



# *Spirituals and Folk Songs*



First Inversion  
Lee Wright, conductor

Friday, April 24, 7:30PM Saturday, April 25, 8:00PM  
Downtown Presbyterian Church 121 N. Fitzhugh St. Rochester, NY



## Welcome!

It is with gratitude and joy that I welcome you to the final concert of First Inversion's inaugural season! Your presence not only supports the work and liberating play of the people on stage, but creates part of this unique performance that will never happen again in the same way. You change us, we change you, and the music engages everyone. The sharing of collective wisdom, experience, and joy among the over 70 artists who have participated this season has been a tremendous gift. It is my hope that today's concert inspires unexpected growth, introduces you to a new friend, leaves you with some new tunes to whistle while you work, and encourages appreciation for the diversity represented on stage and in the audience.



I want to thank all of our season ticket holders, especially our founding subscribers, who have helped to make this first season possible. Next season, we will continue to explore some well known and lesser known works including Herbert Howells' moving Requiem, Rheinberger's Vom Goldenen Horn (an enchanting set of Turkish songs for soloists, choir, and piano), double-choir works by Robert Schumann, and a program featuring women composers past and present.

When you commit to First Inversion with your presence, you give a gift with implications far beyond your own imagining. Thank you for joining us!

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee".

Lee Wright  
Founder and Artistic Director

# Program

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963) ..... from *Huit Chansons Françaises*, (1945-1946)

1. Margoton va t'a l'iau
2. La belle se sied au pied de la tour
3. Pilons l'orge
4. Clic, clac, dansez sabots
7. Ah! Mon beau laboureur
8. Les tissaerands

Max Reger (1873-1916) ..... from *Acht ausgeählte Volkslieder*

5. Trutze nicht
7. Schwäbisches Tanzliedchen

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) ..... Just as the Tide Was Flowing (1913)

Roger Wagner (1914-1992) ..... All Through the Night (1956)

Jonathan Quick (b. 1970) ..... Loch Lomond (2000)

Joseph Flummerfelt (b. 1937) ..... Danny Boy (1991)

## Intermission

From *Slave Songs of the United States* (1867) ..... No More Auction Block

From *Jubilee Songs* (1872) ..... Steal Away

From *Cabin and Plantation Songs* (1874) ..... Gwine up

Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949) ..... My Lord, What a Mornin' (1924)

John W. Work (1901-1967) ..... Rockin' Jerusalem (1940)  
Paulina Swierczek, soloist

Alice Parker (b. 1925) and Robert Shaw (1916-1999) ..... My God Is a Rock (1963)

Michael Tippett (1905-1998) ..... from Five Negro Spirituals from *A Child of Our Time* (1958)

2. Nobody Knows
  3. Go Down, Moses
  4. By and By
- Yunjin Kim and Tyler Cervini, soloists

Moses Hogan (1957-2003) ..... Walk Together, Children (2001)

Please join us for a reception following our performance in the Hallock Lounge.



First Inversion seeks to empower Rochester's finest avocational singers, engage professional singers with fresh ideas, and to inspire our audiences through honest connection with a rich and varied repertoire. First Inversion welcomes singers who love choral music, have significant choral experience, and who wish to use each rehearsal and performance as an opportunity to improve their own musicianship and choral artistry.

Our rehearsal process encourages the letting go of old or unhelpful styles of learning, thinking, and singing in order to allow each individual's artistry to become more fearless and selfless every step of the way. A "connection-first" approach facilitates fast-paced learning. Ultimately, the ensemble provides a safe place where singers can continually hone and transform their choral musicianship for the better through a mindful, self-aware approach to communal music creation.

For pictures and biographies of each performer, please visit [firstinversion.org/singers/](http://firstinversion.org/singers/)

## Next Season's Highlights!

Next season, we will continue to explore some well known and lesser known works including Herbert Howells' moving *Requiem*, Rheinberger's *Vom Goldenen Horn* (an enchanting set of Turkish songs for soloists, choir, and piano), double-choir works by Robert Schumann, and a program featuring women composers, past and present. All programs will take place at Downtown Presbyterian Church. Make sure you are on our email list for more details! You can sign up for the mailing list at our website:

[firstinversion.org](http://firstinversion.org)

## Interested in Singing with First Inversion?

Auditions are heard upon request.  
Visit [firstinversion.org/sing-with-us/](http://firstinversion.org/sing-with-us/)  
to fill out a new singer survey today.  
Regular auditions for next season  
will be held in August and September.



# The Choir

## Sopranos

Glenda Brayman  
Cassie Buckel  
Kristin Jarvis  
Yunjin Kim\*  
Debra McCullough  
Pati Piper  
Amy Steinberg  
Joan Sussman  
Brenda Tremblay

## Tenors

Christian Bigliani  
Tyler Cervini\*  
Jason Cloen  
Mark Darling  
Jake Dassa  
Michael Gehl  
Christopher Petit

## Altos

Nancy Berlove  
Sarah Bertrand\*  
Kathryn Borden  
Kalyet Chirchir  
Helvi McClelland  
Andrea McGaugh\*  
Elizabeth P. Kinney  
Kelley Madden  
Paulina Swierczek\*

## Basses

Alan Cline\*  
Tyler Dzuba  
Steven Metcalfe  
Joe Pellittieri  
Jason Perfetto  
Evan Roberts\*  
Jack Spula  
Tim Thomas

\*Section Leader

# Thank you to our Founding Subscribers

Anonymous, A DUPC friend and admirer, Liz Bell and Tansy Deutsch, Judy Boyd, Priscilla and Rob Brown, Jim Costich and Lee Sheldon, Juli Elliot, Michael Gehl and Jeff Caruso, Aaron Gallant: In loving memory of my grandmother, Phyllis Gallant, who taught me the joys of music, Margaret H. Haining, David and Mary Ann Hamilton, William Kelly and Bradley Forth, Deb and Gary Leary, Peter and Gail Mott: In honor and memory of Ed Cain, Charles Owens, Pati and Steve Piper, Joanne and David Poland, Susan and Bob Richane, Pat Youngdahl and Michal McKenzie

## Acknowledgements

To the staff and congregation of Downtown Presbyterian Church for your generous support

To Brandon Ferraro for your beautiful videography

To Carl Pultz and Alembic Productions for recording our performance

To Aaron Gallant, house manager, Liz Bell, reception coordinator, and

To all of our volunteers for your invaluable help

To all of the performers for your commitment and artistry

To Michael Gehl and Brent Neeley for thoughtful gifts

To you, our audience, without whom we would create into a vacuum.

## Thank You!!

Download this program to your phone or computer using the link or QR code below. Then leave this program for another patron to use. Thank you for helping us to conserve our natural resources!

<http://firstinversion.org/spirituals-and-folk-songs-program/>

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Program

Text Translations



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