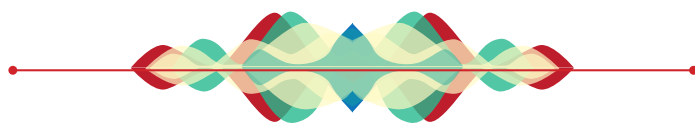


NUOVOCE

C H A M B E R C H O I R



dawn and dusk

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2022
ST. ANDREWS RIVER HEIGHTS
UNITED CHURCH

JUSTIN ODWAK AND SARAH SOMMER, ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

dawn and dusk

We gratefully acknowledge that the lands on which we gather are located on original lands of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.



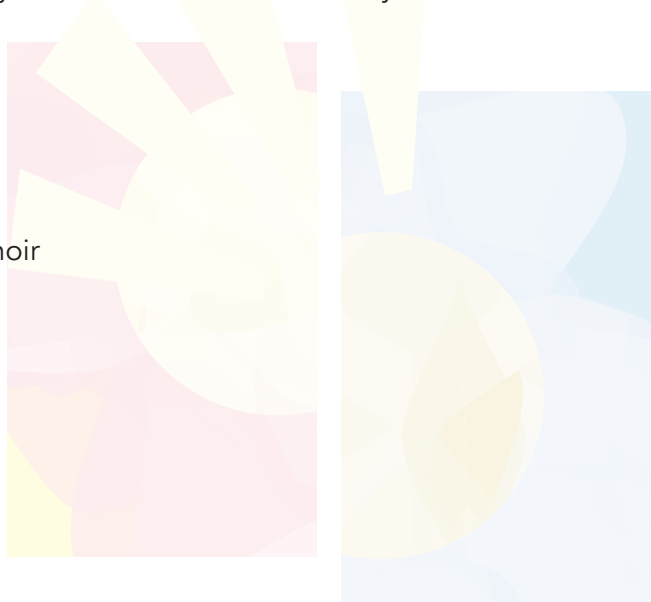
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

It is hard to believe that it has been over 2 years since we last gathered together for our debut concert, Beginnings, in December of 2019. Throughout the past 24 months, we as a community have endured darkness and hardship; endless months of loss and isolation, with no reprieve in sight. However, our resilience has shown that beauty can be found in both moments of darkness and in light, and we are thrilled to have the opportunity to share some of that beauty with you this evening.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sommer & Justin Odwak

Artistic Directors, NUOVOCE Chamber Choir



NUOVOCE
CHAMBER CHOIR



dawn and dusk

Dusk

Dawn and Dusk embarks on a journey throughout a luminous landscape, beginning at day's end as the sun begins to set (*Õhtu Ilu, The New Moon*). The Estonian text of the former is evocative of the wondrous beauty and comfort of an evening sunset. Uusberg employs colourful harmonies accompanying the traditional, meditative folk-melody to paint the sky at dusk. Our second selection, Ešenvalds' setting of a striking Sara Teasdale poem, is a reminder that with each new moon rising in the sky, we may forget the hardships of the previous day. The Latvian composer employs the mystical sounds of tuned water glasses and tone chimes to evoke the otherworldly sounds of the moon.

Midnight

Moonset brings us to the middle of the night, with a Canadian setting of a poignantly introspective text by Emily Pauline-Johnson/Tekahionwake, Canada's own 19th-century Mohawk-English poet. Her writing is a result of the marriage between her two cultural backgrounds, a mastery of the descriptive qualities of the English language, with an undeniable Indigenous perspective, evident in her personification and reverence of the natural elements. Following, the choir will sing Edentroth's fiery *In Girum*, originally performed by Sweden's The Real Group, which implements an ancient Latin palindrome depicting the regrettable fate of a moth to a flame in the darkness of night.

Dawn

As dawn breaks, and we straddle the ambiguous point between night and day, Ken Steven's *Dawn and Dusk/Fajar Dan Senja* employs traditional musical elements of his native Indonesia paired with nonsensical syllables to illuminate the night with bright-coloured sounds and dancelike rhythms. Contrastingly, Andrea Ramsey's *Luminescence* brings a peaceful tranquility and stillness to daybreak; a fresh start for a new day.

