

SCHOOL of MUSIC

Where PASSION is *heard*

Fall Concert

KSU Chorale

KSU Men's Ensemble

Dr. Reid Masters, *conductor*

Sherri Barrett, *organ & piano*

Tuesday, September 21, 2020

Presented virtually from Morgan Concert Hall of the Bailey Performance Center

PROGRAM

KSU Chorale

Sanctus

CLEMENS NON PAPA (1510-1555)

KSU Men's Ensemble

Songs from Matengo Folktales

PETER HAMLIN (traditional tunes & texts recorded by Joseph Mbele)

I. Invocation: *Su-mpoumbi kunoga*

II. *Ndi! Ndi! Ndi!*

III. *Twa tuleindei mpounga*

IV. *Mpwaga lindu, lindu nye-nye*

V. *Katigijou, ka-tija*

VI. *Mwakanakoungou malangu nzeilalei*

VII. *Su-mpoumbi kunoga*

PROGRAM NOTE

Professor Joseph Mbele is a scholar of folklore from Tanzania, and Matengo is his native language/culture. His father told him traditional stories when he was a boy, which he later published and translated in his 1999 book, *Matengo Folktales*. Mbele writes:

“The tales in this collection come from the Matengo, who live in southern Tanzania, East Africa, on the eastern side of Lake Nyasa. They inhabit a mountainous region, between 5000 and 6000 feet above sea level. The land is cool for much of the year, and quite cold from April to July. The Matengo are hard working peasants; they grow coffee, maize, beans, peas, wheat, potatoes, pumpkins, cassava, and a few other crops, including a wide variety of fruits. Each household also tends to have some cattle, pigs, chickens, goats, and sheep.”



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Composer Peter Hamlin was a colleague of Professor Mbele's at St. Olaf College and was fascinated by these stories. There are various songs imbedded within some of the stories that make little sense without context, but Hamlin has set these songs to music in an attempt to awaken these hidden treasures. -Reid Masters

CONTEXT & TRANSLATIONS

Songs from Matengo Folktales - Hamlin

The piece begins with "Su-mpoumbi kunoga," a song sung by Hare in a story called "Hare and the Great Drought." He is singing about the honey he is carrying, and thinking the honey may help him get at some drinking water in a well guarded by Tortoise. "A mysterious thing — how sweet. If I had a chance I would have mixed him some."

Later in the story, Ndi! Ndi! Ndi! is heard, an onomatopoeic song portraying drums in the distance along with the threatening words: "Today it is the killing of the hare!" (Don't worry — the hare survives this story!) In a later scene, the other animals give Hare some bones, and he plays them like a xylophone. The song is called "Nduli, ndulinduli, nduli, ndulinduli," and words make the sound of the instrument as Hare sings: "I and my xylophone, yeah, So I could sing away at a secluded busy place, yeah, Again yeah!"

The next song is "Twa tuleindei mpounga," found in a story called "The Monster in the Rice Field." At the beginning of the story, children are in the field singing, "We are watching over the rice."

A story called "Nokamboka and the Baby Monster" includes the song "Mpwaga lindu, lindu nye-nye." It is the monster's song: "You say I'm a monster, a monster, a monster; He dared take me from the lowlands, a monster, a monster, I'm going to spear you, a monster, a monster."

The next song is from another story named after a little girl, "Katigija." First the little girl's grandmother is singing: "Katigijou, where are you. Come, please eat uwali. Your father has gone to the Coast." The grandmother has hidden the little girl in a hole dug in the ground to protect her, and from there Katigija sings, "As for me, they have dug me a hole. As for me, they have plotted to kill me. As for me, they'll kill me when the moon is overhead."

The last song is from the story "Hawk and Crow." "Mwakanakoungou malangu nzeilalei" is sung by Hawk: "You, Crows, you've no brains, No brains, no brains, no brains. You took away my chicks, no brains, no brains, no brains, no brains."



