

CHORAL
SOCIETY Chorale & Chamber Choir

Richard Kriehn - mandolin ~ J.P. Shields - guitar Paul Ely Smith - banjo ~ Dave Snider - bass ~ Mabel Vogt - fiddle

Michael Murphy - Artistic & Music Director

Sunday, November 1, 2015 ~ 4:00 pm ~ St. Boniface Catholic Church ~ Uniontown, WA



# Chorale & Chamber Choir

present

# Amazing Grace

Celebrating our Bluegrass and Gospel Heritage with special guests:

Richard Kriehn - mandolin ~ J.P. Shields - guitar

Paul Ely Smith - banjo ~ Dave Snider - bass ~ Mabel Vogt - fiddle

under the direction of

Michael Murphy, Artistic and Music Director

#### Chorale

The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass

Phillip Branigan, tenor

Jill Freuden, soprano

Jacob Fulcher, tenor

Heather Nelson, alto

Stephanie Sant, alto

Beth Stockinger, soprano

Danika Stromberg, soprano

Lacy Sutter, soprano

## Intermission

**Chamber Choir** 

Down to the River to Pray

Beth Stockinger, soprano

A City Called Heaven

Hannah May, soprano

Angel Band Life is Like a Mountain Railroad

Meredyth Goodwin, soprano

Jacob Fulcher, tenor

Chloé Haagen, soprano

**Chorale Women** 

Will the Circle Be Unbroken

arr. David Moore

arr. Philip Lawson

Shawn Kirchner

arr. Nick Page

arr. Josephine Poelinitz

Carol Barnett

Marisha Chamberlain, poet

Paul Smith, arranger for Banjo score

**Chorale Men** 

I Am a Man of Constant Sorrow

arr. Kirby Shaw

Chorale

Unclouded Day Shawn Kirchner

Thank You for:

<sup>\*</sup>Turning off cellular phones, pagers, and watch alarms and not using recording or photography devices

## **Program Notes**

In the eighteenth century, immigrants from Great Britain and Ireland arrived in Appalachia, in the eastern United States, bringing with them the musical traditions of their homelands: English and Scottish narrative ballads and Irish reels (dances) with fiddle accompaniment. These were the seeds of the Appalachian country music known as Bluegrass. Later influenced by African-American music, Bluegrass also incorporated jazz elements, particularly syncopation. Bluegrass pioneer Bill Monroe pithily captures the spirit of the genre as "Scottish bagpipes and ole-time fiddlin'. It's Methodist and Holiness and Baptist. It's blues and jazz, and it has a high lonesome sound." It was Monroe Crossing, who, with Philip Brunelle's choir, VocalEssence, premiered Carol Barnett's The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass. Commissioned in 2007, the piece has since taken the choral world by storm. It was most recently performed at Carnegie Hall in February 2013, with Monroe Crossing and choirs from across the United States.

Composer Carol Barnett writes, "To bring the solemnity of the classical choir-based mass together with the down home sparkle of bluegrass—now there's an assignment. My highest hope is that listeners coming from one tradition—classical or bluegrass—and perhaps dubious about the other, might discover something new and wonderful in the combination, as I have. Composing the music for The World Beloved has given me the chance to write cheery sacred music—all too rare in a medium rife with staid and even lugubrious settings. And it's brought me back to memories of music heard while visiting my grandparents, country music with a church flavor that told stories and came out of a scratchy old record player. Grandma would not have allowed dancing, but under the table I tapped my toes."

The classical Latin Mass texts form the basis of the lyrics, interspersed with Marisha Chamberlain's evocative poetry, which adds a folksy piquancy. Chamberlain writes, "Bluegrass is more than a sound. The lyrics of so many bluegrass songs display an unpretentious, earthy philosophy that is easy to sing and easy to understand: Adam lives just up the street and Eve's the girl next door. Love is the major theme—frustrated yearning love, secretly satisfied love, or boldly proclaimed love. And although romantic love between two people is huge in bluegrass, so is the love of God, and the Gospel tradition. 'In this is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us,' according to John in the Gospel. This launches our Bluegrass Mass as an earthy immediate story of love between Creator and creation."