Morning

The lighthearted Istrian text of Makor's *Sta Mattina* originates from Slovenia, telling of the unfortunate folk-tale of one who wakes one morning to discover his first love with another man. *The Sun Never Says*, an English adaptation of Hafez's poetry, comparing the sun's selfless radiance to an unconditional love that "lights the whole sky".



dawn and dusk

A New Day

French-Canadian composer Marie-Claire Saindon's *Terre-Neuve* is a dramatic work, depicting the rugged landscape of Newfoundland's shores. As the shrieks of daylight's sun scatter across the sky, the ice below cracks and splits. Notice how the text comes to life with sound effects from the choir and the use of body percussion. Next, Irish composer Michael McGlynn's *Sunshine* is an energetic, mixed-meter piece that explores the joys of being in nature. The repetitive driving nature of the piano accompaniment brings a jubilant energy to the work. The concert concludes with an arrangement of James Taylor's *Shed a Little Light*. NUOVOCE originally performed this in our virtual concert "A Little Light" in the spring of 2021. We look forward to bringing this message of hope and unity in a live format.



Like what you hear? Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

NUOVOCE
CHAMBER CHOIR



dawn and dusk

BIOS



Justin Odwak is an in-demand choral conductor, tenor and vocal instructor. Justin serves as co-artistic director and co-founder of NUOVOCE Chamber Choir, founded in 2019. He currently teaches choir, vocal jazz, and musical theatre at Dakota Collegiate, and directs the Louis Riel Divisional Treble Choir and Divisional Senior Concert Choir. Justin is past director of the Winnipeg Jewish Chorus and the Shaarey Zedek Quartet at Congregation Shaarey Zedek, the St. James-Assiniboia Divisional Junior Concert Choir

and Divisional Senior Concert Choir. He has also directed the Louis Riel School Division Senior Choir (Choral Celebration, 2019) Rainbow Harmony Project, Kolot Choir, and Interlake Youth Choir. He is in demand as a choral clinician and adjudicator, and also maintains a studio of private voice students. As a vocalist, Justin has performed as soloist with local organizations such as the Winnipeg Singers, Canzona, Camerata Nova, the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir, and Little Opera Company. Justin has appeared as soloist with the University of Manitoba singers for Soundstreams at Toronto's Koerner Hall along with the Latvian Radio Choir. He has also performed as soloist with the group for the Rocky Mountain Music Festival at the Banff Centre. Justin has performed with the Sarah Sommer Chai Folk Ensemble, appearing at Edmonton's Jubilee Auditorium, and in Winnipeg at the Centennial Concert Hall, as well as performing at the International Karmiel Festival in Israel. He has appeared as soloist on numerous occasions with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and has performed as soloist in many Messiah performances with orchestras throughout Canada, including the Victoria Symphony Orchestra, Regina Symphony Orchestra, Okanagan Festival Singers and Camerata Orchestra, and has sung under the baton of Tafelmusik's Ivars Taurins with Orchestra London and with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. His recent engagements include performing as soloist in Haydn's *The Creation* with SummerChör choir and orchestra. In 2015, Justin placed runner-up in the *Zita Bernstein Competition for the Performance of German Lieder*. Justin holds a Bachelor of Music (Voice) and Bachelor of Education (Choral) from the University of Manitoba.



dawn and dusk



Sarah Sommer is an active choral conductor, vocalist and music educator in Winnipeg. She completed her Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education in June 2017 from the University of Manitoba, and is currently teaching music at Technical-Vocational High School. Sarah also teaches music lessons from her private studio. She has appeared as choir member and soloist with many local ensembles, including Canzona, Camerata Nova, the Winnipeg Singers, and the Shaarey Zedek Quartet. In addition to her role as co-artistic director of NUOVOCE, Sarah's directing credits include: the Chai Folk Ensemble (vocal director, 2011-2017), Kolot Community Voices (co-founder and director, 2015/16), Winnipeg School Division Honour Choir (guest conductor, 2017/18), and Louis Riel School Division Intermediate Choir (guest conductor, Choral Celebrations, 2019), Winnipeg Girls' Choir (current assistant conductor) and the Etz Chayim Synagogue Choir (current director). Currently, Sarah is completing her Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Vocal Performance under the tutelage of Tracy Dahl.

