



Over The Mountain Festivals
and Margaret H. Roy
present

My Song in the Night



A Concert of Sacred Choral Music

Dr. Mark Nabholz, Guest Conductor

Ms. Karen Payne Krekelberg, Organist/Accompanist

The Over the Mountain Festival Choir and Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, February 18, 2024 • Three O'clock in the afternoon

Riverchase United Methodist Church, 1953 Old Montgomery Highway, Birmingham, Alabama 35244
otmfestivals.org • info@otmfestivals.org

Over the Mountain Festivals 2024

A Warm Welcome

It's not only the music that matters; it's the people you share it with." — Anonymous

Welcome returning friends and new! In this, our 15th season, we want to express our gratitude to everyone who has supported us through their participation, professional advice, attendance, and financial support. It has been our joy to prepare and present our programs to you each year.

We welcome Dr. Mark Nabholz as our Guest Conductor. He shares the following:

Today's concert, entitled "My Song in the Night," speaks to the power of sacred music to accompany us through every changing scene of life. It has been my privilege and genuine pleasure to prepare today's program with the fine people of the Over the Mountain Festival Chorus! We share the hope that you will leave this concert with an uplifted heart and increased confidence to face the year that lies ahead.

Grouped under three broad headings, our program begins with choruses excerpted from larger works by five of the most enduring composers of the western world. Representing three of the dominant choral genres, Oratorio (Handel and Haydn), Church Cantata (Bach), and the Mass (Mozart and Brahms), these selections traverse the gamut of human emotions with great power, from exuberant joy to deepest sorrow to quiet confidence.

In the middle section, we present a youthful and rarely performed work of Giacomo Puccini (1858-1904), who would become one of the greatest operatic composers. Still a teenager when he composed this *Gloria*, we can already hear his gift for sweeping melodies, colorful orchestration, and dramatic energy that would characterize his entire mature output.

Our program concludes with favorite and wonderful hymn arrangements that illustrate the depth and variety of our singing faith. While most of them were originally birthed during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries from sources as varied as the Church of England and African American spirituals, all of them possess an immediacy that reminds us that when we express our faith in song, we are joining our voices with all those who have gone before us and with whom we hope one day to be reunited. *Soli Deo gloria!*

Returning to OTM Festivals for her fifth season is our Festival Organist and Accompanist, Ms. Karen Krekelberg. You will enjoy getting acquainted with Dr. Nabholz and Ms. Krekelberg in the pages that follow and at the reception after the concert in Riverchase Room-B to the left of the Narthex as you exit the Sanctuary.

It has been requested by the Festival Chorus that all refrain from applause until the end of each section of the program. At those times, feel free to show your appreciation as the Spirit leads.

And lastly, as we sing our congregational hymns together, remember the words of John Wesley, "Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength."

*Please silence all electronic devices so that everyone may enjoy the performance without distraction.
Any recording of this concert is strictly prohibited.*

My Song in the Night

Hymn No. 103

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

LOBE DEN HERREN

The Festival Choir and Congregation

Part I. Beloved Choruses

“Sing Unto God”

(from *Judas Maccabaens*)

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

ed. Chester L. Alwes

Sing unto God and high affections raise, to crown His conquests with unmeasured praise.

The Festival Choir

“Sleepers, Awake!”

(from Cantata 180, *Wachet auf*)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Wake, awake, for night is flying,
The watchmen on the heights are crying;
Awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices,
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
“Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The Bridegroom comes, awake;
Your lamps with gladness take!” Alleluia!
Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord,
Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

The Festival Choir

“Awake the Harp”

(from *The Creation*)

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

Awake the harp, the lyre awake,
And let your joyful song resound.
Rejoice in the Lord, the mighty God:
For He both heaven and earth
Hath cloth'd in stately dress.

The Festival Choir

“Lacrymosa”

(from *Requiem*, K. 626)

W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Lacrimosa dies illa,
qua resurget ex favilla
judicandus homo reus.
Huic ergo parce, Deus,
pie Jesu Domine,
dona eis requiem. Amen.

That day of tears and mourning,
when from the ashes shall rise,
all humanity to be judged.
Spare us by Your mercy, Lord,
gentle Lord Jesus,
grant them eternal rest. Amen.

The Festival Choir

“How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place”

(from *A German Requiem*)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
ed. Archibald T. Davison, (1883-1961)

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
For my soul, it longeth, yea fainteth for the courts of the Lord;
My soul and body crieth out, yea for the living God.
Blest are they that dwell within Thy house;
They praise Thy name evermore.