"Carol Barnett manages to honor both the classical choral tradition and the improvisatory impulse of bluegrass music in her contemporary rendition of the mass. She traverse(s) the two idioms quite ingeniously, bringing out the best in both ensembles. The contrasts between the sophisticated classical choral sound and the jubilant bluegrass harmonies (are) effectively used to make the text come alive...the triumphant Gloria...(is) an exuberant success...Poet Marisha Chamberlain creates lyrics giving each of the sections of the Catholic liturgy (Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, etc.) a contemporary interpretation. She also intersperses verses of a bluegrass ballad elucidating a joyful spirituality...with formality and jubilance well balanced in this life-affirming celebration." (William Randall Beard, Minneapolis Star Tribune, December 2007)

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# Palouse Choral Society

2015-16 Season • www.palousechoralsociety.org



## November 1 • 4:00pm

St. Boniface Catholic Church, Uniontown, Washington

PCS Celebrates the Music of our Bluegrass & Gospel Heritage

with Richard Kriehn, mandolin • Paul Smith, banjo • Mabel Vogt, fiddle • Dave Snider, bass



## December 4 • 7:30pm & December 6 • 4:00pm

St. Boniface Catholic Church, Uniontown, Washington

Messiah Highlights & Palouse Choral Society Children's Choir Debut! with Lynette Pfund, soprano • Christopher Pfund, tenor • Steven Mortier, bass



## February 14 • 4:00pm

Haddock Concert Hall, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho

**Northwest Composers** sung by Palouse Choral Society Chamber Choir with Palouse Choral Society Children's Choir



## April 15 • 7:30pm & April 17 • 4:00pm

Administration Auditorium, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho

## Carmina Burana

with Lynette Pfund, soprano, • Christopher Pfund, tenor • Richard Zeller, bass • Roger McVey, piano • Elena Panchenko, piano



Minnesota-based multi-instrumentalist Richard Kriehn has been playing with the house band on A Prairie Home Companion since June of 2010. Richard has played in symphony orchestras, bluegrass bands, baroque ensembles, pit orchestras, cover bands, country bands...but there is no one he would RATHER make music with than with his friends at Prairie.

While living in Nashville, he toured with Travis Tritt, Aaron Tippin and Michael Peterson, all the while playing in the Nashville Mandolin Ensemble and the bluegrass group 1946. He appeared numerous times on the Grand Ole' Opry and made appearances on The Rosie O'Donnell Show, Prime Time Country as well an episode of Walker, Texas Ranger.

Before he and his family moved to the Twin Cities, they lived in Eastern Washington where he was a faculty member in the School of Music at Washington State University.



John Paul Shields is a guitar performer, composer, and instructor with over 19 years of professional experience, currently based in Spokane, WA. A graduate of the University of Washington classical guitar program, John Paul has performed worldwide in a colorful array of settings, from public festivals in Peru to Seattle's esteemed Benaroya hall to live on radio and television. A passionate musician dedicated to the lifelong pursuit of learning, John Paul has played multiple genres of music, from solo to ensembles of all types and sizes, including classical, Latin, folk, rock, and jazz.

In 2008, John Paul's career moved him to Peru, where, in addition to performing and teaching, he studied the rich intricacies of Andean folk guitar music. Besides his work on Peruvian and classical guitar repertoire, Mr. Shields currently teaches guitar at Spokane Falls Community College in Spokane, WA, while returning to school for his masters at the University of Idaho in guitar performance. He additionally is collaborating in the guitar duo, South Hill Guitars, with University of Idaho guitar professor James Reid, as well as translating Método Guitarra Andina Peruana into an English ebook. Mr. Shields is also working on a solo guitar project that will summarize his work in both classical and Peruvian guitar



Paul Ely Smith is an independent composer, musician, and record producer living in Palouse, Washington and plays many stringed instruments. Besides his focus on the lost music of the African-American gourd banjo, he also plays Irish and North American fiddle music, piano, guitar, mandolin, rubab, al'ud, djembe, and krar.

