda: Hymn to Vena

Mason Morton, harp

Te cubrirá (The Lord Will Shelter You)

Raphael Fusco
(b. 1984)

Translation

*The Lord will overshadow you with his pinions,
and you will find refuge under his wings.
His faithfulness will encompass you with a shield.*

I Am the Wind

Elaine Hagenberg
(b. 1979)

Max Noah Singers

Jennifer Flory, director | Lev Ryabinin, pianist | Joey Johnson, assistant

Sure on this Shining Night

Morten Lauridsen
(b. 1943)

I Am Alive

Greg Jasperse
(b. 1968)

Julianna Valcheff and Alyx Humayra, sopranos

Le parole dei mesi (The words of the months)

Raphael Fusco

Raphael Fusco, conductor

Translation

*JANUARY: with the sounds which leave tracks in the snow
FEBRUARY: the colors of the clothes that dance
MARCH: the flowers of the almond trees for the hungry bees
APRIL: with all the fantasy which is sleepy
MAY: the rose petals which laugh
JUNE: with bare feet touching the water
JULY: the blazing sun falling on the earth
AUGUST: with the sea in your eyes
SEPTEMBER: the music of the rain in the ears
OCTOBER: the carpets of dry leaves beneath the feet
NOVEMBER: with the scarves of fog around the neck
DECEMBER: with the words of the fables on the fire*

Intermission

Dawn of Night

Stephen Chatman
(b. 1950)

Denielle Wilson, cello
Mason Morton, harp
Joey Johnson, conductor

University Chorus

Jennifer Flory, director | Hue Jang, pianist | Meghan Bennett and Charles Pepper, assistants

Drifting

Diana Tayler

Mason Morton, harp
Alyx Humayra, soprano
Meghan Bennett, conductor

Zikr

A.R. Rachman
(b. 1967)
arr. Ethan Sperry

Joey Johnson, baritone
Grayson Ferrara, guitar
Percussion 1
Percussion 2

Translation

Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah. O, those of you who are thirsting, come, the Oneness of Allah calls you! There is no action superior to Zikr. This is the saying of the prophet of Allah! Zikr is Peace, Zikr is Victory, Zikr is Healing, Zikr is the Cure. Allah is the only Eternal and Immortal - all else perishes and is returned to Him.

Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah. In every flower, in every soul, in every creation is the Light of Allah. May Allah's Zikr stay in every single heart and every single moment. Zikr is better than hatred. Zikr is better than ignorance. Zikr is better than desires. Zikr is better than back-biting.

Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah. O you the Amazing, O you the Eternal, O you the Beginning, O you the End. O you the Forebearing, O you the Gracious, O you the Greatest, O you the Merciful. O you the Benificent, O you the Great. O you who teaches us to read.

Light of Muhammad, may peace be upon him. There is no other truth except Allah.

The Word Was God

Rosephanye Powell
(b. 1962)

Charles Pepper, conductor

God is in All Things

Raphael Fusco

Combined Choirs

Sweet Rivers

Shawn Kirchner
(b. 1970)

Hue Jang, piano
Jennifer Flory, conductor

Raphael Fusco

Italian-American composer, keyboardist, and conductor Raphael Fusco has been hailed by the international press as "accomplished and winning" (*The New York Times*) and "one of the most outstanding composers of his generation" (*El Mundo*). His genre-crossing compositions for voice, chamber ensembles, orchestra, and theater engage audiences with soaring melodies, energetic rhythms, colorful harmonies, and rich textures. He has collaborated with leading artists and ensembles such as GRAMMY Award winning saxophonist Branford Marsalis, Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, American Ballet Theater, Martha Graham Dance Company and members of the New York Philharmonic and Metropolitan Opera Orchestras in prestigious venues across the world. As an artistic-researcher, Raphael's work investigates expressive agency and empathy in vocal composition. His interdisciplinary research synthesizes concepts from linguistics, performance practice, aesthetics and psychology to explore the expressive power of song.

Personnel

Women's Ensemble

Dana Gorzelany-Mostak, director
Hue Jang, pianist
Gabrielle Van Patten, rehearsal assistant

Sopranos

Mary Bell
Eleanor Chandler
Ellie Holmes
Ava Lazo
Harper Russell
Gabrielle Van Patten
Holly Wright

Altos

Serah Blair
Em Gonzalez
Caoilinn Horton
Bess Needle
Emma Okrent
Ria Pardue
Bethany Tapee

Max Noah Singers

Jennifer Flory, director
Lev Ryabinin, pianist
Joey Johnson, assistant

Sopranos

Kaleigh Borck
Janice Rose Fallin
Caoilinn Horton
Alyx Humayra
Emma Kevers
Gabrielle Van Patten
+*Savannah Young

Altos

Serah Blair
+Eden Chase
Cayla Hancock
Lilly Kevers
Meredith Tisdale
Julianna Valcheff

