

A Chamber Choir concert extolling the  
virtues and wonder of music

# Ode to Music

Michael Murphy - *Artistic and Music Director*

Ken Grubbs - *Assistant Conductor*

With guest artist: Giselle Hillyer, violin

Music by Bernstein, Handel, Whitacre, Mozart, Dickau, Morley and much more

Sunday, February 9, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

Haddock Performance Hall

Moscow, Idaho



#### Tickets Available

Online at [www.palousechoralsociety.org](http://www.palousechoralsociety.org)

By calling the Box Office (509) 432-4796

At the door

Block tickets - 4/\$48

Adult tickets - \$15 each

Student tickets - \$8 each

PALOUSE  
CHORAL  
SOCIETY  
presents  
*Ode to Music*

under the direction of  
Michael Murphy, Artistic and Music Director  
Ken Grubbs, Assistant Conductor

Repertoire to be selected from the following:

Warm-up	Leonard Bernstein
Sing We and Chant It	Thomas Morley
Prepare the Hymn	George Frideric Handel
Laudate Dominum Jill Freuden, soprano	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Five Hebrew Love Songs Giselle Hillyer, violin Nick Courtnage, percussion Beth Stockinger, soprano Jan Keller, Reader	Eric Whitacre

**Intermission**

If Music Be the Food of Love Ken Grubbs, conductor	David Dickau
Banquet Fugue	John Rutter
Amazing Grace Matt Kelly, baritone	John Jacob Niles
Unexpected Song from Song and Dance Meredyth Goodwin, soprano	Andrew Lloyd Webber
Musical Risotto Jill Freuden, soprano Terry Keller, soprano	Jonathan Willcocks

Thank You for:

\*Turning off cellular phones, pagers, and watch alarms

\*Not using recording or photography devices

# Translations

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## Laudate Dominum

Praise the Lord, all nations;  
Praise Him, all people.  
For His has bestowed  
His mercy upon us,  
And the truth of the Lord endures forever.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,  
and for generations of generations. Amen.

## Five Hebrew Love Songs

I. A Picture  
A picture is engraved in my heart; Moving between light and  
darkness:  
A sort of silence envelopes your body, And your hair falls upon  
your face just so.

II. Light bride Light bride  
She is all mine,  
la la la la la la la. And lightly  
She will kiss me! La la la la la la la.

III. Mostly  
“Mostly,” said the roof to the sky,  
“the distance between you and me is endlessness;  
But a while ago two came up here,  
and only one centimeter was left between us.”

IV. What snow! What snow!  
Like little dreams Falling from the sky.

V. Tenderness  
He was full of tenderness;  
She was very hard.  
And as much as she tried to stay thus, Simply, and with no good  
reason,  
He took her into himself,  
And set her down  
in the softest, softest place.

## Selected Program Notes

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Thomas Morley was a student of William Byrd and is known particularly for his madrigals. His “Sing We and Chant It” advises us to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of youth, and shows the influence of the Italian *balletti* style in its use of “fa-la-la” refrains.

In *Laudate Dominum* from *Vesperae Solennes de Confessore* (1780), Mozart creates one of the most lyrical and beautiful soprano solos in all of his compositions. It is a gentle hymn of praise, with soaring, expressive melody for the soloist, accompanied by liquid, flowing instrumental lines. The chorus enters quietly at the *Gloria patri*, expressing the emotion of the section both softly and with fervor. Robert Adams notes that the chorus enters after the *Psalm* text is finished, singing the same music that the soloist sang at the beginning of the movement. He says: “The chorus also enters at the mid-point of the movement; musically it sounds as though the chorus is repeating the solo material, while textually it continues the text”. The soloist enters with exquisite embellishment at the *Amen*. The chorus states a final, quiet *Amen*, and the movement concludes with a gentle, rippling effect in the accompaniment.

*Five Hebrew Love Songs* (2002) are poems by poet and soprano Hila Plitmann. Each poem is a short “postcard” in the native tongue of Plitmann, who was born and raised in Jerusalem. Whitacre explains, “Each of the songs captures a moment that Hila and I shared together. Kala kalla (which means “light bride”) was a pun I came up with when she was first teaching me Hebrew. The bells at the beginning of *Eyze Sheleg!* are the exact pitches that awakened us each morning in Germany as they rang from a nearby cathedral. These songs are profoundly personal for me, born entirely out of my new love for this soprano, poet, and now my beautiful wife, Hila Plitmann.” Originally conceived as “troubador” songs for traveling soprano (Plitmann), violin (Freidemann Eichhorn) and piano (Whitacre), they now exist in several forms, including this version for SATB chorus, piano and violin.

