

# *illumina*

**Spotlight on Emerging Voices  
Performed by**

*foris choir*

Featuring original works by seven local composers on  
themes of anticipation, illumination, and renewal

**December 14, 2018**

**7:30pm**

**St. Ignatius Church  
3400 43rd Avenue, Portland**

# foris choir

Foris Choir, a Portland chamber choir, was established in 2018 to spotlight the work of emerging local composers and create a welcoming space for them to engage with one another and with experienced singers as they develop their craft.

Foris Choir singers bring a variety of musical interests and backgrounds and share a passion for the power of music to create connections and build community.

## *Soprano*

Bailey Dean  
Kris Moschisch

## *Alto*

Emily MacDonald  
Marisa Wildeman

## *Bass*

Charlie Best  
Simon Cropp  
Will McCarthy

## *Tenor*

Spencer Mackey  
Zach Schonrock

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## *Founder & Artistic Director*

Kate Sattler

Visit [ForisChoir.org](http://ForisChoir.org) to learn more and sign up for updates, to join the choir, have your composition considered for performance, or commission or host a Foris Choir performance.

# program

*Welcoming instrumental performance by Joseph & Grace Byrd of St. Ignatius Church*

## **Foris Choir**

*Conducted by Michael Severson*

*Starlight Sonata (electronic piano) .....Marisa Wildeman*

*Set out to Sea .....Sean Musaeus*

*Ditches .....Emily MacDonald*

*O Antiphons .....Kate Sattler*

*O Sapientia • O Adonai*

*O Radix Jesse • O Clavis David*

*O Oriens • O Rex Gentium • O Emmanuel*

*O Come O Come Emmanuel (guitar and vocals) .....Philip Serino*

*Silent Night / O Holy Night (guitar and vocals) .....Philip Serino*

## INTERMISSION

*Storms .....Kate Sattler*

*Winter's Song .....Marisa Wildeman*

*When I Rise Up .....Kit Abrahamson*

*Poem by Georgia Douglas Johnson (1880-1966)*

*Fields of Gold .....Naama Friedman*

*Arrangement of the song by Sting*

## *composers*

### **Kit Abrahamson**

Kit earned his Master's degree in composition from the University of Oregon in 2012 and his Ph.D. in music theory in 2016. He recently resumed composing after a break to pursue his studies. He mostly writes chamber music on request from friends. His main interests are music theory pedagogy, cello, singing, dogs, trans/queer issues, and medieval sword fighting. Kit looks forward to deepening his musical engagement as a key element of his life through additional performances and commissions. [www.functionalanalysis.blog/compositions/](http://www.functionalanalysis.blog/compositions/)

### **Naama Friedman**

Naama is a student at Reed College, currently studying political science. She has studied music since the age of five, through piano lessons and by singing in choirs. She was heavily involved in the choir program at her high school in Evanston, Illinois, and now performs with the Reed College choir. Writing and performing music brings Naama immense joy. She has independently pursued composing choral works, initially through a *cappella* arrangements of popular songs. Tonight's concert is among the first few performances of her work. [@naamafriedmanmusic](https://www.instagram.com/naamafriedmanmusic)

### **Emily MacDonald**

After an early, tumultuous bout with the Suzuki piano method, most of Emily's formative musical experiences were gleaned from public school programs. Prone to paralyzing stage fright, Emily has always preferred sharing the stage with choirs and orchestras over solo performances. Emily plays guitar, trumpet, keyboard, and other instruments, and has played and recorded with several Portland area bands over the past 15 years, including experimental indie-pop songwriting duo The Leaning Towers. Concept albums, "song-a-day" challenges, and creating songs from field recordings of local trains are a few of her varied musical projects. Emily also sings with Blueprint Ensemble Arts. She's excited to help other local emerging composers realize their creativity and hear their work performed. [www.theleaningtowers.com](http://www.theleaningtowers.com)

### **Sean Musaeus**

A *summa cum laude* graduate of Warner Pacific University with a degree in music theory and composition, Sean is an active composer, pianist, poet, and filmmaker. He has written music for a wide range of ensembles, from solo piano to choral and instrumental groups, and has scored a number of short films and video essays. He is also a winner of the Music Publishers Association national video scholarship and is the creator of the video essay channel *Musings*, which has over one million views on YouTube. Sean looks forward to additional commissions, compositions, and performances of his work. [www.soundcloud.com/Musaeus](http://www.soundcloud.com/Musaeus)

