



Interlochen  
PRESENTS



# The King's Singers

July 6, 2022 • 7:30 p.m.

Corson Auditorium

## WELCOME



I am thrilled to welcome all of you back to campus to experience the magic of Interlochen. Our doors are open!

Beyond tonight's performance we offer daily guided tours of our campus, classes and workshops for adults to rediscover their artistic passions, livebroadcasts of student performances on Interlochen Public Radio, delicious soft-serve ice cream at the iconic Melody Freeze, and more.

This summer, Interlochen Arts Camp is hosting over 3,000 students ages 8 to 18 from every artistic discipline. These students hail from nearly every U.S. state and from 36 countries including Bermuda, Brazil, China, Italy, Poland, South Africa, and Ukraine. Here, their shared creative pursuits are nurtured and they are inspired to produce a level of artistry almost unimaginable for such young artists.

Among the many activities we offer, I especially invite you to come back for at least one of these student performances (many of which are free!) to experience for yourself how the arts live and breathe here like nowhere else.

Thank you for attending tonight's performance. I hope to see you on campus again soon.

Trey Devey



President, Interlochen Center for the Arts

---

## INTERLOCHEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Interlochen Arts Festival is a component of the nonprofit Interlochen Center for the Arts, one of the world's most vibrant and inspiring cultural communities. An international destination for unparalleled education and creative opportunities, Interlochen Center for the Arts brings together:

### INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY

The nation's premier arts boarding high school

### INTERLOCHEN ARTS CAMP

The world's premier summer arts program for grades 3-12

### INTERLOCHEN ONLINE

A virtual platform that brings the world-renowned Interlochen experience into your home, building a virtual bridge of connection to the world's leading arts educators

### INTERLOCHEN COLLEGE OF CREATIVE ARTS

An engaging series of classes and programs for adults

### INTERLOCHEN PUBLIC RADIO

Two listener-supported broadcast services connecting northern Michigan with music, news and culture from the region and the world—every day, 24 hours a day

**Classical IPR:** 88.7 FM, Interlochen; 88.5 FM, Mackinaw City; 94.7 FM, Traverse City

**IPR News:** 91.5 FM, Traverse City; 90.1 FM, Harbor Springs/Petoskey; 89.7 FM, Manistee/Ludington

### INTERLOCHEN PRESENTS

A year-round performance program featuring hundreds of presentations by students, faculty, and world-renowned guest artists

[interlochen.org](http://interlochen.org)



# Interlochen

P R E S E N T S

\*

## **THE KING'S SINGERS**

Patrick Dunachie, countertenor

Edward Button, countertenor

Julian Gregory, tenor

Christopher Bruerton, baritone

Nick Ashby, baritone

Jonathan Howard, bass

Wednesday, July 6, 2022  
7:30pm, Corson Auditorium

# THE KING'S SINGERS

## SONGBIRDS

- "Songbird" ..... Fleetwood Mac, arr. Nicholas Ashby
- "Blackbird" ..... The Beatles, arr. Daryl Runswick
- "She's like the swallow" ..... Traditional, arr. Bob Chilcott
- "The cuckoo in the pear-tree" ..... György Ligeti
- "The Phoenix and the Turtle" ..... Huw Watkins
- "Flucht" ..... Franz Schubert
- "Trois beaux oiseaux du Paradis" ..... Maurice Ravel
- "Pilons l'orge" ..... Francis Poulenc
- "Le chant des oiseaux" ..... Clément Janequin
- "Come, blessed bird" ..... Edward Johnson
- "Il bianco e dolce cigno" ..... Jacques Arcadelt
- "Il est bel et bon" ..... Pierre Passereau
- "The Musicians of Bremen" ..... Malcolm Williamson

## —INTERVAL—

- "Call me the breeze" ..... Beth Orton, arr. Christopher Bruerton
- "Father Father" ..... Laura Mvula, arr. Eric Whitacre
- "Good Old-Fashioned Lover Boy" ..... Queen, arr. Nicholas Ashby