Paul has done record production for other artists, but is now focusing on his own projects including his opera/musical "Cassandra" and working on a gourd banjo CD. He has worked in a remarkable range of venues, from performing the mandolin in the Washington-Idaho Symphony's staging of Mozart's "Don Giovanni" (February 2014) to performing his "Palouse ragas" on the Afghan rubab for restorative yoga in Palouse once a month.

Fall 2007 he received a commission to compose music for a devotional service being created by the Common Ministry at Washington State University and University of Idaho for people of no particular religion. The result, "Mosaic," was recorded in Spring of 2008 and the limited CD release is now sold

out. In Spring of 2006 he released a CD of his own musical compositions for Seattle-based performance artist Thomas Arthur called "Handmade." A CD of historic and original music for fretless gourd banjo that he recorded will be released in 2016. www.palouserivermusic.com



David Snider has been playing both electric and string bass for over 45 years. He performed in the San Francisco Bay area where he played all styles of music including rock, blues, country, and jazz in the late 60's and 70's. The 70's saw him as a section player in the Monterey County Symphony and directing groups in the US Air Force, performing all over the world in jazz bands, concert bands, rock bands, Ceremonial bands, and chamber groups and arranging over 500 charts for jazz band, rock bands, and concert bands. He has performed with many of the jazz greats including Jon Faddis, Gabe Baltazar, Booby Shew, Marvin Stamm, Lawrence Welk and many many others.

After retirement in 2003 he received his Masters degree from Washington State University. In 2006 he was hired to teach Rock & Roll history, jazz arranging, and jazz improvisation among many other jazz classes. He currently performs and directs the faculty jazz group, Jazz Northwest, and plays throughout the northwest. He also composes and arranges jazz charts for Walrus Publishing Company. No strangers to each other, he and Kriehn performed together for several years in the earlier part of this century.



Two-time Idaho Champion fiddler Mabel Vogt has played fiddle since 1972. Previously, she studied classical violin and played for 12 years in the University of Idaho Orchestra. Vogt has been a guest artist playing fiddle with the Moscow Chamber Orchestra and the University of Idaho Vandaleers. She is a member of the Spokane Scottish fiddle group Nine Pint Coggies, and played with the bluegrass band Blue Road Rounders.

Vogt enjoys participating in fiddle contests and festivals. She has won many regional, national and Canadian contest titles and has served as a judge at 50 competitions. She plays country, bluegrass, Celtic, Canadian, and Texas fiddle, as well as contest style. She performs at charity and social events, concerts and dances. She was honored with a Festival Dance award for contributions to the arts.

Teaching and passing on the tradition of fiddling is important to Vogt. She gives private lessons and has taught at many northwest music camps and workshops. Vogt has also contributed music in the commu-

nities of the Palouse for years with the Idaho Oldtime Fiddlers and her youth group Potlatch Junior Jammers. She plays piano and guitar as well as fiddle. A graduate of the University of Idaho and Washington State University, Vogt is a retired university German instructor.

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## Our Artistic and Music Director



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 Murphy¹s conducting and rehearsal style as passionate, enthusiastic, engaging, and above all, positive. Under his baton, Palouse Choral Society has increased its membership, operating budget, and the concert series to four concerts per year.

Dr. Murphy is Director of Choral Activities and Associate Professor of Conducting at the University of Idaho where he conducts choral ensembles, teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting, choral literature, and techniques, and administers the Masters in Choral Conducting program. He is the Founder and Co-Artistic Director of the annual Idaho Bach Festival. This spring Michael was recognized

with the University of Idaho Mid-Career Faculty Award for outstanding scholarship, teaching, and engagement.

Dr. Murphy serves as an active adjudicator and clinician for workshops, festivals, honor choirs and clinics in the northwest and southeast and his international conducting experiences include Austria, China, Czech Republic, and Germany. In 2015, Michael will represent the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) as a Conducting Fellow for the International Conductor Exchange Program in Sweden. As an active member, Dr. Murphy has held several state leadership positions in ACDA and NAfME. Presently he is President of the Idaho American Choral Directors Association and serves on the national board of the National Choral Collegiate Organization (NCCO). Murphy received his degrees in Conducting and Choral Music Education from Florida State University and East Carolina University.

