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600 Penn Avenue, Heinz Hall
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WE ALL SING!

Daniel Singer, Conductor

Walter Morales, Pianist



Scan the code for the digital program that includes full text and translations.

*Today's concert is performed in memory of Jeanne Miller,
Secretary Emerita.*

<i>Hosanna to the Son of David</i>	Thomas Weelkes
<i>A Jubilant Song</i>	Norman Dello Joio
<i>I Will Sing of Life</i>	Adolphus Hailstork
<i>When the Violin</i>	Reena Esmail Ryan Ash, cellist
<i>Singet dem Herrn</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach Ryan Ash, cellist
<i>Sing Me to Heaven</i>	Daniel Gawthrop
<i>Ave Maria</i>	Franz Biebl

WITH AUDIENCE:

<i>Lead With Love</i>	Melanie DeMore
<i>You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love.</i>	
<i>Love Is</i>	Abbie Betinis
<i>Love, love, love. All you need is love.</i>	

WITH MCP ALUMNI:

<i>Zion's Walls</i>	Aaron Copland, arr. Glenn Koponen
<i>Let Everything That Hath Breath</i>	Jeffrey L. Ames Willy Franklin, bass, and Bill Taylor, drums

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

Hosanna to the Son of David

Thomas Weelkes

Hosanna, to the Son of David.
Blessed be the King
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Thou that sittest in the highest heavens.
Hosanna in excelsis Deo.
(Matthew 21:9)

A Jubilant Song

Norman Dello Joio

O! Listen to a jubilant song.
The joy of our spirit is uncaged,
It darts like lightning!

Listen to a jubilant song,
For we sing to the joys of youth,
And the joy of a glad light-beaming day.

O! Our spirit sings a jubilant song
that is to life fill of music,
a life full of concord, a life full of harmony.

We sing prophetic joys of lofty ideals.
We sing a universal love awaking in the hearts of men.
O! to have life a poem of new joys,
To shout, dance, exult, leap.

O! to realize space and flying clouds,
O! to realize space, the sun and moon,
O! to be rulers of life,
O! to be rulers of destiny.

O! Listen to a jubilant song.
The joy of our spirit is uncaged.
We dance, exult, we shout and leap.
Listen to our song. O!
(adapted from Walt Whitman)

I Will Sing of Life

Adolphus Hailstork

Sing! I will sing!
If none will sing of life, then I will sing its praise.
Not in the treble voice of youth,
Not on instruments of one string,
Not by happy sounding brasses,
Nor by cadence sounding on drums would I praise life as those
who sing hymns only to the sun.
Forgetting nature in torment
Man in agony
I would sing soft and sad, surging with emotion, remembering
pain, fear and death.

The swamping morass and seed beds too where courage and life
began to bloom,
And man in sweat quivered at what he saw,
and man spoke in verse and ballade and epic, recounting glory,
learning self.
Hailing life, as the deep surge to be.

If none will sing of life then I will sing its praise, singing with deep
voice the hymn
that extols restless beings tense with destiny.

If none will sing of life, then I will sing its praise.
(Rev. Arthur Graham)

When the Violin

Reena Esmail

When the violin
Can forgive the past

It starts singing.

When the violin can stop worrying
About the future

You will become
Such a drunk laughing nuisance

That God will then lean down
And start combing you into Her Hair.

When the violin can forgive
Every wound caused by others

The heart starts singing.
(Hafiz, trad. Daniel Ladinsky)

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS (continued)

Singet dem Herrn

Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied,
die Gemeinde der Heiligen sollen ihn
loben.

Israel freue sich des, der ihn
gemacht hat.

Die Kinder Zion sei'n fröhlich über
ihrem Könige,
sie sollen loben seinen Namen im
Reihen;
mit Pauken und mit Harfen sollen
sie ihm spielen.

Wie sich ein Vater erbarmet
über seine junge Kinderlein,
so tut der Herr uns allen,
so wir ihn kindlich fürchten rein.
Er kennt das arm Gemächte,
Gott weiß, wir sind nur Staub,
Gleich wie das Gras vom Rechen,
ein Blum und fallend Laub.
Der Wind nur drüber wehet,
so ist es nicht mehr da,
Also der Mensch vergehet,
sein End, das ist ihm nah.

