



Orchestra Seattle
Seattle Chamber Singers
William White, music director

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MORE INFORMATION: www.osschs.org

HIGH-RES PHOTOS: <http://www.osschs.org/about/media/>

OSSCS unveils its 50th anniversary season, “Monuments”

- A season anchored by six monumental works: Carol Sams’ *The Earthmakers*, Beethoven’s “Eroica” Symphony, Handel’s *Messiah*, Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*, Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion* and Ravel’s complete *Daphnis and Chloé*.
- Grand finale concert to take place at Benaroya Hall on May 3, 2020.
- Guest artists include Benjamin Lulich (principal clarinetist of the Seattle Symphony) and vocal soloists who have appeared with the Seattle Symphony, Seattle Opera, English National Opera, Portland Opera, Portland Baroque, Pacific MusicWorks, Music of the Baroque (Chicago), Opera Parallèle and the Aix Festival.
- Season features three world premieres: *Circumference* by Huntley Beyer, *Vast Array* by Carlos Garcia, and *A Joyous Trilogy* by Quinn Mason (who will conduct the work himself).
- Orchestra Seattle and the Seattle Chamber Singers, Seattle’s premier vocal-instrumental ensemble, celebrates its fiftieth anniversary in 2019. Founded in 1969 by George Shangrow, an ambitious 18-year-old senior at Roosevelt High School, the group has grown from its humble beginnings as a chamber vocal ensemble to a mainstay of Seattle’s artistic scene.

This season, the second for **William White** as music director of **Orchestra Seattle and the Seattle Chamber Singers**, is programmed with the group’s history and its future in mind. Reprising works that made OSSCS’s name, the group will mount performances of **Handel’s *Messiah***, **Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion*** and ***The Earthmakers***, a major oratorio composed for the group in 1986 by **Carol Sams**.

Local composers have featured heavily in the group’s history and this season is no exception, with music by Sams (Edmonds), **Huntley Beyer** (Seattle), **Robert Kechley** (Seattle), **Carlos Garcia** (Everett) and **William White** himself (Seattle). Specially programmed *a cappella* concerts will feature the music of **Sheila Bristow** (Tacoma) and **Morten Lauridsen** (Waldron Island).

Masterworks abound this season, including **Beethoven’s “Eroica” Symphony**, **Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*** and **Maurice Ravel’s *Daphnis and Chloé*** (in a rare performance of the entire score — with choir, as Ravel intended it).

The group will take its performances into a variety of spaces this season, including **First Free Methodist Church** in north Queen Anne, **Plymouth Congregational Church** in downtown Seattle, **Bastyr Chapel** in Kenmore, the **Shorecrest Performing Arts Center** in Shoreline, **St. Joseph Parish Church** on Capitol Hill and, finally, **Benaroya Hall** for the gala finale concert.

Season subscriptions and tickets to individual concerts are available now. Concertgoers under 30 can attend each concert for just \$10, with college students and youth admitted free of charge (except for the Benaroya concert on May 3, 2020). For tickets and more information, please visit www.osscs.org.



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2019–2020 Season: Monuments

Origins

Saturday, October 5, 2019 • 7:30 p.m. • First Free Methodist Church

Carlos Garcia *Vast Array* [world premiere]

Darius Milhaud *La création du monde*

Carol Sams *The Earthmakers*

The OSSCS 50th anniversary season begins with music of creation. Hear trailblazing composer Carol Sams' epic masterpiece, *The Earthmakers*, an oratorio that recounts creation stories from a multitude of world cultures. Also featured are *La création du monde*, a jazzy work by Sams' teacher, Darius Milhaud, and the world premiere of local composer Carlos Garcia's fanfare, *Vast Array*.

Memorials

Saturday, November 2, 2019 • 7:30 p.m. • First Free Methodist Church

Jennifer Higdon *blue cathedral*

Huntley Beyer *Circumference* [world premiere]

Ludwig van Beethoven Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica")

The world premiere of Huntley Beyer's *Circumference*, an oratorio written in memory of OSSCS founder George Shangrow, Jennifer Higdon's *blue cathedral*, composed to honor her late brother, and Ludwig van Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony, written "to the memory of a great man."