Sarah has a passion for world music and language-learning, and has experience teaching in Spanish, Hebrew and French. Sarah also enjoys dabbling in choral-arranging, both for NUOVOCE and other ensembles.



dawn and dusk

NUOVOCE

Sopranos

Emma Lewis
Shoki Onosson
Victoria Rust
Hillary Devries
Zoe Nagamori
Paityn Clarke

Altos

Brenna Jacobson
Emma Pesochin
Rebecca Driedger
Danica Dumore
Sabrina Berry
Charlotte-Anne Rotschek

Tenors

Brendan McLeod
Liam McLeod
Brandon Henry
Ryan Desender
Evan Glazier
Ryan Hay
Roan Regan

Basses

Caleb Rondeau
Kai Penner
Lucien Reles
Piolo Turdanes
Rayce Gretsinger
Garrick Gibson



Artistic Directors: Sarah Sommer, Justin Odwak

NUOVOCE
CHAMBER CHOIR



dawn and dusk

PROGRAM

ÕHTU ILU

by Pärt Uusberg

Danica Dumore and Liam McLeod, soloists

Juba päeva peidetan ne,
kuuval get varastetanne,
kes see peidab meilda päiva,
kes see kuuvalget varastab,
Jumal peidab meilda päiva,
Looja kuuval get varas tab
las õnnis hommik kätte
päeva tõus saab metsa pääle
Mina laulan lauda notkub
Toa taga tamme notkub,
kaevu ääres kaske notkub,
üle õue õrse notkub,
ilu kuulub Hiiumaa le,
kuma kuulub Kuramaale,
mõnu kuulub meie maale,
las tuleb õnnis hommik kätte,
päeva tõus saab metsa pääle.

Already the sun is being hidden,
The moonlight is being stolen.
Who hides the sun from us,
Who steals the moonlight?
God hides the sun from us,
The Creator steals the moonlight.
Let the blessed morning come,
Let the sun rise over the forest.
I sing, the table bends down,
Behind the house the oak bends,
Beside the well the birch bends,
Above the garden the bird's perch bends.
Joy is heard all the way to Hiiumaa,
The glow all the way to Courland,
Pleasure across our land.
Let the blessed morning come,
The sun rise over the forest.



dawn and dusk

THE NEW MOON

by Ēriks Ešenvalds, from poem by Sara Teasdale

Day, you have bruised and beaten me down,
As rain beats down the bright, proud sea,
Beaten my body, bruised my soul,
Left me nothing lovely or whole
Yet I have wrested a gift from you,
Day that dies in dusky blue:
For suddenly over the factories
I saw a moon in the cloudy seas
A wisp of beauty all alone
In a world as hard and gray as stone
Oh who could be bitter and want to die
When a maiden moon wakes up in the sky?

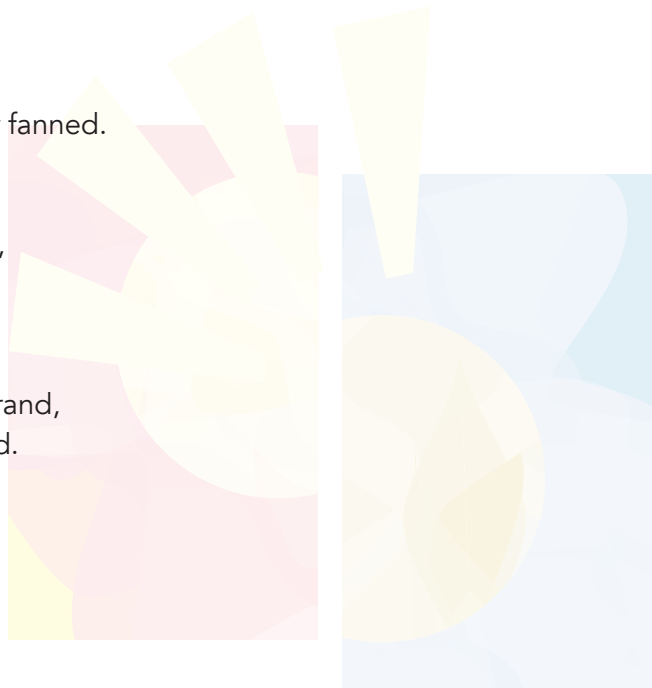
MOONSET

by Don MacDonald, from poem by Emily Pauline Johnson*

Idles the night wind through the dreaming firs,
That waking murmur low,
As some lost melody returning stirs
The love of long ago;
And through the far, cool distance, zephyr fanned.
The moon is sinking into shadow-land.

