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DUPAGE CHORALE

and the DuPage Chorale Orchestra

Sunday, May 6, 2018
7:30 p.m.

Lee R. Kesselman, Director
Lindsay Kesselman, Soprano

Performing *Annelies*
by James Whitbourn

Annelies is the first major chorale work based on *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*. Sung in English, this piece is hauntingly beautiful and paints a vivid picture of the horrors of war and the hopeful optimism of a young girl.

Tickets: \$6 student/\$14 senior/\$16 adult
Available online, at the door or by phone.
COD Student Special: \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door.
Must present valid COD Student ID.

McAninch Arts Center
Belushi Performance Hall

www.AtTheMAC.org
(630) 942-4000

 **College of DuPage**

DUPAGE CHORALE PERFORMS JAMES WHITBOURN'S ANNELIES

Annelies

Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 7:30 pm

Directed by Lee R. Kesselman

Tickets: \$16 adult/\$14 senior/\$6 student

Belushi Performance Hall, McAninch Arts Center, College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL

Whitbourn's moving oratorio, *Annelies*, is the first major musical work based on *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank. Concert features:

DuPage Chorale -- 80 member ensemble

Soloist Lindsay Kesselman, Soprano

DuPage Chorale Orchestra

A pre-concert *MAC Chat* features Rabbi Steven Bob discussing Anne Frank, the Holocaust and the phenomenon of Jews in hiding during World War II. This informative talk will take place at 6:30 p.m. in Room 140 of the McAninch Arts Center.

Tickets available at the Box Office (630) 942-4000, AtTheMAC.org or at the door. Group discounts are available.

COMPOSER JAMES WHITBOURN

James Whitbourn is an internationally-renowned composer recognised by The Observer as "a truly original communicator in modern British choral music". A graduate of Magdalen College, University of Oxford, his career in music began in the BBC, for whom he has worked as composer, conductor, producer and presenter. His compositional output is admired for its direct connection with performers and audiences worldwide and for its ability to "expand the experience of classical music beyond the edges of the traditional map of classical styles" (Tom Manoff, NPR).

His largest composition is the concert-length choral work *Annelies*, which sets words from *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Other notable works include *Luminosity*, written for the Westminster Choir College and the Archedream dance ensemble, *Son of God Mass* for saxophone, choir and organ and *The Seven Heavens* for choir and orchestra - a portrayal of the life of C. S. Lewis in the imagery of the medieval planets.

His choral works have been performed in many prestigious venues, and have been presented on acclaimed recordings, including four complete discs of his choral music. Of the latest of these –

Annelies (Naxos) – Gramophone writes "the greatest accomplishment here is that James Whitbourn has written some music of great beauty", Choir and Organ adding, "Whitbourn's devastatingly beautiful and restrained treatment of the subject matter makes it all the more poignant".

Whitbourn has been commissioned to compose the music to mark several national and international events, including music for the broadcast of the funeral of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and music for the national commemoration of 9/11 at Westminster Abbey - subsequently performed in New York on the first anniversary of the attacks. His commissions have included a work for the enthronement of the Bishop of Salisbury and for the anniversary of the foundation of the Belfast Philharmonic.

He is popular on both sides of the Atlantic as choral advisor and also enjoys a profile as a conductor and producer, with three GRAMMY nominations to his name (including Best Choral Performance for *Annelies*, 2014) among many other international awards.

James Whitbourn is an Honorary Research Fellow of St. Stephen's House, Oxford and a member of the Faculty of Music in the University of Oxford. Since 2001, he has held an exclusive publishing agreement with Chester Music, London.

ANNELIES

Annelies is a full-length choral work based on the *Diary of Anne Frank*. *Annelies* is the full first name of Anne Frank, now commonly referred to by her abbreviated forename, Anne. The music is by British composer James Whitbourn and the libretto is compiled from the diary by Melanie Challenger. Movements from *Annelies* were first performed at the National UK Holocaust Memorial Day in Westminster Hall, London in January 2005. The World Premiere of the full work followed in April 2005 at the Cadogan Hall, London, conducted by Leonard Slatkin with the Choir of Clare College Cambridge and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The work features fourteen movements:

1. Introit - prelude (instrumental)
2. The capture foretold
3. The plan to go into hiding
4. The last night at home and arrival at the Annex
5. Life in hiding
6. Courage
7. Fear of capture and the second break-in
8. Sinfonia (Kyrie)
9. The Dream
10. Devastation of the outside world
11. Passing of time
12. The hope of liberation and a spring awakening
13. The capture and the concentration camp
14. Anne's meditation

