



We Rise Again

Fiona Blackburn, *Artistic Director*
Cassie Luftspring, *Assistant Director*
Eric Hominick, *Collaborative Pianist*

June 2021

www.bcgirlschoir.org

A message from the Artistic Director

Welcome to the British Columbia Girls Choir's year-end concert of the 2020-2021 season. And what a season it has been, with rehearsals either cancelled or on Zoom, or shortened in-person rehearsals with distancing and masks. Throughout the year, we maintained our 'High Hopes' and knew that we would certainly 'Rise Again'. Themes of resilience, positivity and anticipation of a bright future run throughout the music of our concert. Performing in this video are our two training choirs (Vox Angelica and Serietta), the tour choir (Bella Voce), and our chamber choir (Allegria).

You will hear our youngest girls of ages 6 - 9 sing of a place in the clouds where all is goodness and light. They will also tell you about a little ant that, with determination and hope, was able to move a rubber tree plant.

The singers of Serietta will bring you a piece from the musical *Hamilton*, telling of their resolve not to give up trying for that 'one shot' to doing something great.

Serietta and our most senior singers join their voices for an interesting



*giving voice, enriching lives,
creating extraordinary music*

combination of Finnish and French – 'Yksi, kaksi, kolme, neljä' is a children's song, combined with French poetry that tells us that the world is always raging.

Allegria Chamber Choir performs a devastatingly sad story of a ship locked in the ice of Frobisher Bay. A favourite piece of these girls is 'No Time', which melds two camp meeting songs: "Rise, oh mothers rise, let's go meet them in the skies" and "No time to tarry here, for I'm on my journey home."

Bella Voce is our international tour choir. The girls perform three pieces. 'Is the B'y' is just plain fun and describes

the fishing life of our most easterly province, Newfoundland. 'Sure on this Shining Night' is one of the most profound pieces written for choirs, with the poetry speaking of the year that we have all experienced:

*The late year lies down the north,
All is healed, all is health.
High summer holds the earth.
Hearts all whole.
Sure on this shining night ...*

The concluding piece that Bella Voce performs is our theme – 'We Rise Again' – a beloved song from Canada's east coast. It speaks of our resolve to keep singing even when the light goes dark. That as sure as the sunrise, the waves on the ocean and the wind in the trees, we rise again in the faces of our children and in the voices of our song.

Thank you for watching our performance and for supporting BC Girls Choir through this most unusual year. Our hope is that you will see determination and joy gleaming in the eyes of every young singer, and know that each one is a part of a rejuvenation that will see us all rising again.

– Fiona Blackburn

The Singers

Vox Angelica

Avery Abbott
Isabella Austria
Zoe Cross
Katalia Huang
Olivia Naguiat
Claire Song
Kelsey Wong
Makenna Yuen

Serietta

Ava Marie Almeida
Joya Bevacqua
Qwynn Cunningham
Megan de Asis
Tanka Fagbamiye
Anna Guo
Ellary Hayre
Lucia Huang
Samantha Lancaster-Johnson

Charlize Naguiat
Saqu'iribal Norman
Mahira Pararajasingam
Morgan Robinson
Sarah Wang
Angela Webster
Rhian Worton
Shuang Wu
Sara Zhang

Bella Voce

Ella Grace Almeida
Claire-Annette Blaney
Makayla Bonavente
Elizabeth Drenska
Elizabeth Dwan*
Elizabeth Elgood*
Natalie Fong
Ava Hamill
Ashlyn Holloway
Nicole LeBlanc
April Leechi
Teagan MacLachlan*
Mahalia Nagel

Ariane Prescott*
Erin Ryu*
Tami Ryu*
Chiara Simas
Anastasia Spencer*
Cheryl Tang
Gioia Tang
Olivia Wright
Ada (Yushuo) Yang*
Cindy Fangdi Zhao*

*Allegria Chamber Choir singers



Thank you to Amelia Cook, Social Media Manager, for all the great photos and posts!
Share your BCGC photos at #bcgirlschoir; Facebook: British Columbia Girls Choir; YouTube: British Columbia Girls Choir; Instagram: BCGirlsChoir



