

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE**  
**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY**

# **Oakland Chorale**

*and*

# **University Chorus**

**Michael A. Mitchell, conductor**  
**Aran Kim, collaborative pianist**  
**Brandon Gauvin, assistant conductor**

*guest faculty artist*  
**Drake Dantzler, tenor**

March 25 and 26, 2022 at 8 p.m.  
University Presbyterian Church

*Oakland University resides on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Anishinaabe, known as the Three Fires Confederacy, comprised of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi. The land was ceded in the 1807 Treaty of Detroit and makes up southeast Michigan.*

*In recognizing the history and respecting the sovereignty of Michigan's Indian Nations, Oakland University honors the heritage of Indigenous communities and their significant role in shaping the course of this region. Further, we recognize the wrongs done to those forcibly removed from their Homelands and commit to fostering an environment of inclusion that is responsive to the needs of First Peoples through our words, policies, and actions.*

*The preservation and perpetuation of customs and traditions of Indigenous nations are essential to our shared cultural heritage. A deep understanding of Native peoples' past and present informs the teaching, research, and community engagement of the university in its ongoing effort to elevate the dignity of all people and serve as shared stewards of the land.*

## **University Chorus**

Bonse Aba

arr. Fischer

Tre Martin, djembe

### *Soloists*

Friday: Ava Hayes and Luke Timmer

Saturday: Cayla Stus and Jordan Farr

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis  
(c. 1505-1585)

How Can I Keep from Singing

arr. John Coates  
(1938-2017)

I Can Tell the World

arr. Moses Hogan  
(1957-2003)

Tre Martin, djembe

Tres Cantos dos Indios Krao

arr. Marcos Leite  
(1953-2002)

Tre Martin, djembe

Go Out With Joy

Michael A. Mitchell  
(b. 1962)

## **Intermission**

## **Oakland Chorale**

Hodie, Christus Natus Est

Healy Wilan  
(1880-1968)

Dominus Meus

Cristobal de Morales  
(1500-1553)

Sanctus from St. Cecilia Mass

Charles Gounod  
(1818-1893)

Drake Dantzler, tenor

Tenebrae Factae Sunt	Michael A. Mitchell (b. 1962)
Deep River	arr. Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)
Live a-Humble	arr. Stacey Gibbs (b. 1962)
Underneath the Stars	Kate Rusby (b. 1973)
Ellen Wallenfäng, alto	
John Saw De Numbuh	arr. Stacey Gibbs (b. 1962)

### **Biographies**

**Michael A. Mitchell** is Professor of Music at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, where he serves as Director of Choral Activities while conducting the Oakland Chorale, the University Chorus, and the Symphony Chorus. In addition, Mitchell supervises the graduate program in choral conducting and teaches choral literature and conducting, as well as a popular summer course on the history of Rock music.

In 2019 Dr. Mitchell was appointed the third Artistic Director and Conductor of the internationally renowned Detroit Concert Choir. Since 2005, Dr. Mitchell has been associated with the *Academic Choir Ivan Goran Kovacic* in Zagreb, Croatia, as its Resident Guest Conductor. He has lectured at Zagreb University, The University of Novi Sad, in Serbia, and was the first American to lecture at the Slovak University of Music and Art in Bratislava, Slovakia. For nine concert-seasons, he served as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Detroit-based *Cantata Academy Chorale*, leading that group in three acclaimed European concert tours and multiple performances with the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings. He has led the Oakland Chorale on state, regional, national, and international concert tours. In summer 2022, the Oakland Chorale returns to Europe with a concert tour of Spain.

He has conducted masses and full concerts at many of Europe's leading sacred music venues, including St. Mark's Basilica and Chiesa San Salvador in Venice, St. Nicholas Church in Prague, Peterskirche in Vienna, St. Matthias Church and St. Stephen's Basilica in Budapest, the Church of the Holy Redeemer in Bratislava, the Church of St. Jacob in Ljubljana, and St. Catherine's Church in Zagreb.

In the popular music world, Dr. Mitchell has prepared and conducted choruses for the Rolling Stones and Sarah Brightman.