### **Songs in close-harmony**

*Throughout The King's Singers' history, the group has created a treasure trove of arrangements of pop, jazz, folk, and spiritual songs that span the globe and celebrate the amazing variety of music in our world today. Incorporating songs from recent EPs in our The Library series, we want to shine a light on all kinds of songbirds from around the world in this final set—and make you smile too.*

## PROGRAM NOTES

*Songbirds* combines music written about some of our favourite feathered friends—spanning the last 500 years—with music by modern-day songbirds from recent decades. These are singers and songwriters who have changed the course of popular music with their voices and musical ideas, inspiring and lifting the next generation of musicians to new heights. Although this programming idea is new to our group, the phenomenon of birdsong has been an inspiration to composers and songwriters for centuries. In medieval England, the 12th-century folksong ‘Summer is y-cumen in, loude sing ‘cuckoo’ is a good example of the sounds of birdsong finding their way into popular culture. In other places within the Western canon, Beethoven, Rachmaninov and—particularly—Messiaen used birdsong to inspire and colour their creations. Today’s programme looks much further than just medieval or even just classical music, into pop songs, folksongs, and avant-garde compositions. In all of these parts of the *Songbirds* programme, we hear the inspiration and influence of birdsong on musicians across the world and across the centuries. This inspiration has in fact led to the use of ‘songbird’ as a term to describe songwriters in the present day.

Christine McVie (b. 1943), one of the long-standing members of Fleetwood Mac, wrote our title song for this programme, *Songbird*, for the band’s 1977 album *Rumours*. The song came to McVie late at night, during a period of recording sessions. With no one else awake to record her creation, she simply stayed awake all night to ensure she remembered the song, and put it on record the following morning. Since its release, it has been covered by many artists—most famously Eva Cassidy. Nine years earlier, in 1968, The Beatles recorded and released *The White Album*, which contained the next song in our programme. *Blackbird* is the first in a trio of songs we’re including, covering three birds: the blackbird, the swallow, and then the cuckoo. Our arrangement of *Blackbird* was made by our long-term collaborator Daryl Runswick, who wrote many of the most iconic King’s Singers arrangements in our history, and continues to work with us to this day. *She’s like the swallow* is a folksong which came from Newfoundland in Canada, and was collected in 1930 by Maud Karpeles, who first published it in a compendium called *Folksongs from Newfoundland*. Since then it has been arranged hundreds of times, including this version by the composer and conductor Bob Chilcott (b. 1955), written while he was a member of the group in the 1990s. The final in this set comes from the visionary Hungarian composer György Ligeti (1923-2006). Between 1988 and 1993, he wrote a set of six pieces for The King’s Singers, called *Nonsense Madrigals*, setting fantastical and eccentric texts, including some from *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. The second movement of the set is *The cuckoo in the pear-tree*, setting a text by William Brighty Rands; through the brief but complicated piece, humour comes from an insistent and irritating cuckoo who never fails to interrupt whatever is going on around him!

The British composer and pianist Huw Watkins (b. 1976) wrote *The Phoenix and the Turtle* in 2014 for the British vocal ensemble Stile Antico, who premiered it at London's Wigmore Hall. It sets an unusual text by William Shakespeare, in which the two birds—a phoenix and a turtle (referring to a turtle dove)—die. At their funeral, the death of love itself is mourned through the presence of many different birds. Huw Watkins plays with different textures and complicated rhythms to breathe a modernity into an ancient and complicated poem. For this programme, the piece provides an insight into the well-known symbology associated with many different birds in the middle ages, amongst which the phoenix (love) and the dove (loyalty) were two of the most important.