The Festival Choir

Part II. “Gloria”

Words of Welcome and Thanks

Philip J. Capra, Jr., Executive Director

In Memoriam

Hymn No. 711

Stanzas 1, 2, 5, 6

“For All the Saints”

SINE NOMINE

arr. Arron Powell

The Festival Choir and Congregation

Gloria

(from *Messa di Gloria*)

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

ed. Donald Neuen

*Gloria in excelsis Deo
Et in terra pax.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.
Gratias, agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe,
Domine Deus, agnus Dei, filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostrum,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
quoniam us solus Dominus,
Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu:
in gloria Dei Patris, Amen.*

Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth, peace.
We praise You, we bless you.
We adore You, we glorify You.
We thank You for Your great glory.
Lord God, Heavenly King,
God, Father almighty.
Lord, only begotten Son, Jesus Christ,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
who takes away the sins of the world,
accept our plea,
Have mercy on us.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

The Festival Choir

Part III. Beloved Hymns and Anthems

Hymn No. 66

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA

The Festival Choir and Congregation

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

John Rutter

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flow’r that opens, each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings. *Refrain.*

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. *Refrain.*

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden; He made them everyone. *Refrain.*

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God almighty, who made all things well. *Refrain.*

The Festival Choir

“My Song in the Night”

American Folk Hymn
arr. Mack Wilberg

O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night,
Come to us with Thy tender love, my soul’s delight.
Unto Thee, O Lord, in affliction I call,
My comfort by day and my song in the night.

O why should I wander an alien from Thee,
Or cry in the desert Thy face to see?
My comfort and joy, my soul’s delight.
O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night.

My comfort and joy, my soul’s delight.
O Jesus, my Savior, my song in the night.

The Festival Choir

“Ev’ry Time I Feel the Spirit”

arr. William L. Dawson (1899-1990)

Refrain: Ev’ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.
Yes, ev’ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Up on the mountain, my Lord spoke,
Out of His mouth came fire and smoke:
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,
Till I asked my Lord if all was mine. *Refrain.*

Jordan River is chilly and cold,
It chills the body, but not the soul:
There ain’t but one train upon on this track,
It runs to heaven an’ right back. *Refrain.*

Ev’ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.
Yes, ev’ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray,
Yes, I will pray.

The Festival Women

“And Can It Be?”

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

arr. Dan Forrest

And can it be? And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be?
And can it be that I should gain an int’reast in the Savior’s blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain — for me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, should die for me?

He left His Father’s throne above, so free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam’s helpless race:
’Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me!
And can it be? And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold, I approach th’ eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Amazing love, how can it be, that Thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love!

The Festival Men

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Gilbert M. Martin (b. 1941)

Based on the tune by Lowell Mason

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Festival Choir

Postlude “Carillon (from 24 Pieces in style libre) Op 31 No 21” Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Karen Krekelberg, Festival Organist

*Thank you again for spending your Sunday afternoon with us.
We hope you will plan to stay awhile to meet Dr. Nabholz, Ms. Krekelberg,
and our singers, who have diligently prepared to share this program with you – they would love to meet you.
As you make your way to the reception in Riverchase Room-B, please be sure to enjoy the art display featuring the
work of local artists Margaret Fritsma, Marcia Ward, and Ginny Whitaker.*

Our Festival Conductor

Dr. Mark Nabholz serves as Director of Music at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery. Prior to joining Trinity's staff in 2021, he was Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Mississippi College, where, in addition to conducting the nationally recognized MC Singers, he taught conducting and choral literature at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Dr. Nabholz holds degrees from the University of South Carolina (D.M.A.), the Eastman School of Music (M.M.), and Houghton College (B. Mus.). His major teachers include Larry Wyatt, Donald Neuen, and Donald Bailey. He is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), having served on state boards in South Carolina and Mississippi, and of the National Collegiate Choral Organization (NCCO), where he recently completed a two-year term as Chief Editor of Publications and National Executive Board member.

Mark and his wife, Fran, have four adult children, two perfect grandchildren, and eight happy backyard chickens.

Our Festival Organist and Accompanist

Karen Payne Krekelberg is serving in her fifth season as accompanist and organist for Over the Mountain Festivals. She is currently serving as the Associate Director of Music and Arts/Organist at Vestavia Hills Methodist Church, where she has been since 2011.

Prior to this, Ms. Krekelberg served as pianist/organist at Trussville First United Methodist Church for 13 years, and at other churches from the age of 16. She earned a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Montevallo, with an emphasis in piano pedagogy. While there, she studied piano with Robert Cowan and organ with Betty Louise Lumby. She has enjoyed teaching private piano as well as group classes to students of all ages over the years. Karen maintains a piano studio at the Conservatory of the Arts at Vestavia Hills Methodist Church and serves as head of the piano faculty. She can often be found accompanying for various music groups and theatre productions around Birmingham, including The Birmingham Girls Choir, the Birmingham Harmony Belles, and the Cahaba Chamber Chorale.