The US Premiere was April 2007 at Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ, with Lynn Eustis (soprano) under James Jordan, with a reduced scoring for soprano, choir and chamber ensemble. The final chamber version calls for an ensemble comprising violin, cello, piano and clarinet and premiered in The Netherlands in June 2009 with Daniel Hope (violin) and Arianna Zukerman (soprano). In May, 2012, the piece was recorded for Naxos Records by the Westminster Williamson Voices under the direction of James Jordan with Soprano, Arianna Zukerman, the Lincoln Trio, and Clarinetist, Bharat Chandra. The recording was nominated for the 2014 Grammy for Best Choral Performance.

"It astounds me that nobody has set this profoundly moving and historically seminal work to music before, but perhaps it makes sense. Annelies Frank spoke more clearly for her people and her plight than any music could, and that's saying something. At least, that was the case until now, because James Whitbourn is a terrific composer with terrific ideas. Still, terrific ideas do not a masterpiece make; it is Whitbourn's ability to realize those ideas and stay faithful to the text that he's able to turn a book into a painting. The work is stunning in both its beauty and utter simplicity." www.classical.net

ANNE FRANK

Anne Frank is a Jewish girl who went into hiding during World War Two to escape from the Nazis. Together with seven others she hides in the *secret annex* at Prinsengracht 263 in Amsterdam. After more than two years in hiding they are discovered and deported to concentration camps. Anne's father, *Otto Frank*, is the only one of the eight people to survive. After her death Anne becomes world famous because of the diary she wrote while in hiding.

Anne Frank was born on June 12, 1929, in the German city of Frankfurt am Main, where her father's family had lived for generations. Her sister, Margot, is three and a half years older. The economic crisis, Hitler's rise to power and growing antisemitism put an end to the family's carefree life. Like many other Jews, *Otto Frank* and his wife, Edith, decide to leave Germany.

Otto sets up a business in Amsterdam and the family finds a home on the Merwedeplein. The children go to school, Otto works hard at his business and Edith looks after the home. When the threat of war in Europe increases, Otto and his family try to emigrate to England or the USA but these attempts fail. On September 1, 1939, Germany invades Poland. It is the beginning of the Second World War.

For a while there is hope that The Netherlands will not become involved in the war, but on May 10, 1940, German troops invade the country. Five days later The Netherlands surrenders and is occupied. Anti-Jewish regulations soon follow. *Jews* are allowed into fewer and fewer places. Anne and Margot must attend a Jewish school and Otto loses his business.

When a renewed attempt to emigrate to the U.S.A. fails, Otto and Edith decide to go into hiding. Otto sets up a hiding place in the rear annexe of his firm at Prinsengracht 263. He does this together with his Jewish business partner *Hermann van Pels* and with help from his associates *Johannes Kleiman* and *Victor Kugler*.

On July 5, 1942, *Margot Frank* receives a call-up to report for a German work camp. The next day the Frank family goes into hiding. The Van Pels family follows a week later and in November 1942 they are joined by an eighth person: the dentist *Fritz Pfeffer*. They remain in the secret annexe for more than two years. In hiding, they have to keep very quiet, are often frightened and pass the time together as well as they can. They are helped by the office workers, *Johannes Kleiman*, *Victor Kugler*, *Miep Gies* and *Bep Voskuijl*; by Miep's husband, *Jan Gies*; and by the warehouse manager, Johannes Voskuijl, Bep's father. These helpers not only arrange food, clothes and books, they are the group's contact with the outside world.

Shortly before going into hiding Anne receives a diary for her birthday. She starts writing straightaway and during her time in hiding she writes about events in the *secret annex* and about herself. Her diary is a great support to her. Anne also writes short stories and collects quotations from other writers in her 'book of beautiful sentences'. When the Dutch minister of education in exile in London appeals on British radio for people to keep war diaries, Anne decides to edit her diary and create a novel called 'The Secret Annex'. She starts to rewrite, but she and the others are discovered and arrested before she has finished.