### **Kate Sattler**

Kate is a musician, composer, and creative producer with roots in Minneapolis and Portland. She took piano lessons as a child and has sung in choirs, but has no training in music composition. This concert is among the first performances of her choral work. This year, Kate released an indie music album under the name Sweet Freeze in which she wrote, performed, and recorded all of the songs. She's currently producing an accompanying collection of music videos. She has two kids and runs a creative agency for social justice organizations. Kate loves collaborating with other artists, producing music and film projects, and promoting storytelling and social justice through the arts. [www.sweetfreezemusic.com](http://www.sweetfreezemusic.com)

### **Philip Serino**

Philip Serino is an American composer, singer/songwriter, and producer. Serino earned his B.A. in 2012 in Music Composition, with a minor in vocal performance. He has extensive experience leading songs in church, summer camps, weddings, and special occasions. Serino's primary instrument is his voice, the piano is his blank canvas, and he can't wait to establish his own jazz band. Philip has a unique style and creative ability to press into the unknown. He gets bored performing the same thing twice and audiences can hear his passion for music. Philip considers himself a storyteller and strives to help others discover their own voice, so they, too, can express themselves as who they choose to be: "If you have a story, you have a voice." Philip looks forward to collaborating with artists on music and video projects and on efforts to ensure resources are available to everyone to express themselves through music. [www.youtube.com/philipserinomusic](http://www.youtube.com/philipserinomusic)

### **Marisa Wildeman**

Marisa Wildeman earned her Bachelor's of Music in Music Composition from Portland State University in 2016. She has since studied privately with internationally-acclaimed composer Eriks Ešņvalds in Riga, Latvia, and debuted original works at recitals in the Portland area. Marisa's compositions paint a surrealist soundscape that elicit strong emotions and envelope listeners in an evocative musical world. She blends her passion for the intimate nature of music with humanitarian concerns. Past vocal performances include a 9/11 tribute concert at Lincoln Center, a concert on Portland's Waterfront to benefit people experiencing homelessness, concerts with the Portland State Choir and Oregon Symphony, and international tours and competitions. She is a section leader in multiple church and community ensembles and teaches private voice and piano lessons to students of all ages. Marisa seeks to make composing a priority and to find niches in the community that inspire her and lead to lasting connections with other composers and singers. [www.soundcloud.com/marisa-wildeman](http://www.soundcloud.com/marisa-wildeman)

# lyrics

## **O Antiphons**

Kate Sattler

Composed in the sixth or seventh century, the O Antiphons are sung or chanted during vespers (evening prayer) and Catholic Masses December 17th through 23rd. Each of the seven O Antiphons begins with a title for Christ, drawn from the Book of Isaiah. The O Antiphons are paraphrased in the verses of the carol O Come O Come Emmanuel.

**O SAPIENTIA**, quae ex ore Altissimi prodiisti, attingens a fine usque ad finem, fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia: veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

*O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from one end to the other, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.*

**O ADONAI**, et Dux domus Israel, qui Moysi in igne flammae rubi apparuisti et ei in Sina legem dedisti: veni ad redimentum nos in brachio extento.

*O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flame of a burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come and redeem us with outstretched arm.*

**O RADIX JESSE**, qui stas in signum populorum super quem continebunt reges os suum, quem Gentes deprecabuntur: veni ad liberandum nos, jam noli tardare.

*O Root of Jesse, who stands as a sign among the people; before you kings will shut their mouths, to you the nations will bow in worship: Come and deliver us, do not delay.*

**O CLAVIS DAVID**, et sceptrum domus Israel; qui aperis, et nemo claudit; claudis, et nemo aperit: veni, et educ vincitum de domo carceris, sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

*O Key of David and scepter of the House of Israel; who opens and none can close; who closes and none can open: Come and lead those in bondage out of prison, those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.*

**O ORIENS**, splendor lucis aeternae, et sol iustitiae: veni, et illumine sedentes in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

*O Dawn (or Morning Star), splendor of light eternal and sun of righteousness: Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.*

**O REX GENTIUM**, et desideratus earum, lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque unum: veni, et salva hominem, quem de limo formasti.

*O King of Nations, and their desire, the cornerstone that makes both one: Come and save humankind, whom you fashioned from clay.*

**O EMMANUEL**, Rex et legifer noster, expectation Gentium, et Salvator earum: veni ad salvandum nos, Domine, Deus noster.