David Dickau has served as Director of Choral Activities at Minnesota State University (Mankato) since 1991. He composed “If Music Be the Food of Love” as a commission for the Minnesota All-State choir. The text, by Henry Heveningham of Suffolk, England, draws its opening line from the first line of Shakespeare’s *Twelfth Night*, but transforms the original text from a skeptical treatment of love into a deeply romantic plea.

“Musical Risotto” (1992), is a delicious stew of almost 60 Italian musical terms served up in the style of Rossini, Handel, and Beethoven. You’ll hear *piano* (softly), *forte* (loudly), *crescendo* (louder), and *diminuendo* (softer). And you’ll be able to guess at others like *calmato* (calmly) and *ma passionato* (but passionately). But watch out for those more obscure ones like *strepitoso* (noisy, boisterous), *martellato* (hammered, strongly marked), and *affretando* (quickenning, accelerating)!

## Our Artistic and Music Director

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Michael Murphy made his debut as Artistic and Music Director of the Palouse Choral Society in 2009. Dr. Murphy has a wealth of conducting experience, ranging from the university level to community choruses, secondary school, and church. Critics, colleagues, and singers acknowledge Murphy's conducting and rehearsal style as passionate, enthusiastic, engaging, and above all, positive. Under his baton, Palouse Choral Society has increased its membership from fifty to over eighty singers and the concert series has grown to four concerts per year. In the summer of 2011, he accompanied PCS singers to the International Prague Choral Festival. Dr. Murphy is Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Conducting at the University of Idaho where he conducts three choral ensembles and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting and choral literature and techniques.

A native of Wilmington, North Carolina, Dr. Murphy received his degrees in Conducting and Choral Music Education from Florida State University and East Carolina University. He is the Founder and Co-Artistic Director of the annual Idaho Bach Festival. He is a member of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), the College Music Society, the National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO) and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). Dr. Murphy has had research published in national journals, and has presented clinics and served as an adjudicator for these organizations. He has also been elected to serve in leadership positions for these groups, including presently as President for the Idaho Chapter of ACDA and National Board Member of NCCO.

## Our Accompanist

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Elena Panchenko is originally from Ukraine and studied at the Moscow Conservatory where she earned her degree in piano performance, music history and music theory. She served as the Musical Director of the Penn State Opera for four years and performed the debut of two new operas, including *Mrs. Satan*, an opera about the life of the first woman presidential candidate, Victoria Woodhull. Working extensively as an accompanist and church musician, Elena has performed with groups as varied as a children's dance group to such well-known musicians as Francis Orval and David Shifrin, clarinetist and Music Director of Chamber Music at the Lincoln Center. In addition to Elena's duties with the chorale, she is also the Music Director at St. James' Episcopal Church in Pullman. Elena's family includes her husband, Alex, WSU Math Professor and former Ukrainian rock star (as is Elena), and her son Ivan, a university student.

## Palouse Choral Society Board of Directors & Staff

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## Our Singers

### **Sopranos**

Jill Freuden  
Meredyth Goodwin  
Terry Keller  
Lindsay McIntosh  
Beth Stockinger

### **Altos**

Judie Hanley  
Jan Keller  
Kirstin Malm  
Heather Nelson

### **Tenors**

Tom Brandt  
Nick Courtnage  
Ken Grubbs  
Chris McIntosh

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Matt Kelly  
Jim Reece  
Steve Swannack

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Giselle Hillyer maintains an active performing schedule as a violinist, as well as teaching violin and viola lessons in the University of Idaho Preparatory Division, and university music survey classes. Recent concerts include chamber music recitals with University of Idaho and Washington State University faculty, and performing as concertmaster in the Idaho Bach Festival. From 2006 - 2013 Giselle was an adjunct lecturer in violin and viola at the University of Wisconsin River Falls. She also frequently performed with her piano trio, Trio St Croix, and her string quartet, The Birchwood String Quartet. During this time Giselle also played with the St Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra and the Minnesota Opera Orchestra as a freelance musician.