The next trio of pieces in the programme belong to major figures from the classical canon. Franz Schubert (1797-1828) wrote *Flucht* in 1825, as the third in a set of works for unaccompanied male chorus. The text plays with the idea of 'flight' as both flying, but also escaping. The poet, Karl Lappe (1773-1843), depicts birds as having a freedom which we should all envy. Maurice Ravel's (1875-1937) *Trois beaux oiseaux du Paradis* is the first in a series of French works. It comes from his only a cappella choral work—*Trois chansons* (1914-15)—which was written in response to the outbreak of war in France in 1914. In *Trois beaux oiseaux*, Ravel focuses on the vivid colours of these birds of paradise, which reflect the red, white, and blue of the French flag. In Francis Poulenc's (1899-1963) *Pilons l'orge* we hear the babble of gossiping farm-hands, blending into the manic tweeting of birds in the sky above them. It comes from his *Chansons françaises* (1945-46), written in the heady days of France immediately after the Second World War.

The earliest work in the programme is also one of the most extraordinary. Clément Janequin (1485-1558) wrote his madrigal *Le chant des oiseaux* in 1529, using unusual and imaginative techniques to capture the sound and character of various different birds, including the nightingale and the cuckoo. Much like with his other epic madrigal *La Guerre*, this madrigal fuses sentences of recognisable French text with vocal sound effects to create a virtuosic masterpiece which would have been particularly remarkable in its time.

These works by Janequin had a huge influence on the whole genre of madrigals (or, in France, *chansons*), which were a hugely popular musical form all over Europe for at least another 100 years after Janequin's death. In France, Pierre Passereau (1490-1547) was a contemporary of Janequin who was almost as famous for his chansons. His *Il est bel et bon* has proved popular right through to the modern day. Its startling and hilarious depiction of chickens clucking in a courtyard has made it a favourite with choirs all over the world, and an irresistible selection for this Songbirds programme. The madrigals by the Englishman Edward Johnson (1572-1601) and the Flemish composer Jacques Arcadelt (1507-

1568) are slightly more dignified and restrained examples of the same madrigal form which had exploded in medieval France decades earlier.

The final work before the interval is another extended work, this one written for The King's Singers in 1972. *The Musicians of Bremen* was one of the group's earliest major commissions and remains popular to this day. Its composer, Malcolm Williamson (1931-2003), was born in Australia but spent much of his working life in the UK, eventually holding the coveted position of Master of the Queen's Music from 1975 until his death. This piece is a setting of the ancient folk story about mistreated animals who decide to get together and travel to the German city of Bremen to join an orchestra. They have many adventures on the way, picking up new animals and encountering some dangerous robbers too!

After the interval, we explore the other interpretation of the word 'Songbird,' selecting songs by some iconic singers and songwriters from the last 50 years. From Freddie Mercury to Laura Mvula, there will be a few familiar songs for everybody, and certainly a few old King's Singers favourites included too.

\*

## **THE KING'S SINGERS**

**THE KING'S SINGERS** have represented the gold standard in a cappella singing on the world's greatest stages for over 50 years. They are renowned for their unrivalled technique, versatility, and skill in performance, and for their consummate musicianship, drawing both on the group's rich heritage and its pioneering spirit to create an extraordinary wealth of original works and unique collaborations.

What has always distinguished the group is their comfort in an unprecedented range of styles and genres, pushing the boundaries of their repertoire, while at the same time honouring their origins in the British choral tradition. They are known and loved around the world, and appear regularly in major cities, festivals and venues across Europe, North America, Asia, and Australasia, including Carnegie Hall, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Leipzig Gewandhaus, Mozarteum Salzburg, Tonhalle Zurich, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Edinburgh International Festival, Helsinki Music Centre, Sydney Opera House, Tokyo Opera City, and the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Beijing. They also work with orchestras, recently including the NDR Radiophilharmonie and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, with whom they performed a specially commissioned work by Sir James MacMillan.

The King's Singers' extensive discography has led to numerous awards including two Grammy Awards, an Emmy Award, and a place in Gramophone magazine's inaugural Hall of Fame. As part of their 50th anniversary celebrations in 2018, the group undertook a series of major tours worldwide, supporting the release of a special anniversary album *GOLD* (also nominated for a Grammy Award), which featured important works in the group's history and new commissions by Bob Chilcott, John Rutter and Nico Muhly.