*O Emmanuel, our king and lawgiver, the hope of Nations and their Savior: Come and save us, O Lord our God.*

## **Set out to Sea**

Sean Musaeus

I stand on the shore and stare out to sea  
Watching gulls ride the air effortlessly  
When from the horizon a voice speaks to me  
Take your boat to deep water and let your nets free  
Oh put up your sail and set out to sea  
Take your boat to deep water and let your nets free  
So I put up my sail and I set out to sea  
I stand on the bow as I sail through the sea  
While wind and swell toss my boat endlessly  
And I wonder if I had been wise to heed  
A voice so soft that it speaks silently  
But then the clouds part the horizon peaks  
through  
And all that I see is the endless blue  
And I strain for the voice but it only repeats  
Oh put up your sail and set out to sea  
Take your boat to deep water and let your nets free  
Oh put up your sail and set out to sea  
Put up your sail and set out to sea

## **Ditches**

Emily MacDonald

We both woke up in ditches today.  
How did we let things get so far away?  
While our fingers dig deep, deep in the mud,  
and breathe life into clay.  
Make worship, the noises we made.

## **Storms**

Kate Sattler

Is silence coming to you?  
Will you be ready? Be true?  
Will you be grateful? Be cruel?  
Will you be ready?  
(It's coming)  
Hush little baby don't you cry  
I'm-a stay with you through the night  
Hush little baby  
It's just violence  
Is violence coming to you?

## **Winter's Song**

Marisa Wildeman

Naked roots exposed  
the cold wind whips ruthlessly  
through my brittle bones.

All dress up in white  
a quiet bride awaiting  
vows of warmer times.

Strange how the roses  
bloom with the fullest passion  
after the storm.

## **When I Rise Up**

Kit Abrahamson

Georgia Douglas Johnson, 1880-1966,  
Atlanta-born poet of the Harlem Renaissance

When I rise up above the earth,  
And look down on the things that fetter me,  
I beat my wings upon the air,  
Or tranquil lie,  
Surge after surge of potent strength  
Like incense comes to me  
When I rise up above the earth  
And look down upon the things that fetter me.

## **Fields of Gold**

Naama Friedman

Arrangement of Lyrics by Sting

You'll remember me when the west wind moves  
upon the fields of barley. You'll forget the sun in  
his jealous sky as we walk in fields of gold.  
So she took her love for to gaze awhile upon the  
fields of barley. In his arms she fell as her hair  
came down among the fields of gold. I never  
made promises lightly and there have been  
some that I've broken. But I swear in the days  
still left we'll walk in fields of gold. Many years  
have passed since those summer days among  
the fields of barley. See the children run as the  
sun goes down among the fields of gold. You'll  
remember me when the west wind moves upon  
the fields of barley. You can tell the sun in his  
jealous sky when we walked in fields of gold.  
I never made promises lightly and there have  
been some that I've broken. But I swear in the  
days still left we'll walk in fields of gold.

## Foris Choir

Kate Sattler founded Foris Choir to create a welcoming space for emerging choral composers to hear their work performed, gain exposure and encouragement, and connect with one another and with experienced singers as they develop their craft. She hopes the effort will engage and broaden the perception of choral composers to include artists across genres, regardless of formal training, as well as create a space for singers to share their expertise, mentor emerging composers, and shape choral works. Kate is a musician, composer, and creative producer. (See her composer bio for more details.) **Learn more at [forischoir.org](http://forischoir.org).**

### Michael Severson, *illumina* Concert Conductor

Michael Severson is a versatile pianist, conductor, and composer. He earned his Bachelor's in Music Performance from Lewis & Clark College, where he studied piano with Randy Porter and conducting with Katherine FitzGibbon. He performs frequently with jazz vocalists. He teaches up-and-coming singers at Portland Community College and Clark College in Vancouver and in private lessons through Chordination Music. Michael also enjoys singing and conducting choral music at Lewis & Clark College and Blueprint Ensemble Arts.

### St. Ignatius Church, *illumina* Concert Host

St. Ignatius Church is honored to be the inaugural host for the Foris Choir and is delighted that the voices of these emerging composers can find a welcome space at tonight's concert.

St. Ignatius is Oregon's only Jesuit parish; both the parish and its K-12 school follow the Jesuit tradition. St. Ignatius prides itself on being a welcoming space to all and in demonstrating their values through community engagement, social justice, and the celebration and nurturing of each individual's gifts. **Joseph and Grace Byrd** recently returned to their Portland roots and serve, respectively, as St. Ignatius' Coordinator of Faith Formation and Music Director. They earned Master's degrees from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY, and lived in Berlin, Germany, where Grace studied with violist Kim Kashkashian and Joseph premiered the rock opera "Resurrection!" Grace was Artist in Residence-Violist with the Kalamazoo Symphony and String Quartet for twenty years and Joseph was a facilitator with Shakespeare Behind Bars. Joseph is published by earthsongs and their new joint CD, "Yuletide Aurora," will be released in 2019.

*Thank you for coming!*

