

Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir
The background of the entire poster is a painting of a cemetery in autumn. A large, winged angel statue sits on a pedestal in the center-right, surrounded by vibrant red and orange foliage. To the left, a Celtic cross and other tombstones are visible among trees with falling leaves. A flock of birds flies across the top of the scene.

A RITE OF REMEMBRANCE

November 7th, 2026

This candlelit experience honors the ones we have loved and lost
while we cherish their legacy.

Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir

A RITE OF REMEMBRANCE

Saturday, November 7th, 2026 at 7:30 P.M.
St. Paul Center for Music & Arts | Denver, CO

Conductor: Andrew Adams

Pianist: Molly Moran | ASL Interpretation: Tofer Breüer

Welcome to the Orpheus Rite of Remembrance.

Thank you for joining us in this solemn occasion.

Here are some things you need to know:

Out of respect for our beloved dead, please
observe reverent silence in the sanctuary.

There are tea lights on the table with the cornucopias.
You are welcome to take one for each loved one you are
remembering tonight. After lighting it,
take it to the graveyard and place on the appropriate gravesite.

There is a Book of Remembrance on the lectern. You may write whatever
you wish concerning your loved one(s) in it. After the concert,
the pages will be ritually burned and any tea lights that are still lit
will be extinguished and re-lit later to finish burning down.

You may light a candle and/or write in the Book of Remembrance
before the concert starts, or you may wait until afterwards
as you are so moved.

If you have any photos or other memorabilia that you wish
to place on the main altar, you may do so.

Remember to retrieve them once the Rite is over.

Note: If you light a candle and place it on the main altar,
PLEASE place it on one of the saucers provided.

Thank you and Blessed Be

Special thanks to Michael Davida for creating and providing the
Visual Design of tonight's Altar Space and Graveyard.

Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir exists to broaden the greater community's understanding of Pagan beliefs and influences through innovative choral experiences. The singers in Orpheus follow Earth-based spiritual traditions or are Pagan-friendly. We explore the Pagan presence in traditional choral music, the emerging new Pagan choral repertoire, and more.



Andrew Adams, Founder & Music Director, has been music director of numerous churches and temples in the New York and Los Angeles metropolitan areas. As a professional singer, has appeared with the New York Philharmonic, Opera Ensemble of New York, the St. Thomas Choir, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Spoleto Festival USA, Festival de Due Mondi, Italy; and in concert and recital in the US and Germany. As a soloist with the Westminster Choir, he performed frequently with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Vienna Philharmonic, and others under Zubin Mehta, Riccardo Muti, Kurt Masur, and Robert Shaw.

Mr. Adams holds two graduate degrees from Westminster Choir College, is a published composer/arranger, and maintains a private voice studio in Denver.



Molly Moran, pianist, has received praise as “a musician and pianist of uncommon insight and versatility” with an “intuitive grasp of the intentions of her colleagues.” Molly Moran is one of the Front Range’s most sought-after collaborative pianists. Since graduating with honors from the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music, Molly has performed with several of Colorado’s orchestras, chamber groups, and choirs. She is the preferred partner of some of the finest singers in Colorado.

We believe that the innovative choral experience that is Orpheus builds a diverse community and enriches lives. Your support makes this possible.

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Lumen (Light)

Music: Abbie Bettinis (2012)
Lyrics: Anonymous Latin aphorisms

Lumen accipe et imperti
Do ut des.

Receive the light and pass it on
I give that you may give.

More Than Enough

Music: Susan LaBarr (b. 1981)
Lyrics: Wendell Berry (1934-2026)

Growing weather; enough rain;
the peach tree bent with its yield;
the pastures deep in clover and grass,
enough, and more than enough.

the talk of friends, lightened and
cleared by all that can be assumed.

Honey golden in the white comb;
the ground moist underfoot,
the feet yielding in it as roots,
enough, and more than enough.

Sleep after love, dreaming,
white lilies blooming; after sleep,
morning a clear gift.

The work of feeding and clothing
and housing done with more than
enough love,

The great beech, its leaves gold-lit,
branches blown down in the fall,
a footbridge over the stream:
enough and more than enough.

Reading: The Wild Geese

W. Berry

Hymn to the Eternal Flame

Music: Stephen Paulus (1949-2019)
Lyrics: Michael Dennis Browne (d. 2026)

Every face is in you,
Every voice, every sorrow in you,
Every pity, every love,
Every memory, woven into fire.

Every singing, every hope,
Every healing, woven into fire.
Every heart is in you,

Every blessing, every soul,
Every tongue, every trembling in you,
Every cry, every longing in you,

Every blessing, every soul,
Every tongue, every trembling in you,
Every shining, woven into fire.