Before moving to Wisconsin Giselle was an Associate Professor of Music at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. Originally from New Zealand, Giselle has a Master of Music degree from the New England Conservatory and a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Kansas. She is married to the pianist Roger McVey. They have three spirited children and one very affectionate cat.

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## Fulfilling part of our mission...

The Palouse Choral Society is committed to music education and providing hands-on leadership experiences in real-world situations for aspiring choral conductors. Throughout the concert season, University of Idaho undergraduate choral method students and students admitted into the Masters in Music Performance in Choral Conducting have opportunities to work with PCS singers. Opportunities include leading vocalises and conducting ensembles in rehearsal and performances under the personal supervision and instruction of Dr. Murphy.

This season we are pleased to welcome Ken Grubbs, a student in the Masters in Music Performance in Choral Conducting program, as our assistant conductor. Three years ago, Ken moved to the Palouse from Memphis, TN for a position with the UI ITS department. With a B.S. in Music Education from the University of Louisville, Ken has worked as a professional trumpet player, freelance musician, and musician contractor in Memphis and Minneapolis.

## *PCS Expresses our Excitement and Gratitude!*

When you attend our performance of Bach's *St. John Passion* on May 3 & 4, you will see us using our NEW seated risers! We thank all who contributed to the riser

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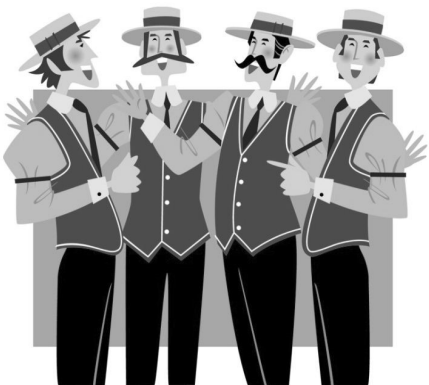
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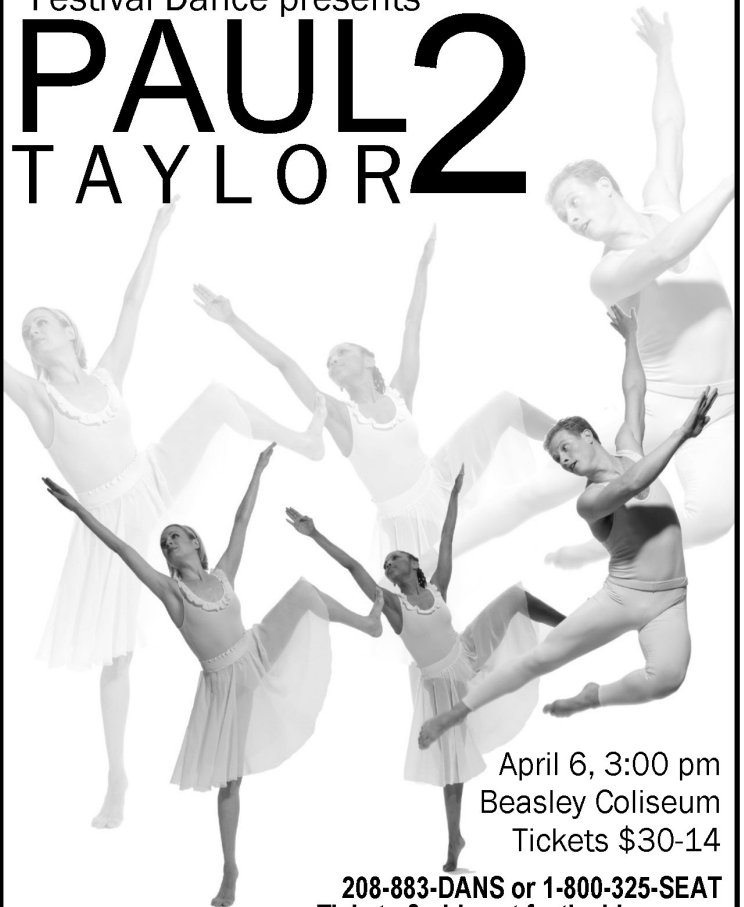
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