



MADRIGALIA

CARY RATCLIFF, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Earthkeeping II

Featuring the RIT Singers and
College of Science Musicians

April 23

5:30pm

**Sklarsky Glass Box Theater, SHED
Rochester Institute of Technology**

RIT

College of Liberal Arts
School of
Performing Arts

RIT

College of
Science



MADRIGALIA

CARY RATCLIFF, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

with

Chris Doser, flute & saxophone

Ted Canning, percussion

Ben Proctor, guitar

Ines Drascovic, piano

PROGRAM

For the Beauty of the Earth Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)
text: Folliott Sandford Pierpont (1835-1917)

Eagle Song Joy Harjo (b.1951)
transcribed: Cary Ratcliff
Brenda Tremblay, speaker
Jacqueline Castiglia, ankle rattles

Proud Songster Phillip Silvey (b.1965)
text: Thomas Hardy (1840-1928)

Great Trees Cary Ratcliff (b.1953)
text: Wendell Berry (b.1934)

Cry Glenn McClure (b.1964)

Spell to Bring Lost Creatures Home Bob Chilcott (b.1955)
text: Kathleen Raine (1908-2003)

Gentle Warrior Greg Artzner
transcribed: Cary Ratcliff
Jacqueline Castiglia, soloist
Gavin Palmer, cello

Cloudburst Eric Whitacre (b.1970)
text: Octavio Paz (1914-1998)
Joe Finetti and Mary Mowers, soloists

Blue Boat Home
(premiere performance)

Carrie Magin (b.1981)
text: Peter Mayer

Katherine Jefferis, soloist
'Blue Boat Home' was commissioned by Madrigalia.

Before the Deluge

Jackson Browne (b.1948)
arr. Cary Ratcliff

The Peace of Wild Things

Matthew Olson
text: Wendell Berry

Evergreen Everblue

Raffi Cavoukian (b.1948)
Joe Finetti and Megan Ormsbee, soloists

Special Thanks To:

Gaylon Arnold, curator of photography

Pam McInerney, video montage creator

Madrigalia delights audiences with its beauty of sound and artistic excellence. The ensemble of highly skilled vocalists presents unique and challenging programs of choral music built around illuminating themes. Their music is drawn from all times and places, spanning the riches of classic choral styles, the vast range of compelling music being written in our time, and the intriguing musical expressions of cultures throughout the world. Madrigalia promotes the appreciation of choral singing to diverse audiences through performances, recordings, broadcasts, outreach, and the commissioning of new music.

Artistic Director **Cary Ratcliff** is now in his eleventh season with Madrigalia. Under his direction, the chorus has released two CD recordings: *For Better, For Worse: Music About Marriage*, and *On This Day Earth Shall Ring*. The chorus also contributed to the recording of Ratcliff's large-scale opera *Eleni*. Known as a composer of choral, orchestral, chamber music, art song, and opera, Ratcliff also is keyboardist with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Recordings include a Harmonia Mundi 2015 release of his oratorio *Ode to Common Things* on poems of Pablo Neruda, by Conspirare under Craig Hella Johnson, which was nominated for Best Choral Performance for the 2016 Grammys; and *Kathryn Lewek sings Cary Ratcliff* on Albany Records. His compositions can be explored on youtube.com/@caryratcliff1738.

Soprano

Glenda Brayman
Jacqueline Castiglia
Juli Elliot
Karen Hospers *
Mary Mowers §
Brenda Tremblay
Amanda von Rathonyi
Heather Watras

Tenor

Justin Doyle
Daniel McInerney
Donald Reaves *

Alto

Sarah Engel
Katherine Jefferis
Rachel Michalak
Brenda Nitsch
Megan Ormsbee
Tara Switzer

Bass

Joe Borrelli
Joe Finetti
Alan Giambattista §
Jim Jefferis
Craig Knight *

* on leave
§ guest

Chris Doser is a saxophonist and educator native to the Rochester area. He teaches 4th and 5th grade Instrumental Music at French Road Elementary School in Brighton. He attended the Eastman School of Music for classical saxophone, performing with several groups while he was there including the Eastman Wind Ensemble, Eastman Saxophone Project, and New Jazz Ensemble. When not teaching music, he can be found in the great outdoors, or spending time with friends and family.

Ted Canning, a Steel Pan (drum) player, percussionist, and teaching artist, has done extensive work performing classical music, theater, big band and jazz. Ted now performs with the steel drum here in the US, in Europe and Latin America. He has performed with national champions “Phase II Pan Groove” in Trinidad, and with multiple steelbands in Brooklyn, New York. Ted now leads the Panloco Steelband, the “Steel Alchemy” Community Steelband, and the RIT “Tiger Steel” Steelband.

Ben Proctor lives in Brighton with his wife and four children. He enjoys teaching music at Fairport Schools and the Kanack School of Musical Artistry. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, Ben performs and writes songs with several local groups, including acclaimed Americana band The Crooked North. He has a passion for American music and advocates for participation in social music traditions.

**Photographers that contributed images
for the video montage include:**

Gaylon Arnold
Martha Price
Joan Weetman

Pianist **Ines Draskovic** is Professor of Music at Finger Lakes Community College, and has taught at the College since 1996. Prior to this, she was a faculty member at Ithaca College. Dr. Draskovic received a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, and a Master of Music in Piano Performance from Ithaca College. Her teachers include Alexei Nasedkin, Phiroze Mehta and Rebecca Penneys. Ines has performed in Europe and the United States, and has won several piano competitions, including the Ithaca College Concerto Competition and Republic of Serbia Piano Competition in Belgrade (Serbia). She was the finalist in Piano Competition in Stresa (Italy) and has participated in festivals and master classes in Italy, Poland, Germany, and former Yugoslavia. In addition to her solo career, Ines performs regularly with the Finger Lakes Chorale and College Singers (Canandaigua, NY), as well as the Finger Lakes Choral Festival and the chamber orchestra Cordancia, both based in Rochester, NY.