Gott, nimm dich ferner unser an,
denn ohne dich ist nichts getan
mit allen unsern Sachen.
Drum sei du unser Schirm und
Licht,
und trügt uns unsre Hoffnung
nicht,
so wirst du's ferner machen.
Wohl dem, der sich nur steif und
fest
auf dich und deine Huld verlässt.

Lobet den Herrn in seinen Taten,
lobet ihn in seiner grossen
Herrlichkeit.
Alles, was Odem hat, lobe den
Herrn.
Halleluja!

Johann Sebastian Bach

Sing to the Lord a new song,
the assembly of saints shall praise
him.

Let Israel rejoice in him who made
her.

Let the children of Zion be glad in
their king,
they shall praise his name in the
dance;
with timbrel and with harps they
shall play for him.

Just as a father has compassion
for his young, little children
so does the Lord treat us, the poor,
so we fear him purely, like children.
He recognizes poor humanity,
God knows we are but dust,
just like grass from a rake,
a blossom or a fallen leaf.
The wind simply blows it about
and it is there no more.
So too the human passes away,
his ending is nigh.

God, accept us furthermore,
for without you there is nothing
done
toward any of our concerns.
Thus be our shield and light,
and lest our hopes deceive us,
you will continue to do so.
Blessed be the one, who fast and
firm
surrenders himself to you and your
grace.

Praise the Lord for his acts,
praise him in his great splendor!
Let all that has breath praise the
Lord.
Hallelujah!

Sing Me to Heaven

Daniel Gawthrop

In my heart's sequestered chambers lie truths stripped of poet's gloss.

Words alone are vain and vacant and my heart is mute.

In response to aching silence memory summons half-heard voices,

and my soul finds primal eloquence and wraps me in song.

If you would comfort me, sing me a lullaby.

If you would win my heart, sing me a love song.

If you would mourn me and bring me to God,

sing me a requiem,

sing me to heaven.

Touch in me all love and passion, pain and pleasure, grief and comfort.

Sing me a lullaby, a love song, a requiem.

Love me, comfort me, bring me to God:

Sing me a love song,

sing me to heaven.

(Jane Griner)

Ave Maria

Franz Biebl

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae,
et concepit de Spiritu sancto.

The angel of the Lord announced
to Mary,
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus tecum,
Benedicta tu in mulieribus
et benedictus fructus ventris tui,
Jesus.

Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed are you among women,
And blessed is the fruit of your
womb, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.

Holy Mary, mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS (continued)

Lead with Love

Melanie DeMore

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love.

Don't give up hope.
You're not alone.
Don't you give up.
Keep movin' on.

Lift up your eyes.
Don't you despair.
Look up ahead.
The path is there.

I know you're scared,
And I'm scared too.
But here I am,
Right next to you.

Love is Love

Abbie Betinis

Love is love.
All we need is love.
Ubi caritas et amor.
Where there's love.
All we need is love.

Zion's Walls

Aaron Copland

Come fathers and mothers,
Come sisters and brothers,
Come join us in singing
The praises of Zion.

O fathers, don't you feel determined
To meet within the walls of Zion?
We'll shout and go round
the walls of Zion.

(John McCurry, The Social Harp)

Let Everything That Hath Breath

Jeffrey L. Ames

Sing unto the Lord a new song.
Sing unto the Lord all the earth.
Declare His glory among the nations.
Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord!