This commitment to creating a new repertoire has always been central to the group, with over 200 commissioned works by many leading composers of the 20th and 21st Centuries, including John Tavener, Judith Bingham, Eric Whitacre, György Ligeti, Luciano Berio, Krzysztof Penderecki, and Toru Takemitsu. These join a unique body of close-harmony and a cappella arrangements, including those by individual King's Singers past and present. Many of their early collaborators' own experience with brass bands helped to inform the distinct 'King's Singers sound' and a large number of their commissioned works and arrangements are available in their own signature series with Hal Leonard, selling over two million copies worldwide. A key to the group's success has been their ability to evolve and innovate over many years—and through 28 individual members—while always retaining this special sound and musical integrity.

They also lead educational workshops and residential courses across the world, working with groups and individuals on their techniques and approaches to ensemble singing. In 2018 they founded The King's Singers Global Foundation to provide a platform for the creation of new music across multiple disciplines, coach a new generation of performers, and provide musical opportunities to people of all backgrounds.

The King's Singers were formed in 1968, when six recent choral scholars from King's College, Cambridge gave a concert at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall. By chance, the group was made up of two counter-tenors, a tenor, two baritones and a bass, and the group has maintained this formation ever since that debut.

\* \* \*



## INTERLOCHEN ARTS FESTIVAL UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

### **"Othello", Interlochen Shakespeare Festival July 8 and 9, 2022 – 8:00 p.m., Upton-Morley Pavilion**

More than 400 years after its premiere, Shakespeare's *Othello* continues to captivate audiences with its enduring themes of treachery, jealousy, revenge, and racial prejudice. When Moorish general Othello marries Desdemona, slighted Venetian ensign Iago plots to ruin Othello's reputation. As Iago's machinations unfold, the characters are cast into a chaotic web of deception, betrayal, and murder. Join the Interlochen Shakespeare Festival for a timeless tragedy that will keep you on the edge of your seat from first line to final curtain.

### **"Sanctuary City", Interlochen Shakespeare Festival Thursday, July 7, 2022 - 7:30 p.m., Harvey Theatre**

Immerse yourself in the lives of B and G, undocumented immigrant teenagers trying to make a life for themselves in Manhattan's shadow—Newark, New Jersey. Written by Pulitzer Prize-winner Martyna Majok, the *New York Times* describes *Sanctuary City* as an "unsparing, heartbreaking new play" where life both betrays and rewards those who dream.

### **World Youth Symphony Orchestra: Cristian Măcelaru, conductor Sunday, July 10, 2022 - 7:30 p.m., Kresge Auditorium**

Enjoy a diverse program of classical and contemporary orchestral repertoire as the World Youth Symphony Orchestra performs Wynton Marsalis' *Blues Symphony* and Antonín Dvořák's *Symphony No. 6 in D Major, Op. 60*. Orchestre National de France Music Director Cristian Măcelaru—the ensemble's artistic director and principal conductor—will conduct the performance.

### **Interlochen "Collage" Tuesday, July 12, 2022 - 7:30 p.m., Kresge Auditorium**

Sample the diverse talents of Interlochen Arts Camp's emerging artists in a fast-paced interdisciplinary showcase. A beloved annual tradition, "Collage" features performances by artists of all ages from each of the Camp's six artistic divisions: Music, theatre, dance, creative writing, visual arts, and film and new media. Arrive before the performance for free, family-friendly pre-concert activities on Osterlin Mall.

### **World Youth Symphony Orchestra: Roderick Cox, conductor Sunday, July 17, 2022 - 7:30 p.m., Kresge Auditorium**

2018 Sir Georg Solti Conducting Award winner Roderick Cox takes the podium as the World Youth Symphony Orchestra performs their third concert of the season. The evening's program includes Joan Tower's "Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman" and Dmitri Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, Op. 47*.

