# Tempest

All Astra Clusic Festival July 15~31, 2016 Russell, Kansas

This concert it underwritten by The Dane G. Hansen Foundation

# **Tempest**

Ad Astra High School Honor Choir John Irving, conductor



St. John Lutheran Church Saturday, July 2 | 7:30pm

## Program

| Full Fathom Five             | Ralph Vaughan Williams |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| from Three Shakespeare Songs | 1872-1958              |
|                              |                        |
|                              |                        |
|                              |                        |
|                              | M II 1                 |
| Psalm for Greensburg         |                        |
|                              | b. 1991                |
| Max Holman, piano            |                        |

Denise Blehm and Manda Deagan, violin | Cathy Drabkin, cello

John Irving, harpsichord | Max Holman, piano and organ

Shelby Matlock, Katie Bruton, Nathan Hilger, Max Haverfield, soloists

Ship to Wreck ...... Florence Welch & Kid Harpoon, arr. Annie Mauro b. 1994

Shelby Matlock, conductor

# **High School Honor Choir**

Soprano Alto

Ciara Calhoon Taelyr Blehm Jailynn Hammel Erica Murphy Madison Karlin Trista Wysong

Shelby Knoll Taya Randle Anniston Weber

Tenor Bass

Hayden Sillmon Seth Hilger
Trent Colin Penn Dallas McCobb

Ryan Will

#### **Instrumentalists**

Violin I

Denise Blehm

Violin II

Manda Deagan

Cello

Cathy Drabkin

Piano/Harpsichord

Max Holman

Harpsichord

John Irving

#### **Notes**

First heard at a summer festival in 1951, "**Full Fathom Five"** is a haunting *a cappella* setting by Ralph Vaughan Williams of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Act 1, Scene 2. Composed towards the end of his life, Vaughan Williams set the clanging death knell of King Alonso, who was believed to be buried in a shipwreck. Ariel, a magical spirit, consoles Ferdinand, the grieving son.

"Psalm for Greensburg" commemorates the town in Kansas that suffered a horrific tornado outbreak in May 2007. The piece's three-part structure, set with words from the National Weather Service Warning, Psalm 54, and Siegfried Sassoon's *Storm and Sunlight*, does not lament the storm's effects; rather, it progresses from despair to hope, culminating with an optimistic chorale. While each section creates a different atmosphere, the storm's warning signal—heard in the piano—thematically unites the triptych, and encourages the listener to persevere.

In *Jonas*, Italian composer Giacomo Carissimi retells the familiar biblical story of Jonah and the whale. Carissimi, a prolific composer of sacred music based in Rome, used clever word-painting to portray Jonah being swallowed and eventually thrown up by the sea creature! The violent, Old Testament storm is dramatically represented as a tempestuous back-and-forth between soloists and choir.

Arranged by Annie Mauro for the 2016 Ad Astra High School Honor Choir, "Ship to Wreck" is the Grammy-nominated song by Florence + The Machine, off their 2015 album, *How Big, How Blue, How Beautiful*. Dealing with the destructive powers of oneself in relationships, singer Florence Welch in an interview mused on the "problem of wanting to be perfect, and yet feeling guilty all the time because you never achieve everything that you're trying to do." In her song she frustratingly asks, "Did I build this ship to wreck?"

## Acknowledgements

#### Thank You

Colleen & Mick Allen
Melinda & Jim Cross
Michael Davidson
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Nancy Lane
Johnny Matlock
Andrew Megill
Katy Oste
Bob & Nancy Piatt
Cynthia Radke
Russell Recreation
Erin Renard
Dale & Nancy Schmitt
Rachel Sipe
USD 407

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#### **Production Team**

John Irving, artistic director Alex Underwood, artistic director Katie Bruton, festival manager Amy Befort, stage manager

#### **Concert Underwriters**

Anonymous

William Farmer and Stewart Rahtz

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Dane G. Hansen Foundation

Nancy Holland

The Line Family, in memory of Cheryl Line

Frank and Linda Schulte Family

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# Ad Astra Music Festival Main Stage Performances

The Mass Unordinary

July 15 | 7:30pm

St. Mary Queen of Angels Catholic

Church

Chamber Music at the Deines

July 23 | 7:30pm

Deines Cultural Center

Jazz at the Barn

July 16 | 7:30pm

Granny Mae's Barn

#humansofrussell

July 24 | 2:00pm

Deines Cultural Center

Schumann Song Cycle

July 17 | 2:00pm

Deines Cultural Center

Handel's Jephtha

July 30 | 7:30pm

Trinity United Methodist Church

Duruflé and His Organ

July 22 | 7:30pm

Trinity United Methodist Church

Encore: Handel's Jephtha

July 31 | 7:30pm

First Presbyterian Church in Hays, KS

# **Liturgical Music Series**

Byrd Mass for 3 Voices

July 17 | 10:30am

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Hays, KS

**Bach Cantata 94** 

July 24 | 10:30am

St. John Lutheran Church

Josquin Missa De beata virgine

July 31 | 10:30am

Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria, KS