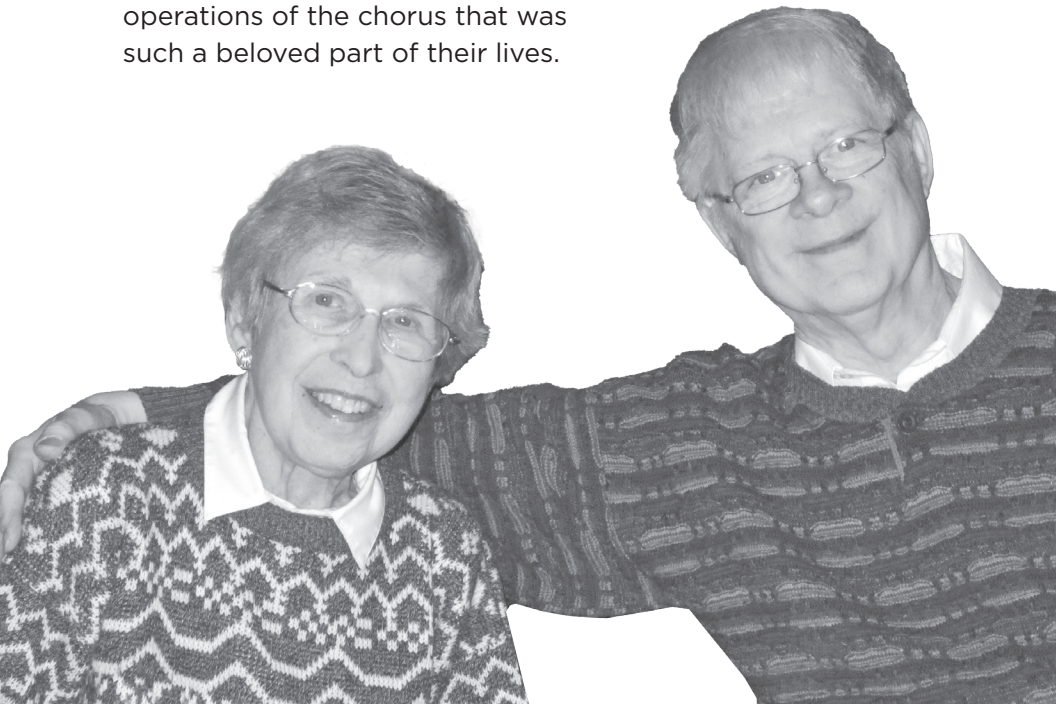
Magnify the Lord with me and exalt His name together.
Hallelujah, bless His name for He's worthy to be praise.
Clap your hands all ye people. Shout with a voice of triumph!
For the mighty Lord is great and greatly to be praised.

Praise Him with the timbrel, praise Him with the dance.
Stand up on your feet and just lift up holy hands.
Sing "Hallelujah," praise His holy name.
For the Lord is worthy to be praised!
(After Psalm 149 and 150)

A Tribute to Jeanne and Barry Miller

Today's concert is dedicated to the memory of Jeanne Miller, who passed away on Christmas Day. However, it is impossible to honor Jeanne without celebrating her partner in life and at the Mendelssohn Choir, Barry. In addition to singing with the chorus, Jeanne began volunteering as Membership Secretary in 1956 and Barry joined her as a volunteer in 1968 before becoming the Choir's business manager from 1979 to 2008. Throughout their tenure, Jeanne and Barry worked with six MCP music directors: Russell G. Wichmann, Henry Mazer, Hugh Johnson, Chester O'Bannon, Robert Page, and Betsy Burleigh.

To honor this extraordinary couple, the Mendelssohn Choir Board of Directors has named Jeanne Miller Secretary Emerita and Barry Miller remains the organization's Archivist, a title only he has ever held. Furthermore, we are delighted to announce the Jeanne and Barry Miller Fund that will be used to support the everyday operations of the chorus that was such a beloved part of their lives.



Jeanne (Woodgate) Miller

23 June 1926 – 25 December 2024



Jeanne was born June 23, 1926, in Toledo, Ohio, then moved to Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh as a child and attended Colfax Grade School on Beechwood Blvd. She then moved to Brookside Farms (now in Upper St. Clair) where she attended middle and high schools in the Mt. Lebanon School District. In middle school (Andrew W. Mellon Middle School), Jeanne received several scholarships and academic awards. As a student at Mt. Lebanon High School, Jeanne played basketball, was on the Student Council, sang in the choir and was a member of the Triple Trio in her senior year. (Side note: Jeanne's daughter and granddaughter were

also members of the Triple Trio when they attended Mt. Lebanon High School. We believe that this is the only family to be Triple Trio members for three direct generations.) Jeanne was also a member of the National Honor Society and graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School in 1944, with honors. Outside school, she enjoyed activities with her younger sister, Carol, and sang in the Westminster Presbyterian Church choir (where she was later married).

Jeanne graduated from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA in 1948 and continued her academic achievements by receiving multiple scholarships as a student there and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Jeanne sang and toured with the college choirs. She had multiple solo and small group opportunities and played the piano for some of the performances as well.

