

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT

PRESENTS

*Festival of
Catholic High School Choirs*

GISELLE WYERS, GUEST CONDUCTOR

FEBRUARY 11, 2013 7:00 pm

S. MARK TAPER FOUNDATION AUDITORIUM

BENAROYA HALL

Program

Holy Names Academy Concert Choir

Directed by Blake Adams

I Thank You God Gwyneth Walker

Bellarmino Preparatory School Combined Choirs

Directed by Frank Lewis

The Word Was God Rosephanye Powell

O'Dea High School Choir

Directed by Dan Ruiter

Hallelujah Leonard Cohen; arr. Emerson

Archbishop Murphy High School Combined Choirs

Directed by Carrie Wright

Home Holden and Pearson; arr. Billingsley

Seattle Preparatory School Concert Choir

Directed by Huntley Beyer

In Remembrance Jeffery Ames

Eastside Catholic High School Combined Choirs

Directed by Soonja Doyle

Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace Mary McDonald

Kennedy Catholic High School Combined Choirs

Directed by Lindsay Brown

Let the River Run Carly Simon; arr. Johnson

Forest Ridge Glee Club

Directed by Alison Seaton

Let It Be Paul McCartney; arr. Cyabyab

Bishop Blanchet High School Combined Choirs

Directed by Craig Schell

Some Nights Fun, arr. Wade

Intermission

Combined Catholic High Schools Choirs

Directed by Giselle Wyers

Accompanied by Laurie McFarland

Combined Men's Choir

Alleluia (from Cantata No. 142).....J.S. Bach, arr. Ehret

Susan Brown..... American Folk, arr. Peter Frost

Combined Women's Choir

Lift Thine EyesF. Mendelssohn

Sigh No More Ladies Hughes and Loose

Combined Mixed Choir

Ave Verum Corpus W.A. Mozart

Featuring strings from

Bellarmino Preparatory School and Holy Names Academy

Freedom Train.....Rollo Dilworth



GISELLE WYERS, CONDUCTOR

Giselle Wyers is Associate Professor of Choral Studies and Voice at the University of Washington, where she conducts the University Chorale and teaches courses in choral conducting and voice. University Chorale's debut CD, *Climb*, won third prize in the collegiate division of the American Prize for Choral Performance in 2012. University Chorale's 2008 performance of the *Genesis Suite* with Seattle Symphony was termed "brilliant" by the *Seattle Times*. Under her direction, University Chorale has enjoyed high profile performances for the President of Latvia as well as the Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden. The chorus tours regularly; recent trips have taken them to San Francisco as well as Estonia, Finland and Latvia.

As a guest conductor, Wyers has led high school honor choirs in New York (Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center), Georgia, Connecticut, Washington, Alaska, and Vancouver, Canada. She has been asked to guest conduct semi-professional ensembles across the United States and in Europe, including the Chamber Choir of Europe in 2011. She conducted the ACDA NW Women's Honor Choir in 2012.

Wyers is a leading national figure in the application of Laban movement theory for conductors. Each summer she team-teaches choral conducting with James Jordan at Westminster Choir College. She has published two substantive articles on the subject, both published through GIA Publications in the textbooks *Music for Conducting Study* (Jordan/Wyers) and *The Conductor's Gesture: The Language of Movement* (Jordan/Wyers).

As a composer, Wyers is currently preparing numerous choral works for premieres. Her works are published by Santa Barbara Music Publishing Company as part of the "Giselle Wyers Choral Series." This series will feature works by Wyers and champions the works of other emerging composers. Her work "The Waking" was recorded by Choral Arts Ensemble on the Gothic Records label.

Wyers' dedication to exposing audiences to the music of contemporary American composers has led to publications in various national journals. She is especially interested in exploring how modern composers use music as a form of peace-making and social justice. "Waging Peace through Intercultural Art in Kyr's Ah Nagasaki," appears as the cover article of the May 2008 *Choral Journal*, and discusses how the act of creating and premiering a musical work can serve as a gesture of reconciliation between cultures.

Wyers holds a D.M.A. in conducting from the University of Arizona, where she studied with Maurice Skones, and minored in historical musicology with John Brobeck. She earned a master's degree from Westminster Choir College, where she founded the Greater Princeton Youth Chamber Orchestra, and a bachelor's degree from UC Santa Cruz, where she founded the San Lorenzo Valley Community Chorus and Orchestra.