On August 4, 1944, they are found and arrested, along with their helpers *Johannes Kleiman* and *Victor Kugler*. They pass from the security service headquarters and prison to the transit *camp Westerbork*, from where they are deported to *Auschwitz*. The two helpers are sent to the Amersfoort camp. Johannes Kleiman is released shortly after his arrest and six months later Victor Kugler escapes. Immediately after the arrests *Miep Gies* and *Bep Voskuijl* rescue Anne's diary and papers that have been left behind in the *secret annex*. Despite intensive investigations it has never been clear how the hiding place was discovered.

THE DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL

The Diary of a Young Girl, also known as *The Diary of Anne Frank*, is a book of the writings by Anne Frank while she was in hiding for two years with her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. The family was apprehended in 1944, and Anne Frank died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in 1945. The diary was retrieved by Miep Gies, who gave it to Anne's father, Otto Frank, the family's only known survivor, just after the war was over. The diary has since been published in more than 60 languages.

First published under the title *Het Achterhuis. Dagboekbrieven 14 Juni 1942 – 1 Augustus 1944* (*The Annex: Diary Notes 14 June 1942 – 1 August 1944*) by Contact Publishing in Amsterdam in 1947, the diary received widespread critical and popular attention on the appearance of its English language translation *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Doubleday & Company (United States) and Valentine Mitchell (United Kingdom) in 1952. Its popularity inspired the 1955 play *The Diary of Anne Frank* by the screenwriters Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, which they adapted for the screen for the 1959 movie version. The book is included in several lists of the top books of the 20th century.

LINDSAY KESSELMAN

Hailed by *Fanfare Magazine* as an "artist of growing reputation for her artistry and intelligence... with a voice of goddess-like splendor" Lindsay Kesselman is a soprano who passionately advocates for contemporary music, actively commissioning and collaborating with a diverse array of composers to create unique, groundbreaking, and dramatically-inspired works for the voice.

This season Kesselman will have the honor of being the featured singer at John Corigliano's 80th birthday concert celebration at National Sawdust. Other season highlights include her debuts with the North Carolina Symphony and the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, as well as the 2017 release of *Antique Violences* on Blue Griffin, featuring *Songs from the End of the World* by John Mackey, written for Kesselman and chamber winds. Her performance on this recording was praised in *Fanfare*

Magazine: "...Kesselman sings the uncommonly beautiful songs with heartbreaking restraint..."
In the 2015-16 season, she made her debut with both the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Dutch National Opera in a leading role of a new opera by composer Louis Andriessen entitled *Theatre of the World*. A live audio recording with the Los Angeles Philharmonic was released on Nonesuch Records in September.

In 2012-2015 she sang with the Philip Glass Ensemble on an international tour of Philip Glass' ground-breaking opera *Einstein on the Beach*, which included 15 cities and the Latin American premiere of the piece. In 2013 this production won the prestigious Laurence Olivier award for Best New Opera Production.

Kesselman is the resident soprano with the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, and in that capacity has performed music by Joseph Schwantner, Louis Andriessen, John Corigliano, Amy Beth Kirsten, Chris Cerrone, Dan Visconti, David Stock, Mathew Rosenblum, and a staged production of Kieren MacMillan's *Drunken Moon* and Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*. She will be featured on an upcoming binaural recording of John Corigliano's *Mr. Tambourine Man* with this ensemble.

Recent highlights include Kesselman's Carnegie Hall debut singing Corigliano's *Mr. Tambourine Man*, Louis Andriessen's *La Commedia* (Béatrice) as part of the Andriessen 75 Festival with the Great Noise Ensemble, the Poulenc Gloria with the Buffalo Master Chorale, the premiere of *The End of Knowing*, a song cycle by Robert Beaser for soprano and wind symphony, collaborating with Tony Arnold and the Adrian Symphony (MI) on *Virtue* by Christopher Theofanidis, and the release of Kesselman's debut album of American contemporary music in 2014 on the Bad Wolf Music label, entitled *If this world could stop*. A track from this album was featured on the I CARE IF YOU LISTEN Spring 2015 mixtape.

Other recent appearances include Orff's *Carmina Burana* and Vaughan Williams' *Dona nobis pacem* with the Akron Symphony Orchestra (Ohio), a holiday concert with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra (Pennsylvania), Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with members of the Albuquerque Symphony Orchestra, Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* with the Cleveland Heights Chamber Orchestra, Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* in metro Chicago, and several concerts with Houston's Camerata Ventapane at the 2nd Annual Baroque Music Festival in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.