Jeanne wrote small poems and lyrics to songs during her school days and always enjoyed telling stories to friends, and later to her nieces and nephews, daughter, and grandchildren. After graduation, Jeanne worked at Reed-Smith & McClay law firm from 1948 to 1950, then went to the Ketchum, McLeod and Grove advertising agency as a stenographer. After a year, she was promoted to executive secretary, a position she held until her final retirement in 1989. While at Ketchum, she and several co-workers created and performed in a group called "The Brickettes" as part of the 1960 Miss Brick Throw contest in Syria Mosque. Friends and co-workers at Ketchum recalled Jeanne as kind, friendly, and hardworking, and Jeanne received many letters of commendation during her tenures with Ketchum (including a note from the late Jack Heinz) first from 1950 through 1963 and then 1979 through 1989.

Jeanne joined The Mendelssohn Choir in 1950 and was privileged to sing under the batons of conductors such as Robert Shaw, William Steinberg, Andre Previn, Michael Tilson-Thomas, and most notably, Robert Page. She was immensely proud of her 57 years of membership in the Choir, where she met her future husband Barry, which not only included singing but serving as membership secretary, Board secretary and

Choir secretary, during her tenure with the Choir and afterward, until she stepped down in 2008. This led to her traveling in the 1990s and early 2000 to Puerto Rico, Chautauqua, New York, England, and Wales with the Choir and many places in Europe with the Robert Page Festival Singers.

She enjoyed gardening and introduced her granddaughter to gardening and her grandson to the value of listening to others. She served as “cookie mom” when her daughter was a Girl Scout and had a large role in the raising of her grandchildren. She taught her daughter and grandchildren the value of kindness and of being yourself. Jeanne was always noted for her kindness and friendliness, her extraordinary memory for names and faces, and the readiness of a smile for everyone she met. She loved playing board games, especially Trivial Pursuit, where she was very hard to beat. Jeanne’s homemade chili and spaghetti sauce were family favorites. She enjoyed watching “Jeopardy!” and “Wheel of Fortune” (usually answering the ‘questions’ and puzzles before the contestants), as well as BBC shows such as “Upstairs, Downstairs,” “Keeping Up Appearances,” “Grantchester,” “Poirot,” and “Downton Abbey” to name but a few. She also had a great sense of humor, enjoying puns quite a lot, which also showed in her enjoyment of comedies such as “The Dick Van Dyke Show” and “The Mary Tylor Moore Show.” A favorite family memory is hearing her distinctive laugh when watching “Bob Newhart.” She would watch “Thomas the Tank Engine” and endless Disney movies with her grandchildren, often helping them create blanket “forts” where the kids would sit and watch the movies or shows, often with a snack she’d given them.

Jeanne will be remembered fondly and missed greatly by all who knew her, but music, literature and those activities we all participated in with her will continue to keep her memory and love alive in us all.

The Jeanne and Barry Miller Fund Donors*

*(*includes gifts received through March 24, 2025)*

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Plus a very special gift from
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DANIEL SINGER, *Robert Page Music Director*

Daniel Singer is an accomplished conductor, vocalist, and music educator who harnesses his lifelong love of music to inspire choruses to achieve new heights of excellence in choral performance.

In 2023, Daniel was appointed Robert Page Music Director of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (MCP), the “chorus of choice” of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO). In this role, Daniel

prepares a chorus of more than 100 singers to perform alongside the PSO under the direction of conductor Manfred Honeck for tens of thousands of people each year. He also leads the chorus in performing self-produced concerts that push artistic boundaries and reimagine choral music for the 21st century. Daniel has been a member of The Cleveland Orchestra conducting staff since 2012, where he serves as Assistant Director of Choruses and Director of the Youth Chorus. He has prepared choruses to perform under the batons of acclaimed conductors Franz Welser-Möst, Jakub Hrůša, Vinay Parameswaran, and Brett Mitchell, and he has assisted Director of Choruses Lisa Wong in preparing choruses for John Adams, Alan Gilbert, Jane Glover, and Matthias Pinscher. Daniel served for two years as Chorus Director for the Contemporary Youth Orchestra (Cleveland), where he readied singers for performances alongside rock icons Melissa Etheridge and Tommy Shaw.

Daniel served on the music faculty at The College of Wooster where he taught courses in conducting, music education, and theory. Daniel previously served for 11 years as Director of Music at University School in Hunting Valley, Ohio, where he taught chorus and orchestra. He is also active as a guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician, and has led honor choirs and school ensembles in Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and North Carolina.