Because of his reputation as a dynamic, energetic conductor and teacher, Dr. Mitchell has conducted honor choirs and led choral festivals across the US, and has been invited to perform hundreds of guest clinics with individual choirs over the course of his career.

As a composer, Dr. Mitchell's music has been performed throughout the United States, including at several conferences of the American Choral Directors Association.

Before coming to Michigan, he taught at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and was a choral director and music supervisor in the public schools in Texas.

Dr. Mitchell studied conducting, music education, and voice at the University of Texas at Austin and received his doctorate in conducting from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory, where he served as assistant to the legendary conductor Eph Ehly for three years. His other teachers include Andre Thomas, Jerry McCoy, Patrick Gardner, Mary Breden, Morris Beachy, and John Silantien. As a doctoral student he was the winner of the UMKC Chancellor's Award for Academic Merit and was a finalist in the American Choral Directors Association national conducting competition.

Dr. Mitchell is a proud member of the American Choral Directors Association, and is a past president of the Michigan chapter. He is also a member of New Music USA, The College Music Society, The Michigan School Vocal Music Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

**Drake Dantzler** is a frequent performer of Opera, Operetta, Oratorio and song. Dr. Dantzler was hailed in Opera News as "a real find: he has a voice of molten silver, immaculate musicianship and an expressive stage persona." Some of Dr. Dantzler appearances in opera include G rald in *Lakm * with Opera Theater of the Rockies and Rodolfo in *La Boh me* with Arbor Opera Theater. Dr. Dantzler is an operetta enthusiast, having appeared as Eisenstein in *Die Fledermaus* with Opera Theater of the Rockies, Camille from *The Merry Widow* with the Breckenridge Music Festival and Toledo Opera, and in numerous roles with Ohio Light Opera including the Caliph in *Kismet*, Ren  in *The Count of Luxembourg*, and the Duke of Dunstable in Gilbert & Sullivan's *Patience*, recorded and released on Albany Records. Other a Gilbert and Sullivan credits include Frederick in *Pirates of Penzance*, and Nanki-Poo in *Mikado* with Grand Rapids Opera, Western Plains Opera, Union Avenue Opera and others. In concert operetta, Dr. Dantzler has also appeared as Verrada in Sousa's *El Capitan* with the Tupelo Symphony Orchestra and in performance and recording of Friml's *Katinka* with the Comic Opera Guild of Ann Arbor. As a cross-over artist, Dr. Dantzler also debuted the role of Mr. Bingley in *Pride and Prejudice: the Musical* for Chicago Chamber Opera, where his voice was lauded as "honey-toned." (*Steadystyle Chicago*.)

Dr. Dantzler has stage credits across the United States, with organizations such as Central City Opera, Sarasota Opera, Toledo Opera, the Astoria Music Festival, and Austin Lyric Opera. Some other notable professional roles include Don Ottavio from *Don Giovanni*, Ernesto from *Don Pasquale*, and Il Conte Almaviva from *Il barbiere di Siviglia*.

Concert engagements have taken Dr. Dantzler across the United States. As the Tenor Soloist in *Messiah* with the Calvin Oratorio Society the Grand Rapids Press said he was, "A singer of notable contrasts, singing very softly as well as very loudly, he milked every nuance out of recitatives such as the opening, "Comfort Ye." He improvised heroically on the aria "Every Valley Shall Be Exalted" and sang with power and precision with the aria, "Thou Shalt Break Them with a Rod of Iron." Dr. Dantzler's concert performances cross over several kinds of

repertoire, including Rogers and Hammerstein concerts with the Toledo Symphony and Rochester Symphony, Haydn's *The Creation* with the Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, *Carmina Burana* with the Warren Symphony, the Britten's *Serenade for Tenor, Horn and Strings* with the Pontiac Oakland Symphony, Oakland Chamber Orchestra and the Adrian Symphony, *Messiah* with the Adrian Symphony, and other performances with the Macomb Symphony, Rochester (MI) Symphony Orchestra, and the Canton Symphony.