HAVEN, Kesselman's trio with Kimberly Cole Luevano, clarinet and Midori Koga, piano (www.haventrio.com) actively commissions and tours throughout North America. They recently released two albums on the Fleur de Son Classics label entitled *Bright Angel* and *Atonement*. HAVEN was the recipient of a 2015 Chamber Music America Classical Commissioning Grant with composer Jon Magnussen.

Kesselman holds degrees in voice performance from Rice University and Michigan State University. She currently lives in Winston Salem, NC with her husband, conductor Christopher James Lees, and son Rowan.

RABBI STEVEN BOB

Rabbi Steven M. Bob has served as Senior Rabbi of Congregation Etz Chaim since 1981 and has played a key role in making Congregation Etz Chaim the warm welcoming community that it is. His delight in Torah, his sense of humor and fun, his love of teaching and learning, and his ability to connect with congregants of all ages are some of the gifts he brings to his role.

Rabbi Bob was ordained in 1977, after earning his B.A. at the Univ. of Minnesota and his M.A. at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. He received the Doctor of Divinity degree from the Hebrew Union College in 2002. In addition, Rabbi Bob is currently an adjunct faculty member at Wheaton College and Elmhurst College, where he is also a founder of the Holocaust Education Program. He is a leader of the faculty of Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute and a recipient of the Samuel Cook Award for Lifetime Achievement in Youth Work.

Rabbi Bob's new book, "Jonah and the Meaning of Our Lives" was recently published by The Jewish Publication Society. Rabbi Bob's first book, "Go to Nineveh" was published in 2013 by Wimpf and Stock. He is recognized as an expert on Yom HaShoah. Rabbi Bob's involvement and leadership in the wider community include chairing the DuPage Interfaith Resource Network. He also served as Recording Secretary of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Rabbi Bob is a Past President of the Chicago Association of Reform Rabbis as well as the Elmhurst Ministerium. In August of 2015 the Chicago Board of Rabbis presented Rabbi Bob with the Rabbi Mordecai Simon Memorial Award.

Ha'aretz named Rabbi Bob as one of the 36 American Jews who helped shape the 2008 Presidential election. Rabbi Bob is the founder of the Fourth Day Initiative, an interfaith solar energy project.

DUPAGE CHORALE

This large community chorus performs choral concerts, usually in conjunction with the DuPage Chorale Orchestra, a professional orchestra. Repertoire includes standard choral works by Bach, Handel, Mozart and Brahms, as well as, modern masterpieces by Orff, Poulenc, Stravinsky and others. No audition is necessary for membership and members include everyone from choral newcomers to singers with a lifetime of experience and even multiple degrees in music. Adult singers of all voice types and ages are welcome. Members come from all western suburban locations. The Chorale is a course in the COD Music Department and membership includes college students and community members with a multigenerational profile. DuPage Chorale was the first music ensemble formed at College of DuPage and has been in continuous operation for since the late 1960's. What unites the members of the DuPage Chorale is an interest in the finest choral repertoire, a strong work ethic and a love of choral singing.

LEE R. KESSELMAN, DIRECTOR

Lee R. Kesselman has been the Director of Choral Activities at COD since 1981. Conductor, pianist, teacher and award-winning composer, he directs the DuPage Chorale, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir. He also founded and conducted New Classic Singers, a professional vocal ensemble, for 30 years. In demand as a guest conductor and clinician, Kesselman has conducted Dominick Argento's *Postcard from Morocco* for *OperaWorks!* in Madison, WI. Among his compositions are the opera *The Bremen Town Musicians* and *Infinity in the Palm of Your Hand* for children's chorus and orchestra. A member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and recipient of over 20 ASCAP awards, Kesselman's many compositions have been published by Boosey & Hawkes, Roger Dean Music, G. Schirmer and Kesselman Press. He is in frequent demand as a guest conductor, lecturer and clinician and composer-in-residence throughout the United States and abroad. He was named the Outstanding Faculty member at College of DuPage in 1994-95. Kesselman currently serves as President of Illinois Choral Directors Association. Kesselman is particularly known for his broad-reaching choral programs, including a wide span of music across periods, styles, cultures and contemporary social issues.

LINKS

MAC Event Page:

<http://www.atthemac.org/events/dupage-chorale-5/> •

Youtube performance of the chamber version of Annelies:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuyRNjTdMQ0>

Anne Frank website:

<http://www.annefrank.org/en/>

Soprano soloist Lindsay Kesselman:

<https://www.lindsaykesselman.com/>