+Section Leader
*Community Member

Tenors

Wesley Baumann
+Peyton Curry
Anderson Dean
Christopher Dolan
Blake Halinar
Charles Knight

Basses

John Carter
Noah Darnell
*Jacob Hall
Joey Johnson
+Ian Purdy
Alexander Rice
Gabriel Wade

University Chorus

Jennifer Flory, director
Hue Jang, pianist
Meghan Bennett and
Charles Pepper, assistants

Sopranos

Natalie Abbott
Addie Alford
Meghan Bennett
Kaleigh Borck
Abi Bragg
Addyson Brock
Amber Hardy
+Alyx Humayra
Makiya Marks
Annalise McCann
Tessa Pickett
Julianna Valcheff
Stephanie Vázquez
Hannah Weekley
Jadyn Williams

Altos

Annabelle Anderson
Lucy Bell
Morgan Colclough
Jada Danforth
Amber Donahue
Janice Rose Fallin
Emily Gumingo
+Cayla Hancock
Maddie Herrmann
#^Sara Jordan
Lindsey Knowles
Jessica Lazarus
Angel Maddox
Madeleine Miller
*Hong Yue

Tenors

Gideon Aland
Brooke Cain
+Peyton Curry
Christopher Dolan
Blake Halinar
#William Humphrey
Charles Knight
Jim McKenney
Charles Pepper

Basses

John Carter
Dylan Castillo
Grayson Ferrara
Josh Galaif
+Joey Johnson
Ian Purdy
Bradley Smith
Gabriel Wade

+Section Leader
Alumni
^ GCSU Staff
* Community Member

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Upcoming Events:

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GCSU Orchestra Concert Andrew Allen, soloist Bryan E. Hall, director Tuesday, Oct. 21, 7:30 p.m. Russell Auditorium	GCSU Wind Symphony <i>Through the Darkness</i> Zandra Bell-McRoy, conductor Thursday, Oct. 23, 7:30 p.m. Russell Auditorium	Guest Artist Recital Bronwen Forbay, soprano Christian Bester, baritone Vivian Hamilton, piano Monday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m. Max Noah Recital Hall
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Betty C. Baugh
Jackie Bell
Lawrence & Susan Boss

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Boyle
George & Polly Echols
Lee Echols
Kenny Franks

Gorzelay Family
Elizabeth Weldon McCollum
Family of LTG Max Noah

Mrs. Eliza G. Nesmith
Maidana K. Nunn
Doyle Ransom
Tom & Sandra Rosseter

Maestro (\$2500-4999)

Brett & Sarah Miller family

Virtuoso (\$1000-2499)

Charlotte H. Bearden
David & Micki Carr
President Cathy Cox and
Mr. Mark Dehler
Jeffrey M. Daniel

The Episcopal Church of the
Redeemer
Jennifer Gorzelany
Judith Greer
Nancy

William & Becky Humphrey
Margaret S. Judkins
Stan & Marilyn McMahan
Mary Elizabeth Phillips

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Jim Willoughby
Patricia P. Zimmermann

Artist (\$500-999)

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IMO Gertrude Treanor
Jennifer Flory

Keith & Simin Hall
Sherry & Robert Henry
David H. Johnson
Jenny & Larry Moore

Newnan FUMC
Don & Sheryl Parker
Douglas & Kyle Rick

Luis Samper
Stephen M. Stewart
Cliff & Gina Towner
Walker United Methodist Church

Patron (\$250-499)

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Walter M. Bowman Jr.
Suzanne P. Courtney
Dr. and Mrs. Jim Craig, Jr.
Ana Edwards (IMO)
Dimples Kelly Edwards)

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Nancy E. Jay
Jane & Joe Mangum
Milledgeville Baldwin County

Doris Moody
Diane Myers
Kay Newman
Darla Pyke

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Clyde Tipton)
Sara A. Simcox
Kristine F. Smith
Harriett L. Whipple
George & Rhonda P. Wood

Sustainer (\$100-249)

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Roger & Carol Austin
family
Gayle Christensen Avant
Peggy Bartolotta
Joanne C. Battle
Cynthia C. Beal
Rosemary Begemann
Sue Bennett

Karen Berman: in honor
of Dr. Bradley Sowell
Marcia Brelsford
Janice T. Callaway
Shirley G. Day
Larry & Sharon Edwards
Robert Erst
Jane & Joe Flaherty
Thom & Heather Galloway
Lamar & Ruth Garrard
Gerald & Elaine Grady

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Bryan Emmon Hall
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Steve & Lynne Jordan
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David & Laura Leach
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Dianna Odum

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Rostam Radamez Hall)
Kate & Roy Phillips
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Radamez Hall)
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Robert Tanner
Craig Turner
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Robin & Susan Wright

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