Seven Generations

Music and lyrics: Moira Smiley (2023)

Shall we go on?
Shall we go on together?
(oh, it's too hard alone)
I see the seven generations looking
back this way.
My daughter tells me the future's in
my hands.

My granddaughter says the future's
in my heart.
My great grandson remembers
my hands.
My great granddaughter holds
my heart.
Remember your heart.
Remember.

Elegy *Music: Robert S. Cohen (2007)*
Lyrics: Hyam Plutzik (1911-1962)

He walked quietly among the
 loud ones,
 In the first world and the eternities
 following,
 Till the pale flame of the spirit sank
 And flickered out in the last wilderness

There on a plain vast and shadowy
 Come at last those who have run their
 course,
 Where the minions of the gods regard
 them coolly and see
 As in a fog the starved fires sinking.
 It is pitiful how long the test goes on.

Some swagger and shout but he
 walked quietly.
 Some were lonely, but there was a
 kindred spirit
 That passed with him through the
 metamorphoses
 And failed beside him after the race
 was done.

Together they spurned the immense
 coils of Being
 The poised darkness,
 the blows of the answerless Ocean.

Earth Song *Music and lyrics: Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)*

Sing, Be, Live, See...
 This dark stormy hour,
 The wind, it stirs.
 The scorched earth cries out in vain:
 O war and power, You blind and blur.
 The torn heart cries out in pain.
 But music and singing

Have been my refuge,
 And music and singing
 Shall be my light
 A light of song shining strong: Awen!
 Through darkness, pain and strife,
 I'll Sing, Be, Live, See...
 Peace.

When we only have love *Music and lyrics: Jacques Brel (1929-1978)*
arr. Andrew Adams (b. 1955)

When we only have love,
 love that you and I share
 Then our joy will ignite
 each day of each year.

When we only have love
 and with arms open wide
 the the young and the old
 will stand at our side.

When we only have love,
 we'll embrace without fears,
 we will kiss with our eyes,
 we will sleep without tears

When we only have love
 love that's falling like rain
 then the parched desert earth
 will grow green again

When we only have love,
we can challenge our fate,
and we'll walk a new path
only we can create

When we only have love
we can reach those in pain
we can heal all our wounds,
we can speak our own names

When we only have love
we can silence the guns,
and then give the new world
to our daughters and sons

When we only have love,
then the righteous will stand

and then death has no shadow,
there are no foreign lands,

When we only have love,
we will never bow down.
We'll stand tall with the dead,
and make justice resound.

When we only have love,
then as women and men,
we will drink from the grail
to be born again

Then with nothing at all
but the love that is ours,
we will conquer all time,
all space, the sun, and the stars.

Reading: The Sleeper in the Valley (Le Dormeur du Val)

Arthur Rimbaud (1854-1891)

I have got my leave *Music: A. Adams*
Lyrics: Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941)

I have got my leave.
Bid me farewell, my brothers!
I bow to you all
and take my departure.

Here I give back the keys
to my door
and I give up all claims
to my house.
I only ask for last kind words from you.

We were neighbours for so long,
and I received more
than I could give.
But the day has dawned
and the lamp that lit my
dark corner is out.

A summons has come and I am ready
for my journey.



Johnny I Hardly Knew Ye . . . *Music and Lyrics: Joseph B. Geoghegan (1815-1889)*
arr. Alice Parker (1925-2023)

While goin' the road to sweet Athy
Hurroo hurroo
While goin' the road to sweet Athy
A stick in me hand, a drop in me eye
A doleful damsel I heard cry
Johnny, I hardly knew ye

With your drums and guns and drums
and guns
Hurroo hurroo
With drums and guns and drums
and guns
The enemy nearly slew ye
My darling dear, you look so queer
Johnny, I hardly knew ye

Where are your eyes that were
so mild?
Hurroo hurroo
Where are your eyes that were
so mild
When my heart you so beguiled?
Why did ye skedaddle from me and
the child?

Johnny, I hardly knew ye
Where are your legs that used to run?
Hurroo hurroo
Where are your legs that used to run
When you went for to carry the gun?
Indeed, your dancing days are done
Johnny, I hardly knew ye

I'm happy for to see you home
Hurroo hurroo
I'm happy for to see you home
All from the island of Ceylon
So low in flesh, so high in bone
Faith, Johnny, I hardly knew ye

With your drums and guns and drums
and guns
Hurroo hurroo
With your drums and guns and drums
and guns
The enemy nearly slew ye
My darling dear, you look so queer
Johnny, I hardly knew ye

Look down, fair moon *Music: Mari E. Valverde (2023)*
Lyrics: Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

Look down, fair moon and bathe
this scene,
Pour softly down night's nimbus
floods, on faces ghastly, swollen,
purple;

On the dead, on their backs, with their
arms toss'd wide,
Pour down your unstinted nimbus,
sacred moon.



