

Spring 2014

# Marshall University Music Department Presents The Marshall University Chamber Choir, In Concert, David Castleberry, Conductor

David Castleberry

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# THE MARSHALL UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHOIR IN CONCERT



*DAVID CASTLEBERRY, CONDUCTOR*

THIS CONCERT IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM  
THE MARSHALL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND MEDIA

The Marshall University School of Music and Theatre

presents

## The Marshall University Chamber Choir

In Concert

*David Castleberry, Conductor*  
*Mark Smith, Pianist*

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This program is presented by the College of Arts & Media through the School of Music and Theatre with the support of student activity funds. For more information about this or other music events, please call (304) 696-3117, or view our website at [www.marshall.edu/somt](http://www.marshall.edu/somt).

# Program

Verbum Caro Factum Est

Hans Leo Hassler  
1564-1612

Draw On, Sweet Night

John Wilbye  
1574-1638

Sfogava Con Le Stelle

Claudio Monteverdi  
1567-1643

Psalm 42: Wie der Hirsch schreit nach frischem Wasser

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy  
1809-1847

The Silver Swan

Orlando Gibbons  
1583-1625

Cantique de Jean Racine, Opus 11

Gabriel Faure  
1845-1924

Es Ist Verrathen  
Ich bin geliebt

Robert Schumann  
1810-1856

David's Lamentations: When David Heard

Sean Price  
b.1992

Nitaimba Sifa

*Sean Price, tenor  
Daniel Gray, percussionist*

Seth Ole Sululu

In Remembrance

Jeffery L. Ames  
b.1969

Sure On This Shining Night

Samuel Barber  
1910-1981

*Josh Stewart, horn*

Hymn to Saint Cecilia

Benjamin Britten  
1913-1976

The Road Home

Stephen Paulus  
b.1949

*Laura Campbell, Christa Navy, Mycah Pemberton, sopranos  
KeAnna Georges, Arika Michaelis, altos  
Gabriel Gray, Michael Rose, tenors  
Robert Nunez, Jacob Smith, basses*

Zion's Walls

Aaron Copland  
1900-1990

*David Castleberry, conductor  
Mark Smith, pianist*

## Soprano

Laura Campbell, Music Performance  
Amber King, Music Education/Special Education  
Alaina Krantz, Undecided  
Rebekah May, English Education  
Christa Navy, Music Education  
Myciah Pemberton, Music Performance  
Ali Perdue, Nursing  
Sarah Riddle, Music Education  
Jessica Starkey, Broadcast Journalism

## Alto

Caitlin Freeland, Medical Imaging  
KeAnna Georges, Music Performance  
Emily Goudy, Social Work  
Corynn Hawkins, Music Education  
Hillary Herold, Music Education  
Madelyn Mazzeo, Music Education  
Arika Michaelis, Music Education  
Halie Putorek, Psychology  
Olivia Watson, Music Education

## Tenor

Michael Bare, Graduate Music  
Asmar Brevard, Music Performance  
Jarohn Grandstaff, Jazz Studies  
Gabriel Gray, Music Education  
Sean Price, Music Theory and Composition  
Michael Rose, Music Performance  
Jacob Smith, Music Education/Religious Studies

## Bass

Jeffrey Dickerson, Microbiology  
Carver Eller, Music Education  
Daniel Gray, Music Education  
Robert Nunez, Music Performance  
Josh Steinle, Music Theory and Composition  
Josh Stewart, Music Education

## Spring Performances

- February 28: Mass for Heavy Rail, Dan Senn composer  
Marshall University New Music Festival  
Birke Fine Arts Symposium, Marshall University
- March 12: South Charleston High School, Charleston, WV  
Stout Memorial United Methodist, Parkersburg, WV
- March 13: Parkersburg South High School, Parkersburg, WV
- March 14: Workshop with students from Lacky,  
La Plata, McDonough, and North Point High Schools  
New Life, White Plains, MD
- March 16: Lexington Presbyterian Church, Lexington, VA
- March 30: Spring Home Concert  
St. John's Episcopal Church, Huntington, WV
- April 5: Chamber Choir Festival, Marshall University
- April 26: Concert with the Marshall University Chorus  
and Choral Union
- May 2,3: Carl Orff's Carmina Burana  
with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus

## Biographies

**The Marshall University Chamber Choir** is a select choral ensemble whose repertoire spans music of the past five centuries, from renaissance madrigals to newly composed works. Although many of the choir's participants are preparing for careers in music, membership is open by audition to students from the entire campus. The ensemble has made frequent spring concert tours, including a ten-day performance tour to France in 2012 that featured performance of Sunday High Mass at Paris's famed Cathedral de Notre Dame. The group has made frequent appearances at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina, and has performed with the West Virginia and Huntington Symphony Orchestras. The Chamber Choir is featured in an award-winning broadcast with West Virginia Public Television entitled *Choral Fusion* and may be heard through available CD recordings.

**Dr. David Castleberry** is Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Media and Director of Choral Activities. Under his leadership, the Chamber Choir has been recognized as one of the region's premier choral ensembles through recordings, concert tours, and premieres of new works. In addition to his leadership at Marshall University, Dr. Castleberry serves as Director of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus and as Director of Music at St. John's Episcopal Church in Huntington. He is a past President of the Southern Division of ACDA and has served twice as state President in West Virginia. He served for eight years as a member of the Editorial Board for Choral Journal, where he was Editor of the Sound Recordings review column and regularly contributed articles and reviews to the publication.

**The Marshall University School of Music and Theatre** is grateful for the support of many families and individuals who help make our department strong and vibrant. If you would like to support the Department of Music through a donation and assist with student scholarships, academic travel for students and ensembles, or general support of the department please contact:

**Melanie Griffis, Director of Development**  
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Music compositions, like other works of art, provide lenses through which we view composers, cultures, social-political movements, or historical eras. When a single concert spans four centuries, six languages, and a dozen composers, as this one does, the performers face the considerable challenge of just how to inhabit each of these worlds, the diverse demands they make, and the transitions that follow swiftly, one after another.

We might assume that subjective nineteenth-century works such as Felix Mendelssohn's Psalm 42 or Robert Schumann's colorful part songs would present the greatest hurdles. Yet, to identify and express the central themes of these pieces is actually a rather clear and straightforward task, if not an easy one. Far greater are the demands of Claudio Monteverdi's "Sfogava con le stelle," in which a disconsolate poet rails at the night sky and the stars that look down on his pitiable state. And, if the explosive energy of this madrigal poses challenges, greater demands still await singers who navigate Benjamin Britten's "Hymn to Saint Cecilia," with its perfectly structured verses by W.H. Auden, paying homage to music's patron saint. Such are the tests that delight and torment choirs who dare to explore more than the familiar or comfortable.

It is noteworthy, perhaps, that many of the singers in this choir are discovering these languages, these styles, and even these themes, with little previous experience to go on. The building blocks are laid out in rehearsal, worked and reworked, set aside; then, brought back for further examination, over a period of months. Along the way, this assembly of aspiring performers, future educators, and fun-loving students who have signed on purely for the love of making music, are challenged, changed, and made larger by the experience. That larger experience is what we hope to share through performance.

Naturally, not every piece carries the same degree of transformative power, nor should it. But, each does provide an affirmation important to listeners young or old; that in whatever thoughts or feelings we may have experienced, we find abundant evidence through music that traverses centuries, languages, and cultures, that our humanity is shared, and that we are not alone.

**David Castleberry**



COVER ART: "THE ROAD HOME"  
OIL ON CANVAS BY DAVID CASTLEBERRY