Karen is mother of two adult children and proud grandmother of two.

The Festival Singers

Sopranos

Deborah Barone
Beth Branscome
Janice Bricker
Elizabeth Calhoun
Sandy Carter
Jaana Clayhills
Pam Coffey
Ginger Combs
Cathy Crittenden
Susan Day
Donna DePrine
Anna Flemming
Mary Ethel Gross

Elizabeth Guenther
Kay Harris
Rosemary Holcomb
Emily Horton
Susanne Leveille
Lissa Lutenbacher
Carolyn Malmborg
Joy Holcomb Martin
Kat Martin
Kathy Martin
Erin McDow
Kim McRae
Nikki Mestre

Fran Nabholz
Amy Pfeil Neimkin
Karen Pearson
Laurel Pinard
Diane Popwell
Linda Preston
Holly Simmons
Kaitlyn Smith
Laura Stewart
Tonya Tishaw
Gilda Wilkerson

Altos

Lisa Berry
Suzan W. Bishop
Marsha Borden
Jackie Cantelmo
Teresa P. Capra
Jan Conder
Holly Dees
Risa Entrekin
Maggie Gibson
Melody Harden

Suzanne Harris
Wendy Hellings
Cathy Henry
Amber Johnson
Alice Krug
Sally Martin
Karen McKelroy
Cathy G. Moncrief
Sheila S. Nelson
Judy D. Pelletreau

Naomi Perez
Carol Reed
Stephanie Remetich
Dianne Roberts
Ruth Robinson
Anne Schultz
Becky Sharritt
Jan Jones Shultz
Baileigh Smith

Tenors

James A. Brown, Jr.
Cary Campbell
Philip Capra
Rusty Chastain
George Hodges
Don Lingle

David Luginbuhl
Dan Medders
David S. Nelson
Bill Nolen
Donald Shipp
Albert Smith

Richard Stoneberg
Bill Tiemann
Patrick Tisdale
Jay Vaughn

Basses

Dave Balius
E. Wess Bramlitt
Maynard Brothers
Bruce Burson
Robert Chamberlain
Marlon Crow
James P. Diaz

George A. Fritsma
Ed Groenendal
Buddy Heerten
Randall Jamieson
Joseph Jones
Al Lassiter
Matthew Morgan

Keith Reed
Rolland Stoneberg
Stack Stachelski
Mark Taylor
Dick Voran
Paul West
Ken Wienecke

The Festival Orchestra

First Violin	Second Violin	Viola	Cello	Bass
Daniel Szasz	Caroline Nordlund	Zak Enikeev	Samuel Nordlund	Richard Cassarino
Paul Halberstadt	Hilarie Rivas	Rene Reder	Patty Pilon	
Serghei Tanas	Bonnie Furuto			
Flute	Oboe	Clarinet	Bassoon	
Tessa Vermeulen	Jim Sullivan	<i>Kathleen Costello</i>	Cameron Bonner	
Flute/Piccolo	Kelly Newport	<i>Brad Whitfield</i>	Jack Sharp	
Britney Patterson				
Trumpet	French Horn	Trombone	Tuba	
Nick Ciulla	Kevin Kozak	Jay Evans	Tom Yan	
Joe Ardovino	Nina Tarpley	Jonathan Houghtling		
		Mytchel Walker		
	Timpani			
	Grant Dalton			

Bonnie Furuto, Orchestra Contractor

Church Choirs and Choral Groups Represented

Alabama Civic Chorale	Helena Methodist Church
Alabama Symphony Orchestra Chorus	Huffman United Methodist
Auburn United Methodist Church	Hunter Street Baptist Church Choir
Briarwood Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir	Huntsville Community Chorus
Brookview Wesleyan Church	Independent Presbyterian Church, Memphis. TN
Cahaba Springs Presbyterian Church	Mountain Brook Baptist Church
Cathedral of St. Paul	Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church
Christ Church Birmingham	Prince of Peace Catholic Church
Christ Church PCA, Trussville	Riverchase United Methodist Church
Christ Covenant Reformed Church, Germantown, TN	Saint Alban's Episcopal Church
Dawson Memorial Baptist Church	Songbirds
Eagle's Wing Church	South Highland Presbyterian Church
Episcopal Church of the Ascension	Trinity Presbyterian Church, Birmingham
Evangel Church PCA, Alabaster	Trinity Presbyterian Church, Montgomery
Faith Presbyterian Church	Trussville First Methodist Church
First Fairhope Baptist Church, Fairhope, AL	Vestavia Hills Baptist Church
First Presbyterian Church of Alabaster	Warblers Club

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(In memory of Jim Roy)

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Ruth Baldwin
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(In loving memory of their parents)
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(In loving memory of Gaston White)

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It is through your generosity that the work of Over the Mountain Festivals will continue. If you have not made a contribution and wish to do so, a pre-addressed envelope has been provided for your convenience. You may mail the envelope or leave it in an offering basket in the narthex.

