Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir

A Rite of Remembrance

Saturday, November 4th at 7:30 PM Wash Park Center for Music and the Arts, Denver

Please observe sacred silence when you enter the hall and throughout the rite.

Lumen Hymn to the Eternal FLame

READING: Prayers to the Earth and the Ancestors by Anonymous

Con amores, la mi madre Homage

READING: A Blessing for One who has Died to Save Others by Starhawk (b. 1951)

I Have Got My Leave Scarborough Fair Lullaby After the War

READING: A Litany for Sitting with the Unjustly Killed by Melissa Hill (2017)

Requiem Farlorn Alemen

Reading: A Prayer by Anonymous

Prayer

READING: A Litany of Remembrance by Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer (1975)

Silent Prayer Rest Orison

READING: Hymn for the Hurting by Amanda Gorman (b. 1998)

You Do Not Walk Alone





Welcome to Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir's Annual Rite of Remembrance

Out of respect for the dearly departed, please maintain 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.

Note: If you light a candle and place it on the main altar **PLEASE** place it on one of the saucers provided. Don't forget to retrieve your things once the rite is over.

Thank you and Blessed Be

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

Lumen accipe et imperti Do ut des. Receive the light and pass it on I give that you may give.

Lyrics: Michael Dennis Browne (b. 1940)

Soloist: TBD

Every face is in you,

Every voice, every sorrow in you,

Every pity, every love,

Every memory, woven into fire.

Every breath is in you,

Every cry, every longing in you,

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 shining, woven into fire.

Reading: Prayers to the Earth and the Ancestors

Con amores, la mi madre, Con amores m'adormí; Así dormida soñaba Lo que el corazón velaba, Que el amor me consolaba Con más bien que merecí. Adormecióme el favor Que amor me dió con amor; Dió descanso a mi dolor La fe con que le serví Con amores, la mi madre,

Con amores m'adormí!

With loving, I fell asleep
Due to your love, mother,
With loving, I fell asleep;
While sleeping, I dreamed
What was in my waking heart,
That love consoled me
More than I deserved.
I was lulled to sleep through the favor
Of your love given to me lovingly;
I was allowed to relax from my pain
Through faith which supports me
Due to your love, mother,

Inside the doorway, fleeting mem'ries burn, And fragile silence speaks at ev'ry turn Remember me as I remember you The muted laughter that our eyes once knew, Out of his strength I now have life, Out of his tears I now have joy, And out of his soul I now see Love.

Heart sing softly, softly to me

May nothing harm dissuade the journey's end, To silent fields where frost has never been There midnight and noon flow in a sea of light Drenched by the spray of wisdom and delight. Out of his strength I now have life,

Out of his tears I now have joy,

And out of his soul I now see Love, Heart sing softly, softly to me.

Heaven fills my lamp with oil And lights a window of my soul. Cling to my fire in silence or storm. And let my heart once more If only for awhile
Walk the same bright earth with him,
Ev'ning beguile
Out of this strength I now have life,
Out of his tears I now have joy.
Out of his soul I now see God
Heart, sing softly
Heart, sing softly
Softly to me.

READING: A Blessing for One who has Died to Save Others by Starhawk (b. 1951)

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 of my door—and I give up all claims to my house.
I only ask for last kind words from you.

We were neighbours for long, but I received more than I could give. Now 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.

Are you going to Scarborough Fair?
Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme
Remember me to one who lives there
She once was a true love of mine

Tell her to make me a cambric shirt (In the deep forest green)
Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme
(Tracing of sparrow on snow-crested ground)
Without no seams nor needle work
(Bedclothes the child of the mountain)
Then she'll be a true love of mine

(Sleeps unaware of the clarion call)
Tell her to find me an acre of land
(A sprinkling of leaves)
Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme
(Washes the grave with silvery tears)

Between the salt water and the sea strands (And polishes a gun)
Then she'll be a true love of mine

Tell her to reap it with a sickle of leather (Blazing in scarlet battalions)
Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme (Generals order their soldiers to kill)
And gather it all in a bunch of heather (And to fight for a cause they've long ago forgotten)

Then she'll be a true love of mine

Are you going to Scarborough Fair?
Parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme
Remember me to one who lives there
She once was a true love of mine

Lyrics: Brian Turner (b. 1967)

Akbar stirs the chai. Then carries his sleeping four-year-old, Habib, to bed under glow-in-the-dark Stars arranged on the ceiling. Late at night When gunfire frightens them both, Habib cries for his father, who tells him

It's just the drums, a new music, And the tracery of lights in the sky He retraces on the ceiling, showing the boy How each bright star travels From this dark place, to the other.

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 boatride 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 your boots dried and the tobacco's all but gone,

Along with the postcards you've carried under mv 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 I'll forgive you, you never planned I'll place two pennies o'er your eyes.

Refrain

READING: A Litany for Sitting with the Unjustly Killed by Melissa Hill (c. 2017)

arr. Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962)

Mother goddess of the sea, awaken. All our homes are gone, our loved ones taken, Taken by the sea. Oh Yemaya, calm our fears, have mercy, Drowning in a sea of tears, have mercy, Hear our mournful plea.

Our world has been shaken.

We wander our homelands forsaken.