Dr. Dantzler has also been a resident artist/teacher at the Vancouver International Song Institute and Interlochen Arts Camp as well as giving numerous recitals across the United States and Canada. Dr. Dantzler currently tours recitals with pianist Victoria Shively focusing on music written after the year 2000. They have also premiered the piece "Needle Point" by composer Benjamin Fuhrman for tenor, computer, and prepared piano. This piece was created as a companion piece for Janacek's *"Diary of one who disappeared"*, and the two pieces were presented together as a semi-staged theatrical evening. Dr. Dantzler has been praised in his recitals and concerts for inflecting his songs with "much color and nuance" (Saratoga Review) and "his suppleness of voice and a tremendous mastery of the vocal complexities of the [Britten Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings]" (Adrian Telegram).

Dr. Dantzler's students have won numerous national and regional competitions and awards, including 1<sup>st</sup> place nationally in the NATS National Student Auditions, Metropolitan National Council Auditions Encouragement Awards, and the Hal Leonard Art Song Competition. His students have been admitted to prestigious institutions across the United States, including the Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, the University of Michigan, New England Conservatory, Boston Conservatory, and others. Dr. Dantzler's students have gone on to perform on stages across the world, and former students have performed on numerous national Broadway Tours.

Dr. Dantzler also directs the opera program for Oakland University. The program presents one complete opera each year with orchestra. Productions have included *Così fan tutti*, *Gianni Schicchi/Suor Angelica*, *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Die Fledermaus*, *The Magic Flute*, *Martha (von Flotow)*, *Street Scene*, *Dialogues of the Carmelites*, and *Patience*.

Dr. Dantzler is an avid voice scientist, and has presented research and lectures at the National Association of Teachers of Singing National Conference, The Voice Foundation Symposium, and at Michigan State Vocal Music Association conferences.

Dr. Dantzler holds degrees from Vanderbilt University, the Eastman School of Music, and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Texas. Dr. Dantzler is Associate Professor of Music at Oakland University where he coordinates the Opera Area. More information can be found at [www.DrakeDantzler.com](http://www.DrakeDantzler.com)

Born and raised in Dae-Jeon, South Korea, **Aran Kim** received the Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Arizona in May 2019, where she held a full-time graduate teaching assistantship. Her musical education journey in the US began when she started at Kilgore College, TX as a freshman piano major. While studying at Kilgore College, she won the Dean Turk Piano Concerto competition and received the Friends of Music Scholarship. She was unanimously chosen by the music faculty as the Most-Outstanding-Music-Student and graduated with honors. In 2008, Aran graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from Texas A&M University-Commerce where she was recipient of the music excellence scholarship, The Ferrell/Freeman Distinguished Musicianship Award, The Carl & Frances Haytt Endowment Scholarship and the Transfer Academic Scholarship. Aran earned her Master of Music in Piano Performance with *Magna Cum Laude* at Texas A&M University-Commerce in 2011 where she worked as a full-time graduate assistant teaching

class piano and applied lessons as well as accompanying for University Chorale, Chamber Choir, and the Wind Ensemble. In 2010, Aran won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Texas Music Teacher's Association Young Artist Competition in Arlington, TX. In the summer of 2010, she was selected to attend the prestigious Chautauqua Music Festival in Chautauqua, NY, where she was the finalist in the SAI Piano Concerto Competition. In Spring 2011, Aran won the Annual Concerto Competition at Texas A&M University-Commerce and performed Grieg Concerto with the Wind Ensemble. In May 2013, Aran was invited as a distinguished alumna at Kilgore College and performed the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto with the East Texas Symphony Orchestra. Currently, Aran actively maintains her musical career as a collaborative pianist in the Oakland University School of Music, Theatre, and, Dance, as an organist/accompanist at Waterford CUMC, and with the Gilbert Jackson Chorale of Michigan. She also teaches in her private piano studio in Rochester.