As an active church musician, Murphy is the Choral Director at Trinity Lutheran Church in Pullman, WA. Michael resides in Moscow with his wife, Claire, and two sons, William and Colin.

## Our Accompanist



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 Woodhall. 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

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	+ Palouse Choral Society Section Leader	Leo West
	* Chamber Choir	Lynn Youngblood

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•	Concert Sponsor	\$2,500
•	Concert Partner	\$1,000
•	Benefactor	\$500
•	Patron	\$250
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•	Friend	\$50



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Contributions to PCS may be made through our website at www.palousechoralsociety.org or by mailing your contribution to: PCS, PO Box 8112, Moscow, ID 83843 For more information, please contact our executive director at 509.597.8917.

<sup>\*</sup>As always, discuss any planned giving strategies with your attorney or financial planner to take advantage of the opportunities that are right for you.

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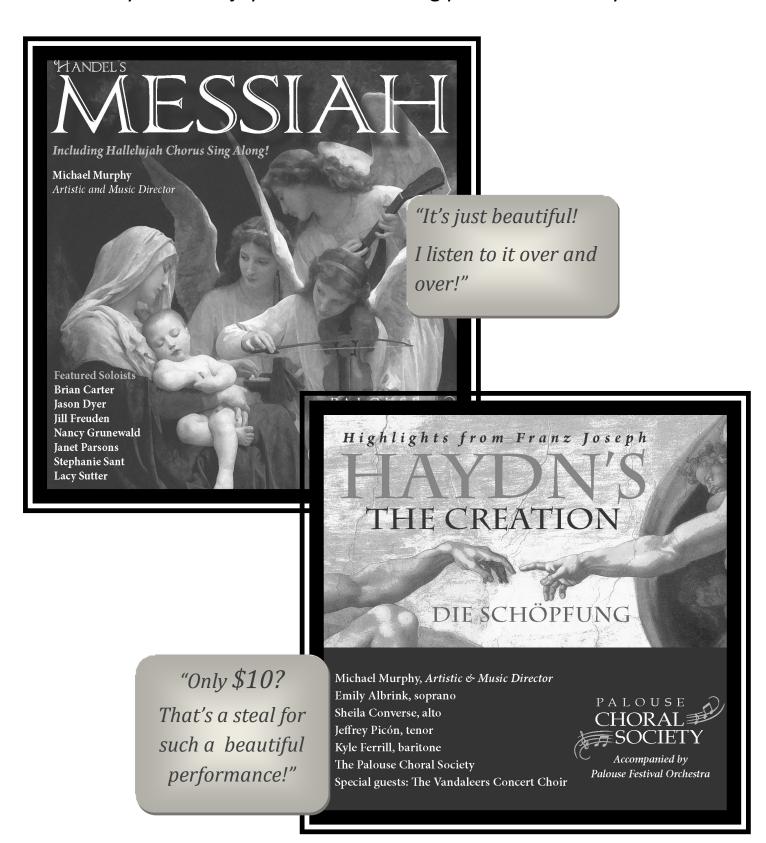
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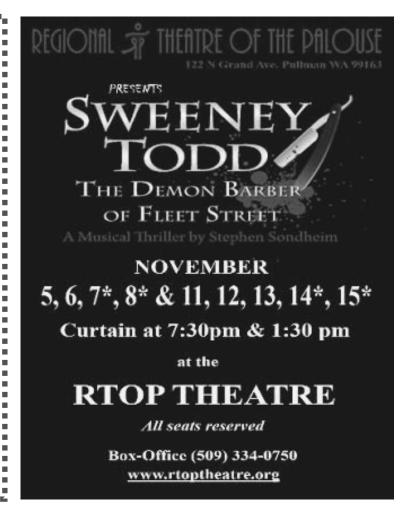
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