The troubled night-bird, calling plaintively,
Wanders on restless wing;
The cedars, chanting vespers to the sea,
Await its answering,
That comes in wash of waves along the strand,
The while the moon slips into shadow-land.

O! Soft responsive voices of the night
I join your minstrelsy,
And call across the fading silver light
As something calls to me;
I may not all your meaning understand,
But I have touched your soul in shadow-land.



dawn and dusk

IN GIRUM

by Anders Edenroth

In girum imus nocte ecce et consumimur igni.

Behold! We enter the circle at night,
And we are consumed by fire.

End to end.
How amend?
Fly my friend.
No pretend.

DAWN AND DUSK (FAJAR DAN SENJA)

by Ken Steven

The text for this piece has no exact meaning. The variety of colours and sounds are meant to portray an atmosphere and explore the human voice.

LUMINESCENCE

by Andrea Ramsey, from poem by Blaire Ginsburg

Eternal light
Luminescence,
Time forgotten,
Time shifting,
Sifting through silence,
Finding reason,
Finding life.

Breathe in,
Silence,
Breathe in,
Stillness,
Whistles low like windchimes,
Voices lush in tone
Uniform in soul,

Voices,
Take me where exhale paints the sky,
Touch of color,
Sounding air,
Smooth as marble,
Light as down,

Reaching for light
Uniform in soul
Where many become one.



dawn and dusk

STA MATTINA

arranged by Andrej Makor

Istrian Folk Song

Sta mattina mi son svejada
Piú bon ora del'altro di.
Son andata a la finestra
E go visto 'l mio primo amor.

Jera insieme a una ragazza
I andava a far l' amor.
Mamma mia, mi son malada,
Mi go tanto mal al quor.

*This morning I woke up earlier than other days.
I went to the window and I saw my first love.
He was with a girl, they were going to make love.
Mother, I am ill, my heart is so very sick.*

THE SUN NEVER SAYS

by Dan Forrest

Even after all this time
The sun never says to the Earth,
"You owe me."

Look what happens with a love like that,
It lights the whole sky.



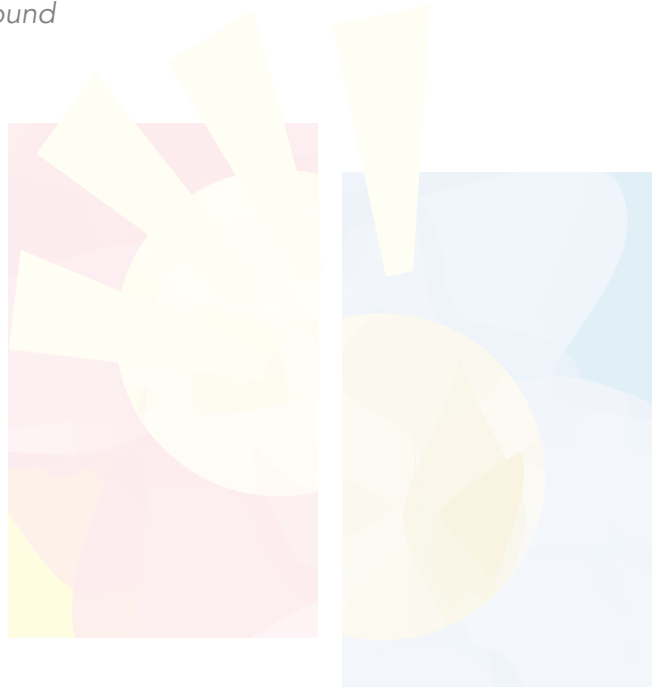
dawn and dusk

TERRE-NEUVE

by Marie-Claire Saindon*

Terre
éclaboussée du cri d'un soleil
aux couleurs d'océan
de roc
fauve la falaise se brise craquements de glace
goût frais de neige qui fait trembler la mémoire ensevelie
se mêle de vent
s'enroule au sel d'une joie
Neuve

*Land
splattered with shrieks of sun
with colours of ocean and
rock
rust-red the cliff splits
crackling ice
a fresh taste of shivering snow stirs a shrouded memory
mingles with the wind
spirals vibrant with the salt of a joy New found*



dawn and dusk

SUNSHINE

by Michael McGlynn

Cary Denby, Piano

Run into the golden sunshine
Run beneath a blue unfurling sky
Run into the bright blue morning
Catch a fleeting swallow passing by.