In the dark night of the soul Bring some comfort to us all,

Oh great Yemaya, come and carry, us in your embrace

That our sorrows may be faced. Mother, fill the glass to overflowing,

Illuminate the path where we are going, Have mercy on us all. In funeral fires burning Each flame to your mystery, returning. In the dark night of the soul Your shattered dreamers, make them whole, Yemaya mother, find us where we've fallen out of grace,

Lead us to a higher place. In the dark night of the soul Our broken hearts you can make whole, Oh great Yemaya, come and carry us in your embrace.

Let us see your gentle face, Yemaya.

Soloists: TBD

Tsi veyst ihr, vos batayt es zayn aleyn?
Tsi ken mayn harts, mayn veytik ver farshteyn?
Farlorn tate, mame, mhn un fraynd,
Tsu vemen zol mayn blik zikh vendn haynt?
Fun veytik blutik itst mayn harts,

Nor fun di oygn kenen shoyn keyn trern mer nit gen,

Vayl s'iz dokh alts in mir farshteynert fun dem payn,

Mit zey tsuzamen vel ikh mer nit zayn
Un nit visn vel ikh mer shoyn fun dem glik,
Vos gefilt hop ikh, mit vokhn nor tsurik.
Ikh hob nit mer keyn tate, mame, man.
Tsi iz glik nokh oyf der velt far mir faran?
Tsi den vel ikh zen keyn mol shoyn nit zen?
Tsi iz dos lebn shoyn far mir farshpilt? Tsi den?
Vel ikh nit hern mer di verter: "kh'hob dikh lib?"
Tsi blaybt mayn lebn shoyn oyf eybik azoy trib.

Do you know what it means to be alone? Can anyone understand my heart's pain? Losing mother, father, husband, and friend, To whom can I turn today? My heart is now bleeding from pain,

My eyes can shed no more tears, Everything in me has turned into stone from anguish,

I'll never be together with them again.
I will never know anymore the happiness that I felt only a few weeks ago.
I have no mother, father, husband anymore.
Is there still any happiness left for me in the world?
Will I never see them again, then?
Is my life, then, lost forever?
Will I ever hear the words "I love you" anymore?
Will my life story thus be empty forever?

Reading: A Prayer by Anonymous

Echo of the clock-tower, footstep in the alleyway, sweep of the wind sifting the leaves.

Jeweller of the spiderweb, connoisseur of autumn's opulence, blade of lightning harvesting the sky.

Keeper of the small gate, choreographer of entrances and exits, midnight

whisper traveling the wires. Seducer, healer, deity or thief, I will see you soon enough in the shadow of the rainfall,

in the brief violet darkening a sunset but until then I pray watch over him as a mountain guards its covert ore

and the harsh falcon its flightless young.

READING: A Litany of Remembrance by Sylvan Kamens and Jack Riemer (1975)

O Earth, lie heavily upon her eyes; Seal her sweet eyes weary of watching, Earth; Lie close around her; leave no room for mirth With its harsh laughter, nor for sound of sighs. She hath no questions, she hath no replies, Hush'd in and curtain'd with a blessed dearth Of all that irk'd her from the hour of birth: With stillness that is almost Paradise.

Darkness more clear than noonday holdeth her, Silence more musical than any song; Even her very heart has ceased to stir: Until the morning of Eternity Her rest shall not begin nor end, but be; And when she wakes she will not think it long.

Orison to the Unconquered Sun Music and Lyrics: adapted from the Roman Catholic antiphon for winter solstice by A. Adams

O Oriens splendor lucis aeternae et sol justitiae

Veni et illumina sedentes in tenebris et in umbra mortis.

Veni et illuminare, veni splendor lucis asternae luceant super nos.

O dawn of the east, brightness of light eternal, and sun of justice:

Come, shine on those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Come, shine, brightness of light eternal: Shine

READING: Hymn for the Hurting by Amanda Gorman (b. 1998)

Traditional Irish Blessing

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.



ASL Interpretation provided by: Tofer Breüer

Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir

Andrew Adams, Music Director

Molly Moran, Piano

Cyrissa Anderson
Heather Austin
Sam Beck
Micayla Bellamy
Brian Bickham
Alex Breed
David Carpenter
Michael Clarkson
Richard Cornelius

Sara Cummings
Andrea Davis
Sonia Ellison
Christopher Ellmann
Maria Forlenza
Laura Grant
San Henderson
EC Jarecke
Amethyst Kellogg

Matthew Kellogg
Bonita Lahey
Barbara Ludwig
Catherine Mock
Kathleen Enea Moore
Justin Nickerson
Chip! Onduto
Martha Richards
Kimber Scott

Lisa Steinman
Gary Suto
Jade Tiller
Meghan Wakely
Doug Warburton
Marti Wedewer
Cameron Yanoscik

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12[™] NIGHT WITH ORPHEUS: A YULE CONCERT & VIKING FEAST

Join us for our annual 12th night celebration with traditional viking feast!

Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Under the Spire
First Baptist of Denver
1373 Grant Street
Denver, CO

THE FOUR SEASONS: As THE WHEEL TURNS

We honor the cyclical nature of life, as reflected in the changing seasons, from the rebirth symbolized by spring to the introspecttion invited by winter.

THE FRIENDS AND FAMILY FOUR SEASONS CONCERT

Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 11:00 AM

THE FULL SPRING FOUR SEASONS CONCERT

Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Both Concerts will be held at the Wash Park Center for Music & the Arts 400 S. Williams St.

Denver, CO

Ample free parking available.

FIND US ONLINE AT http://www.orpheuspcc.org



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