Messiah

Saturday, December 14, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Plymouth Congregational Church (Seattle)

Sunday, December 15, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Bastyr Chapel (Kenmore)

G.F. Handel *Messiah*

A timeless classic and a Seattle tradition. OSSCS once again presents the region's only performances of Handel's full and unabridged score.

Ancestors

Saturday, February 15, 2020 • 7:30 p.m. • Shorecrest Performing Arts Center

Quinn Mason *A Joyous Trilogy* [world premiere]

W.A. Mozart Clarinet Concerto

Igor Stravinsky *Le sacre du printemps*

A world premiere by young composer-conductor Quinn Mason, a performance of Mozart's exquisite clarinet concerto by Seattle Symphony principal clarinetist Ben Lulich, and Igor Stravinsky's epochal *The Rite of Spring* make this a concert for the ages.

Sacrifice

Friday, March 20, 2020 • 7:00 p.m. • St. Joseph Parish

J.S. Bach *St. Matthew Passion*

The music of J.S. Bach has been at the core of OSSCS's repertoire since its inception 50 years ago. Now a new generation interprets this supreme masterpiece.

Celebration

Sunday, May 3, 2020 • 7:30 p.m. • Benaroya Hall

Robert Kechley *Psalm 100*

Lili Boulanger *Psaume XXIV*

William White *Psalm 46* [west coast premiere]

Maurice Ravel *Daphnis et Chloé* [complete]

The OSSCS 50th anniversary season concludes in grand style at Benaroya Hall with jubilant psalm settings by Robert Kechley, Lili Boulanger and OSSCS music director William White. The grand finale is a rare performance of the complete score of Maurice Ravel's dazzling "symphonie choréographique," *Daphnis and Chloé*.

Media Contact: William White, wwhite@osscs.org, 847-651-5055

Selected list of works given their world premieres by OSSCS

Jay Anthony Gach: *Allelujah: Quiet Music for Unquiet Times* (2017)
Kai-Young Chan: *Seeking, Searching* (2016)
Stacey Philipps: *Breathe* (2015)
Carol Sams: *Rhapsody for Viola and Orchestra* (2013)
Huntley Beyer: *Short Stories* (2011)
Robert Kechley: *Concerto for Bassoon, Chorus and Orchestra* (2011)
Sams: *Childhood's Moon* (2011)
Murl Allen Sanders: *She Blows Hot and Cold* (2010)
Beyer: *The Turns of a Girl* (2010)
Bryan Johanson: *The Underdog* (2007)
Sanders: *Accordion Concerto No. 2* (2007)
Beyer: *Songs of Illumination* (2007)
Kechley: *Running Passages* (2006)
Beyer: *Toot Suite* (2004)
Kechley: *Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra* (2004)
Sanders: *Accordion Concerto No. 1* (2003)
Kechley: *Flute Concerto* (2002)
Beyer: *The Mass of Life and Death* (2001)
Shakarian: *Flute Concerto* (2000)
William Wilde Zeitler: *Beyond the Frontier of the Known* (1999)
Beyer: *St. Mark Passion* (1995)
Frank Becker: *Five Canticles for Chorus and Orchestra* (1994)
Kechley: *Ballyrune* (1994)
Sams: *Symphony No. 1* (1992)
Beyer: *Symphony No. 4 ("Romantic Lines")* (1990)
Michael Young: *Mountain Symphony* (1990)
Gregory Short: *"American" Concerto for Piano and Orchestra* (1989)
Kechley: *Symphony No. 2* (1988)
Sams: *The Earthmakers* (1987)
David P. Jones: *And Death Is No Evil* (1986)
Sams: *Daddy's Money* (1986)
Sams: *Swamptet* (1986)
Beyer: *Stories Told to a Lover* (1986)
Beyer: *Symphony No. 3 ("Road Ode")* (1984)
Kechley: *Symphony No. 1* (1984)
Kechley: *Hunting Rags* (1979)
Sams: *Out Upon It!* (1974)
George Shangrow: *Christmas Cantata* (1970)