**Brandon Gauvin** is a second-year graduate choral conducting student at Oakland University. He serves as graduate assistant to Dr. Mike Mitchell, which affords him the opportunity to regularly work with the Oakland Chorale and University Chorus as their associate conductor. Before coming to Oakland, Brandon's musical experience was largely centered in piano and organ; he holds Bachelors and Master's Degrees in Organ Performance from Wayne State University. Brandon works as a full-time church musician at Holy Name Catholic Church in Birmingham, MI, and has served there as music director since 2013. In recent years, he has enjoyed bringing in a number of Oakland vocal students and recent graduates to serve as staff singers in his parish choir and schola. Brandon also works with Cantata Academy Chorale (Susan Catanese, artistic director) as their accompanist and assistant conductor. Brandon caught the music "bug" at a very young age and his passion for music-making has only continued to burn brighter with each passing year. He is married to a vocal education major Joslyn Gauvin, and they are parents to two budding musicians, Ayla and Clara.

## Oakland University Chorale

### **Soprano**

Lauren Dapoz, senior, music ed\*  
Sterling Heights  
Megan Dastick, junior, music ed/voice  
Midland, Michigan  
Treasurer  
Madeleine Krick, senior, voice\*  
Royal Oak, Michigan  
Librarian & Wardrobe Assistant  
Olivia Langsdorf, senior, voice  
Rochester Hills, Michigan  
Vice President  
Lexi Przyojski, junior, music ed  
Temperance, Michigan  
Cassidie Singelyn, senior, music ed/voice\*  
Commerce Twp, Michigan  
Shelby Smith, sophomore, music tech  
Farmington Hills, Michigan  
Angela Tocco, senior, voice\*  
Brighton, Michigan

### **Tenor**

Carson Arcuri, senior, voice\*  
Brighton, Michigan  
Kollan Davio, junior, music tech\*  
Byron Center, Michigan  
Kellan Dunlap, junior, voice/music ed  
Grandville, Michigan  
Samuel Newton, senior, BA in Music\*  
White Lake, Michigan  
Luke Timmer, junior, music ed\*  
Grandville, Michigan  
Jesse Ward, freshman, BA in Music  
Sylvan Lake, Michigan

### **Alto**

Emilia Alvarez, junior, BA in music  
Tecumseh, Michigan  
Danielle DiNardo, senior, voice\*  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
Secretary  
Jillian Gerhart, sophomore, music ed  
Berkley, Michigan  
Nina Gojcaj, senior, voice\*  
Clinton Twp, Michigan  
Emily Klochack, junior, music ed  
Macomb Twp, Michigan  
Abigail Minor, sophomore, violin/music ed  
Lake Orion, Michigan  
Amber Ohlsson, freshman, music ed  
Canton, Michigan  
Ellen Wallenfang, senior, BA in Music\*  
Harsens Island, Michigan

### **Bass**

Chris Aranda, junior, political science\*  
Kalamazoo, Michigan  
Kevin Cornwell II, senior, music ed  
Madison Heights, Michigan  
President  
Wesley Hutchison, senior, music tech\*  
Clarkston, Michigan  
Brandon Gauvin, graduate, conducting  
Royal Oak, Michigan  
Aidan Laidlaw, freshman, voice\*  
Royal Oak, Michigan  
Shane Voss, freshman, music tech  
Marine City, Michigan

\*indicated members of The Oakordz

## Oakland University Chorus

### **Soprano**

Cristina Aldo  
Maggie Boorsma  
Kathy Bushong  
Julia Donaven  
Aniya Gray  
Ava Hayes  
Hannah Jablonski  
Alice Klein  
Emily Kloc  
Emily McNamara  
Hannah Murphy  
Mary Pardington  
Kaelyn Parker  
Kennedy Parsons  
Cayla Stus  
Isabella Williams

### **Alto**

Vanessa Allen  
Nadia Burke  
May Chang  
Julia Jodoin  
Sydney King  
Taylor McAllister  
Alyse McNutt  
Ana Miller  
Yelena Murray  
Emma Rowan  
Misbah Sayed  
Jacy Short  
Peyton Smith  
Qi Zheng

### **Tenor**

Zachary Andrew  
Dakotah Atkinson  
Kollan Davio  
Jordan Farr  
James Murray  
Regina Murray  
Dylan Slamka  
Luke Timmer  
Jesse Ward

### **Bass**

Eric Beck  
Andrew Deacon  
Brandon Gauvin  
Nathan Kirkwood  
Trey Martin  
Joshua Rao  
Maxwell Schein  
Shea Socrates  
Daniel Tryon-Burby  
Mariyon Turner