After the War Music and lyrics: Paul Gross and David Keeley (2008)
Arr. Mark Sirett (b. 1952)

After the guns are silent, after your
wounds have healed,
After those crosses been planted in all
those fields,
After that long boatripe all the way
across the sea.
And after this train carries thee.
Refrain: I will love you after the war.
I'll love you for always for evermore.
I will love you after the war,
Forever, for always, and more.

After my boots dried and the
tobacco's all but gone,
Along with the postcards I've carried
under my arm,
After I remember all the words I
couldn't say,
And after this long night fades away.
Refrain
After this blackbird lifts up from off
your chest,
And after your soul takes its final rest,
My love please forgive me
I never planned to die,
And love, place two pennies o'er
my eyes.
Refrain

Reading: A Prayer Anonymous

Safe Places of the Heart Music: R. S. Cohen (2016)
Lyrics: Ronald W. Cadmus

Written in response to the PULSE Nightclub massacre—June 12, 2016.

My heart will be a home for you
Where in the window of our dreams
The cause of right comes shining
through
Where every word is kind
Where every spoken word is kind

Where outstretched arms
embrace diversity
And open and affirming minds
Encourage others to be free
Striving for equality
Respecting each one's dignity
To love who we were born to be.

No one is alone
By holding hands we sing out loud
And take the stand that we are proud.
To change the world through love,
somehow.

When there is love
There is no room for prejudice
No act of hate can ever help create
Safe places of the heart
With one voice we will celebrate
How we were made
Love whom we choose.
And hope, within our darkest nights,
Will lead us to the rainbow's light.

When stares despise the way we love Our eyes will speak of deeper grace Cause love keeps truth within its sight As it dares to speak its name So our self-worth can be proclaimed... No one is alone By holding hands we sing out loud And take the stand that we are proud	To change the world, through love, somehow. When there is love There's nothing that the heart can't do. Together we will raise our voice Claim who we are is not a choice See ourselves in different ways While living in safe places of the heart.
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Reading: Immortality	Clare Harner (1909-1977)
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Into the West	<i>Music and lyrics: Annie Lennox and Howard Shore (2003)</i> <i>arr. Alan Billingsley</i>
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Lay down your sweet and weary head. Night is falling. You have come to journey's end. Sleep now. Dream of the ones who came before. They are calling from across the distant shore.	And all will turn to silver glass. A light on the water, all souls pass.
Why do you weep? What are those tears upon your face? Soon you will see all of your fears will pass away. Safe in my arms, you're only sleeping.	Hope fades into the world of night through shadows falling out of memory and time. Don't say that we have come now to the end. White shores are calling. You and I will meet again. And you'll be here in my arms just sleeping.

<i>Refrain:</i> What can you see on the horizon? Why do the white gulls call? Across the sea, a pale moon rises. The ships have come to carry you home.	<i>Refrain</i> A light on the water, grey ships pass into the West.
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Reading: Hymn For The Hurting	Amanda Gorman (b. 1998)
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You Do Not Walk Alone	<i>Music and Lyrics: Elaine Hagenberg (2019)</i>
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May you see the light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark. May you always hear even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark.	When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone. May you always remember when the shadows fall You do not walk alone.
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Whether you're a business looking to connect with our engaged audience, or an individual who believes in the power of community arts, we'd love to explore how we can partner together.

Sponsorship packages and program advertising options are available and can be tailored to your goals.

Interested?

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Inspired by the Yule celebrations of ancient Britain and Scandinavia, our 12th Night Yule Concert and Viking Feast is a magical evening of glorious music and merriment, with a real Boar's Head

Saturday, January 2, 2027 at 6 P.M.

First Baptist Church of Denver | 1373 Grant Street, Denver, CO

Mythic Dreams

Dreams both ancient and future told in words and music by Shakespeare, Maurice Ravel, Langston Hughes, and others, followed by our epic re-telling of the myth of Orpheus.

Friends & Family Preview Concert

Saturday, April 3, 2027 at 11 A.M.

Full Concert

Saturday, May 8, 2027 at 7:30 P.M.

Both concerts at: St. Paul Center for Music and the Arts
1600 Grant St. | Denver, CO 80210

Find us online at orpheusccc.org



In Memoriam

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Evonne Rogers
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Ann Stoenner
Carol VanAlstine
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A Voice Remembered. Though a voice may fall silent, its song remains.



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Alex Breed
Terry Cabeen
David Carpenter
Richard Cornelius
Amelia Davis
Andrea Davis
Christopher Ellmann
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