Come into the golden sunshine
Run into a great unfolding song
Sail the new-blown dandelion and
Catch a breeze to carry you along.

Every stream a river
Every pool the sea
Every hill a mountain
Any dream will be.
Every bell to ring
Every tree to climb
Any song we sing
Every word will rhyme.

Running through the summer sunshine
Paint a new-born rainbow way on high
Come into the bright blue morning
Catch a fleeting swallow passing by.
Sunshine, sunshine.



dawn and dusk

SHED A LITTLE LIGHT

*by James Taylor, arranged by John McMillan**

Cary Denby, Piano

Hillel Sommer, Percussion

Luc Guenette, Bass

Sabrina Berry and Ryan Hay, soloists

Let us turn our thoughts today
To Martin Luther King
And recognize that there are ties between us,
All men and women living on the Earth.
Ties of hope and love,
Sister and brotherhood,
That we are bound together
In our desire to see the world
Become a place in which our children
Can grow free and strong.
We are bound together by the task
That stands before us
And the road that lies ahead.
We are bound and we are bound.

There is a feeling like the clenching of a fist
There is a hunger in the center of the chest
There is a passage through the darkness
And the mist
And though the body sleeps
The heart will never rest

Shed a little light, oh Lord,
So that we can see,
Just a little light, oh Lord.
Want to stand it on up,
Stand it on up, oh Lord,
Want to walk it on down,
Shed a little light, oh Lord.

Can't get no light from the dollar bill,
Don't give me no light from a TV screen.
When I open my eyes I want to drink my fill
From the well on the hill,
Do you know what I mean?



dawn and dusk

Shed a little light, oh Lord,
So that we can see,
Just a little light, oh Lord.
Want to stand it on up,
Stand it on up, oh Lord,
Want to walk it on down,
Shed a little light, oh Lord.

There is a feeling like the clenching of a fist,
There is a hunger in the center of the chest.
There is a passage through the darkness
And the mist
And though the body sleeps
The heart will never rest.

Oh, Let us turn our thoughts today
To Martin Luther King
And recognize that there are ties between us.
All men and women living on the Earth,
Ties of hope and love,
Sister and brotherhood.

**indicates Canadian composer*



dawn and dusk

THANK YOU



Lighting: Corey Ellis

Sound/Streaming: Aaron Bartel

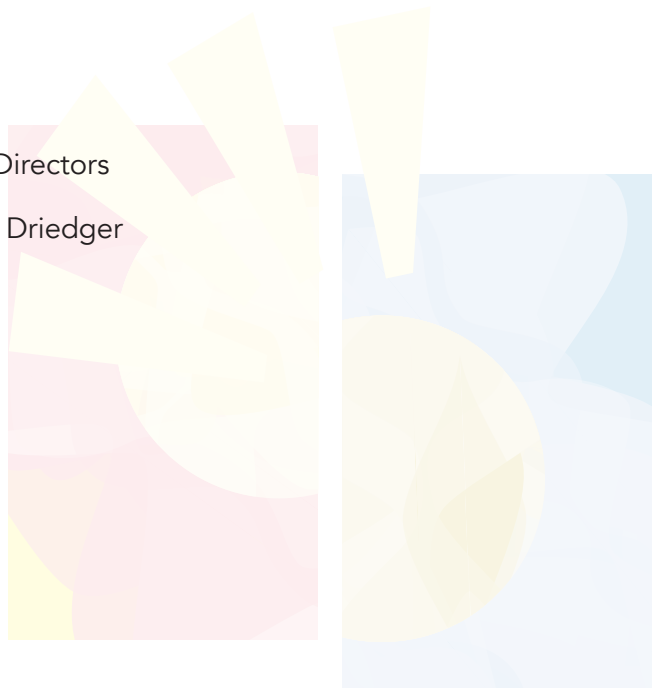
St. Andrew's River Heights United Church

Westgate Mennonite Collegiate

NUOVOCE Chamber Choir Inc. Board of Directors

Communications and Marketing: Rebecca Driedger

Graphic design: Bev Plett



NUOVOCE
CHAMBER CHOIR