### **Detroit Symphony Orchestra Friday, July 22, 2022 - 7:30 p.m., Kresge Auditorium**

The acclaimed Detroit Symphony Orchestra is known for trailblazing performances, collaborations with the world's foremost musical artists, and a deep connection to its city. The ensemble kicks off its annual residency at Interlochen Arts Camp with a

performance of Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's Symphonic Variations on an African Air, Op. 63 under the baton of Music Director Jader Bignamini.

### **"Treasure Island"**

**Written by Robert Louis Stevenson, Adapted by Bryony Lavery**

**July 29, 30, August 2, 3, 2022 - 7:00 p.m., Harvey Theatre**

**Sunday, July 31, 2022 - 2:00 p.m., Harvey Theatre**

Experience a fresh twist on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novel as Interlochen Arts Camp's High School Repertory Theatre Production students perform Bryony Lavery's stage adaptation of *Treasure Island*. When a mysterious sailor takes a room at her grandfather's inn, Jim Hawkins—reimagined as a girl in Lavery's update—embarks on a hunt for a buccaneer's buried treasure. Once on the island, the crew's mutiny and the discovery of a marooned sailor thrust Jim into a tangled web of murder and mystery. Will Jim be able to find the treasure—and make it out alive? Don't miss a riveting production that effortlessly combines a modern exploration of gender roles with the original story's wit, excitement, and adventure.

### **"Anything Goes"**

**Music & Lyrics by Cole Porter; Book by Guy Bolton and P.G. Wodehouse**

**August 4, 5, and 6, 2022 - 7:00 p.m., Corson Auditorium**

**Sunday, August 7, 2022 - 2:00 p.m., Corson Auditorium**

Experience high seas hijinks as the students of the High School Musical Theatre Production perform the frothy musical *Anything Goes*. Featuring music by Cole Porter and a book by Guy Bolton and P.G. Wodehouse, the classic Broadway hit follows the antics of Billy Crocker, a young stowaway who tries to woo a wealthy—and already engaged—heiress during an ocean journey from New York to London. Interlochen Center for the Arts' newly named Director of Musical Theatre Justin Lee Miller helms the production.

**For information and tickets, visit [tickets.interlochen.org](https://tickets.interlochen.org)**

\* \* \*

You can ensure the next promising young artist has the opportunity to come to Interlochen by supporting student scholarships. Make your gift to the Interlochen Annual Fund by visiting [www.interlochen.org/giveonline](https://www.interlochen.org/giveonline).

Interlochen Arts Camp is part of the nonprofit Interlochen Center for the Arts, a recipient of the National Medal of Arts and the only community in the world that brings together the finest in arts education, performance and public radio.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus. Thank you for your cooperation.

**[www.interlochen.org](https://www.interlochen.org)**



## A program for every young artist

A virtual platform that brings the world-renowned Interlochen experience into your home, building an online bridge of connection to the world's leading arts educators.



[interlochen.org/online](http://interlochen.org/online)



## Make Your Gift Now...

To help students realize their highest artistic aspirations, bring passionate educators and visiting artists to teach, share, and inspire creative agents of change.



[interlochen.org/give](http://interlochen.org/give)



## CONNECTING NORTHERN MICHIGAN AND THE WORLD



### CLASSICAL IPR

88.7 FM Interlochen 94.7 FM Traverse City  
88.5 FM Mackinaw City

### IPR NEWS

91.5 FM Traverse City 90.1 FM Harbor Springs/Petoskey  
89.7 FM Manistee/Ludington

### LISTEN FROM ANYWHERE

Download the App



Ask Your Smart Speaker



Streaming Online at:

[InterlochenPublicRadio.org](http://InterlochenPublicRadio.org)



## Lifelong Learning in the Arts

Develop new passions through a myriad of artistic enrichment opportunities. Programs range from one-day workshops to one-month online courses and cover a variety of topics in music, visual arts, creative writing, theatre, media, and more.



[college.interlochen.org](http://college.interlochen.org)

# Interlochen

Interlochen Center for the Arts gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors for their continued support:

## NATIONAL



## SUPPORTING



## SPONSOR



## FRIEND



## PARTNERS IN THE ARTS



## MEDIA

