

english version

veni.  
creator.  
spiritus.

concert of contemporary sacred music

08.06.2025 - 19.00

St. John's church, Riga

We appreciate it if you want to applaud, but we encourage you to wait until after the last song.

Thank you very much!

## **SPIRITUM DOMINI**

vocal ensemble | gregorian introitus for  
pentecost

## **EXPLORATIONS I**

organ and electronics | Andreas J. Theobald

ACTS 2, 1-11

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of

fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we

hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

## **MAGNIFICAT**

vocal ensemble and organ | Andreas J. Theobald

JOHN 20, 19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the

Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

vocal ensemble and organ | Andreas J. Theobald

## **DILEXI**

organ and electronics | Andreas J. Theobald

TEXT INSPIRED BY AMANDA GORMAN

„I have two questions for you: 1. Whose shoulders do you stand on? 2. What do you stand for?" These are the words American poet Amanda Gorman asks at the beginning of her 2018 TedTalk. „I'm the daughter of black writers, who descended from freedom fighters, who broke their chains and changed the world." She

then describes, how she uses her own answer to these questions as a mantra before public performances. Because Armanda Gorman, who in 2021 became world famous through reading one of her poems at Joe Biden's inauguration, struggled for a long time of her life with a speech impediment and avoided speaking in front of other people. But at a certain point in her youth she had a realization: „If I chose not to speak - out of fear. Then there is no one my silent is standing for“. What gave her the strenght to speak up where these two initial questions and the resulting mantra. She calls it honorary ancestors and refers to people, who's intellectual legacy or who's values she wants to continue and fight for in her art. She chose to use this mantra to build bridges and speak up for the

people, who have no voice in this world through her poetry.

How would the disciples have answered these two questions? How would have Jesus answered to them? And how would you answer them? Whose shoulders do you stand on and what do you stand for?

## **SŪTI SAVU GARU**

vocal ensemble and elektroniks | Andreas J.

Theobald

## **LOVING**

vocal ensemble | Andreas J. Theobald

## **VENI CREATOR SPIRITUS**

vocal ensemble | gregorian hymnus for  
pentecost arr. Andreas J. Theobald

## **CONFIRMA HOC DEUS**

vocal ensemble | written for pentecost  
by William Byrd

TEXT INSPIRED BY BARBARA KINGSOLVER

Memory is not a neutral thing. It is shaped by what we have experienced, felt, understood – or repressed. Some memories we carry like a treasure. Others like a burden. There are things we gladly remember. And there are things we would rather forget.

The American author Barbara Kingsolver puts it clearly: “Memory is a relative to truth, but not its



twin.” What we remember is not always the truth, but it is our truth. And in that sense, memory holds power: it can comfort, disturb, heal – or keep us trapped.

Pentecost is the celebration in which memory is transforming. The disciples remember what Jesus said and did – and at first, it seems like that alone is not enough. Only the Holy Spirit brings movement into their remembering. Suddenly, memory turns into new action. They speak where they had become silent and they connect what had been divided. Memory turns into language. Language turns into community and community turns into future.

## **REMEMBER NOT, LORD OUR OFFENCES**

vocal ensemble | Henry Purcell

# **MEMENTO**

violin I Andreas J. Theobald

IN DIE NACHT / INTO THE NIGHT - Ferdinand

Rochel

Twilight falls again,

and perhaps now

the time has come

for me to go.

Already the songs fade,

echoing softly homeward —

the night is so serene.

Let me go,

even if I don't fully understand.

Still, I feel the moment is here,

gently drawing me into the dark.

Let me go,  
until we meet again someday.

For all the time  
we will soon recall together  
passes through this night.

To know it must end  
in our time

— that is our quiet joy.

Not turning the gaze away,  
letting the eyes rest,  
only for this one moment.

## **IN DIE NACHT**

vocal ensemble | Andreas J. Theobald

## BLESSING INSPIRED BY CHRISTE QUI LUX

Before we go into this night,  
we ask for your blessing:

You who are light and day,  
drive away the darkness of night!  
Keep us safe through these hours,  
and let us rest in you.

Though our eyes are weary,  
let our hearts stay ever watchful.  
Remember us and stay near to us.  
Amen.

**CHRISTE QUI LUX**

vocal ensemble | William Byrd

## **vocal ensemble**

Aija Veismane, Agate Grīnhofa, Kamila Siliņa, Anastasija  
Kildiša, Jēkabs Bernāts, Andreas Theobald, Pēteris Kalniņš,  
Jānis Kokins

## **organ**

Simon Graeber

## **electronics**

Andreas Theobald

## **violin**

Arina Bardova

## **voice**

Marta Paula Pauliņa

**Special thanks to Ilze Reine and to the parish of St.  
John's church, Riga**