Daniel has sung with orchestras as a baritone soloist in performances of Handel’s *Messiah*, the *Requiem* masses of Mozart, Fauré, and Duruflé, and Vaughan Williams’ *Hodie*. Recent seasons included concert performances with the Wooster Symphony Orchestra, recital performances in Toronto and Wisconsin, and performances of the National Anthem in Louisville and Akron. Daniel also sang as a professional chorister with Apollo’s Fire (Cleveland), Quire Cleveland, and The Lakeside Singers (Chicago) and has sung with both The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and the Chicago Symphony Chorus.

Daniel has contributed to a variety of musical theater productions as music director, conductor, orchestrator, and rehearsal pianist. His professional theater credits include work with Metropolis Performing Arts Centre (Chicago), Big Noise Theatre Company (Chicago), and Northwestern University. In 2022, Daniel conducted the regional premiere of Cathy Lesser Mansfield’s opera *The Sparks Fly Upward* at the Maltz Center for the Performing Arts (Cleveland).

During the 2020-21 season, Daniel served as assistant director and score reader for The Cleveland Orchestra’s *In Focus* streaming series, and he has since been involved in video capture for the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and the Handel and Haydn Society. Daniel is also an arranger and composer, having written for choral and instrumental groups throughout the United States. In addition, Daniel is co-owner (along with violinist Andrew Sords), editor, and engraver for Green Point Editions, a music publication company that brings to light deserving works on the repertory’s periphery.

Daniel holds a Bachelor of Music degree *summa cum laude* in music education from Northwestern University and a Master of Music degree in conducting from Michigan State University.



WALTER MORALES, *pianist*

A native of Costa Rica, Walter Morales has been the Music Director of the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra since 2004. His previous positions include Music Director of Undercroft Opera, Music Director of the Carnegie Mellon University Contemporary Ensemble, Head of Music of Opera Theater of Pittsburgh, Principal Guest Conductor of the Pittsburgh Philharmonic, Assistant Director of Orchestral Studies at Carnegie Mellon University and Assistant Conductor of the Carnegie Mellon Philharmonic. He has been a

guest conductor with the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica, Heredia Symphony Orchestra, Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra, Butler County Symphony Orchestra, McKeesport Symphony Orchestra, Pittsburgh Youth Chamber Orchestra, Opera Theater of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Youth Chamber Orchestra, University of Costa Rica Symphony Orchestra, University of Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and Rutgers Chamber Orchestra. He has served as cover conductor for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Equally at home in opera, Morales has conducted for Opera Theater of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh Festival Opera) *Der Kaiser von Atlantis*, *Bluebeard's Castle*, *A View from the Bridge*, *Noyes Fludde*, *Amahl* and the *Night Visitors*, *The Impresario*, *Die Fledermaus*. And Djamilah as well as their most recent productions of *A Little Night Music*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Julius Caesar*, *Xerxes*, *Rhinogold* and *The Valkyrie*. For Carnegie Mellon University Opera he has conducted productions of *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and *Die Fledermaus*. As Music Director of Undercroft Opera, Morales conducted their productions of *The Marriage of Figaro*, *La Clemenza di Tito*, *Susannah*, *The Barber of Seville*, *Carmen*, *Norma*, *The Magic Flute*, *Aida*, and *Die Fledermaus*.

Morales is the First Prize winner of the 2015 American Prize in Conducting (Community Orchestra Division). In 2016, he was awarded Third Place of the American Prize in Orchestral Conducting (Professional Division/Westmoreland Symphony) and Second Place in Opera Conducting (Professional Division/ Figaro Redux with Pittsburgh Festival Opera. In 2017, he was awarded Third Place in Opera Conducting for Julius Caesar with Pittsburgh Festival Opera and *Die Fledermaus* with Carnegie Mellon University Opera. He was also a semifinalist of the 2018-19 American Prize in Orchestral Conducting (Edgewood Symphony), Orchestral Programming (Edgewood Symphony), Opera Conducting (Xerxes with Pittsburgh Festival Opera), Opera Performance (Elektra with Chatham Concert Opera) and Piano Solo Performance (Beethoven Piano Sonatas).

An active concert pianist and recording artist, Morales has toured through out the United States, Central and South America. His recordings as conductor and pianist can be heard on the Centaur, Mode, Zimbel, and Quindecim labels. Through his numerous performances as conductor and pianist, Morales has become one of the foremost interpreters of Costa Rican music in the world. For more information about Walter Morales please visit: www.waltermoralesmusic.com

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The Music of Star Wars

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