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With grateful appreciation to. . .

Riverchase United Methodist Church, for hosting this year's Festival of Sacred Music

David H. Balius, Jr., webmaster and program cover designer

Pastor Tony Johnson, Daniel deShazo, Cathy Hayhurst, Chris Higginbotham, and the gracious members of Riverchase United Methodist Church

The dozens who participated in our various fundraisers and helped with various activities throughout our season. These include Barbara Ramsay, Carleen and Ralph Ozley, and Jeannette Minor, to name a few.

What We Do and for Whom

Over the Mountain Festivals exists to foster and perpetuate the singing of sacred choral music and to provide training and encouragement to directors of small choirs and their choristers, both adults and children, for the glory of God, for the edification of participants, and for the enjoyment of the community.

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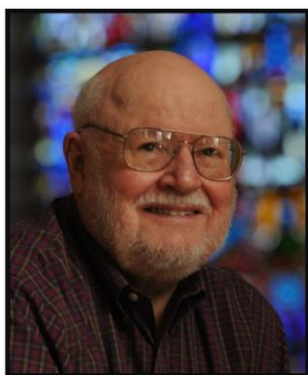
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Website: www.otmfestivals.org

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In Memoriam

Paul Gaston White

July 10, 1930–November 2, 2023

Over the Mountain Festivals founding board member Paul Gaston White, 93, of Birmingham, passed away November 2, 2023 at Greenbriar at the Altamont in Birmingham. Gaston was born July 10, 1930 to Mary Ellen Grant White and Henry Paul White. He graduated from the University of Alabama in 1953 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He married Eva Frances Clapp in 1951 and together they had four children. After serving in the Air Force 1954–56, he returned to Birmingham and worked for Rust Engineering, Simons Eastern, and Southern Company Services during his long and distinguished career. He was an instructor for Industrial Ventilation Conferences for over 40 years. His avocation of choral conducting led him to interim positions in several churches in the Birmingham area. In those years he also sang with many choral groups. In addition to serving on the founding board of Over the Mountain Choral Festivals he was a Vice Chairman of the National Sacred Harp Convention. He participated in his church (Briarwood Presbyterian PCA) serving in many positions including elder. He expressed his love of his Savior and sacred choral music participating in four music mission trips to Odessa, Ukraine. Gaston's other interests included travel, photography, crossword puzzles, fine restaurants, Alabama football, and telling a good story. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eva Frances Clapp White; his siblings David Michael White and Eva Judith White Duncan; his parents Mary Ellen Grant White and Henry Paul White. Surviving are his four children: Paul Gaston White, Jr. (Joan); Eva Denise White Richardson (Guy); Mary Ellen White Whitehurst (A.D.); Julie White; four granddaughters: Eva Katherine Richardson Moore (Nathan); Joy Fleming Richardson; Mary Rose Vaillancourt Lane (Sean); Sarah Ellen Greta Wolfe; and one great-granddaughter: Eva Charlotte Moore. Gaston is buried at Southern Heritage Cemetery.

I knew of Gaston many years before I actually became acquainted with him in Spring, 2008 while in Memphis visiting with my friend, James Brown, Director of Music and Worship at Independent Presbyterian Church. Gaston invited me to have lunch with him at which time I shared my vision for a community choral group which eventually became Over the Mountain Festivals. He embraced the concept immediately and began sharing stories of musical experiences that he and his wife, Eva, enjoyed for so many years, his participation with other organizations such as the Berkshire Choral Festivals and singing under the baton of the great Robert Shaw. He captivated us with his stories—oh, the stories! And he was never without one. His belief in and contributions to what OTM Festivals is about was immeasurable. Always available, always a mentor, always a friend! ~ Philip Capra

I knew Gaston most of my life. He and Eva were my parents' best friends. Our family spent every New Years Day at their home for food, football and fellowship. He was a major influence in my calling to music ministry and an advocate for, and assistant with, many church music events for which we have been leaders and participants. We miss him very much, but look forward to seeing him again one day. ~ James Brown