We Rise Again

Program Order

* denotes Canadian composer, arranger or source material

Bella Voce

* I's the B'y Lyrics and music: Traditional Newfoundland folk song; Arranged: John Govedas

Vox Angelica

Castle on a Cloud, from *Les Misérables* Lyrics: Alain Boublil, Jean-Marc Natel & Herbert Kretzmer;
music: Claude-Michel Schönberg; Arranged: Linda Spevacek

Serietta

My Shot, from *Hamilton* Lyrics and music: Lin-Manuel Miranda; Arranged: Mac Huff
Rappers (in order): Saq'uiribal Norman, Rhian Worton, Samantha Lancaster-Johnson

Allegría

No Time Lyrics and music: Traditional camp meeting songs – 'Rise, O Father' & 'No Time'; Arranged: Susan Brumfield

Serietta and Allegría

* Yksi, kaksi, kolme, neljä / Le monde entier rugit Finnish lyrics and music: Traditional Finnish children's song
(Translation on next page) French lyrics: Élise Gauthier and music: Marie-Claire Saindon

Vox Angelica

High Hopes Lyrics: Sammy Cahn and music: James Van Heusen;
Solo: Kelsey Wong

Bella Voce

Sure on this Shining Night Lyrics: James Agee and music: Morten Lauridsen

Allegría

* Frobisher Bay Lyrics and music: James Gordon
Soloists (in order): Tami Ryu, Erin Ryu, Elizabeth Elgood

Bella Voce

* We Rise Again Lyrics and music: Leon Dubinsky; Arranged: Lydia Adams and Eric Hominick
Soloists (in order): Teagan MacLachlan, Ariane Prescott, Elizabeth Dwan



We Rise Again

Artistic Team

Fiona Blackburn, Artistic Director
Cassie Luftspring, Assistant Director
Eric Hominick, Collaborative Pianist

Administrative Team

Nicole Wright, General Manager
Lynn van Zanten, Director of Development
Cloudiverse CPAs Inc., Bookkeepers/Accountants
Amelia Cook, Social Media Manager

Production Team

Greg Bartels and Carla Olson, Gab Films, Cinematographers
Grant Rowledge, Audio Recording Engineer
Paddy Tennant, Graphic Designer (programme)
Elizabeth Dwan, Designer of song title cards (current Grade 12 member of BC Girls Choir)



BCGC Board of Directors

Gloria Loucks, President
Anne Mackintosh, Vice President
Eleonora Drenska, Treasurer
Paddy Tennant, Secretary
Sam Balden, Director
Maureen Enser, Director
Susan Kozak, Director

Sincere thanks to...

- Greg Bartels and Grant Rowledge for working this special project into their very busy schedules.
- Highlands United Church, North Vancouver – site of audio recordings.
- Riverside Community Church, Port Coquitlam – site of video recordings and rehearsal venue for in-person rehearsals during the 2020-2021 season.
- Every one of our singers and their families – you have steadfastly supported BC Girls Choir through this most unusual year.

The staff, board and singers of British Columbia Girls Choir acknowledge that we rehearse and sing on the unceded Indigenous land belonging to the Coast Salish peoples, including the territories of the Squamish, Sto:lo, Tsleil-Waututh, Kwikwetlem and Musqueam Nations. We are grateful for this privilege.

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Kelsey Wong's family
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Fei Wu
Xue Hong Wu
Michelle Xu
Vicky Zeng
Shelly Zhao & Simon Zhang

Yksi, kaksi, kolme, neljä / Le monde entier rugit

Yksi, kaksi, kolme, neljä (One, two, three, four)

One, two, three, four
Let (me) be happy
Because sadness will come
Let them go
Horseflies are singing
Four mice are jumping
A cat hits a drum
And the whole world is roaring

Le monde entier rugit (The whole world roars)

Do you feel your heart
Match the pulse of the world
To find happiness
The trees they dance
The leaves they wriggle
Your feet your hands your pulse your head
Have something to say
The bumblebees they growl
Ants trample
Your voice your breath your blood your life
The whole world roars