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Sanctus - Clemens non Papa

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

PERSONNEL

KSU Chorale

Dr. Reid Masters, *conductor*

Soprano

Jordan Adams
Nora Argueta
Victoria Brodeur
Caroline Carter
Catie Cavallaro
Casey Ferguson
Leah Forsyth
Emily Graffius
Alyssa Lewis
Tatyana Popovych
Olivia Roberson
Jessica Slaughter
Daniela Vaziri

Alto

Jaden Akins
Colby Blick
Dayanna Brown
Leah Bryan
Mikaila Burdge
Carrington Cobb
Joi Crump
Isatou Gaye
Anna Mbiad
Jessica Mikrut
Lydia Roper
Victoria Sigur
Rebecca Smith
Claire Williams

Tenor

Kylah Edge
Israel Gonzalez
Carrasco
Alex Gravitt
Nash Hickam
Christopher Hodges
Andrew Hughes
Leo Sholl
Riley Whited
Ryan Williams
Xavier Yoder

Bass

Josh Afolayan
Terrance Calder
Jake Daron
Austin Fletcher
Carson Hoes
Reese McGee
Sammy Mishkin
Alex Pryor
William Woodward

KSU Chamber Singers

Dr. Reid Masters, *conductor*

Tenor 1

Andrew Hughes
Malachi Norton
Noah Whitaker

Tenor 2

Nash Hickam
Christopher Hodges
Frankie Moore
Riley Whited

Baritone

Matthew Bailey
Jackson Garrison
Joshua Jenkins
William Woodward

Bass

Terrance Calder
Morgan Kenney

Marimba

Christian Kilgore

Percussion

Matt Andrews
Samuel Brooke
Nicholas Bryant



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BIOGRAPHIES

KSU Chorale

The KSU Chorale, directed by Reid Masters, performs eclectic, diverse, and challenging repertoire that develops the total musician. The choral offerings at KSU are designed to make a quality choral ensemble available to each Kennesaw State student. The KSU Chorale is a non-auditioned choir open to both music and non-music majors, for credit and non-credit. Chorale participates in 4-5 major concerts per year in the Bailey Performance Center on campus. If you are looking for a great way to stay involved in music and meet singers from across the University, the KSU Chorale is for you!

KSU Men's Ensemble

Formed in 1998, the KSU Men's Ensemble sings a variety of a cappella works in a pop and jazz vocal style as well as standard repertoire for men's voices. The Men's Ensemble performs on all major concerts and regularly performs for schools and civic organizations. The Men's Ensemble is fast becoming the most well-known and sought after vocal group on campus.

Sherri Barrett

Sherri Barrett received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan and her Master's Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Tennessee. She studied with Eugene Mancini from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Arthur Rivotuso from the Juilliard School and Paris Conservatory. Ms. Barrett has recorded two solo piano CD's and has been an active soloist, accompanist and adjudicator in the Atlanta area for over 25 years. She has performed in the United States and Europe as soloist, in chamber ensembles and accompanist for various choral groups. She maintains a teaching studio out of which several students have won international piano competitions.

She is presently serving as pianist for two Atlanta area churches, and under the batons of Dr. Leslie J. Blackwell and Dr. Reid Masters, the Kennesaw State University Chamber Singers, Men's Ensemble, and KSU Community and Alumni Choir. Ms. Barrett is a member of the National Music Teachers Association and the International Music Fraternity Delta Omicron.

Dr. Reid Masters

Acclaimed for his "infectious passion", Dr. Reid Masters is proud to join the faculty at Kennesaw State University as Assistant Director of Choral Activities. For the past 11 years, he was the Artistic Director of the New Jersey Chamber Singers, which recently released a commercial album of Mozart's Requiem with Affetto Records, distributed internationally by Naxos. Dr. Masters is also the Co-founder and Assistant Director of the professional chamber choir Kinnara Ensemble, working alongside JD Burnett.



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He studied choral conducting with Joseph Flummerfelt, Andrew Megill, Joe Miller, and Patrick Gardner in addition to working with Helmuth Rilling.

As a professional countertenor, Masters is also active as a soloist and choral singer. He has made solo appearances around NY & NJ and has performed with some of the Northeast's finest baroque ensembles such as the Brandywine Baroque Band and The Sebastians. In choral settings, he has sung with the New York Philharmonic under the direction of conductors such as Maestros Lorin Maazel, Kurt Mazur, Alan Gilbert, Nicholas McGegan, and Jaap van Zweden.

Dr. Masters was named a Rider scholar and graduated Summa cum Laude from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ with Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in Sacred Music. Most recently, he was awarded a Mortensen Fellowship and earned a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting from Mason Gross School of the Arts where he also directed the Rutgers University Choir and taught undergraduate conducting.

