

ANIMA MUNDI PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS *The Heart of Humanity*
Concert Series

Honoring My Sister's Beauty

A MUSICAL AND POETIC CONVERSATION
BETWEEN DIVERSE TRADITIONS



Brooke Iva Lohman
Soprano

Lindsay Patterson Abdou
Mezzo-Soprano



Dr. Lesa Terry
Violin, Poet



Joseph Williams
Piano



Tiziana DellaRovere
Poet

Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 3:00pm
SOU Music Recital Hall on Mountain Ave.

OREGON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
AT SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

UPDATE: UPTOWN STRING QUARTET **POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER**



The legendary Uptown String Quartet were originally scheduled to perform in Ashland this weekend, but we've had to postpone their concert.

**They will open our 2023-2024 season on
Sunday, November 5, 2023.**

"A revitalized, fresh and completely new sound"

The Buffalo News

*"The group's repertoire... delightfully eclectic and often daringly arranged...
demonstrated the quartet's precision, warmth and expressiveness"*

The Washington Post



Tickets and information coming soon at

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www.HumanityTickets.com



ANIMA MUNDI PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

Honoring My Sister's Beauty

A musical and poetic conversation
between diverse traditions

Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 3:00 pm

Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano

Lesia Terry, violin & poetry

Tiziana DellaRovere, original poetry

Joe Williams, piano

Artistic design by Tiziana DellaRovere

Set construction and tech direction by Shawn Ramagos

Jamey Anderson & Brian Driscoll, concert sponsors

Marie Lamfrom
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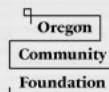
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This concert is also sponsored in part by
the Oregon Center for the Arts at Southern Oregon University.

OREGON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
AT SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY



ANIMA MUNDI
PRODUCTIONS

Through the Folds of Time

This concert is a witnessing of each other's beauty by exploring European and African American musical traditions through the lens of sisterhood. It is the beginning of a conversation through poetry and music to repair the sorrow, injustice, and separation that began centuries ago.

...All of us waited and waited.

Pressing down our longing, our sorrow,

We tucked our beauty away

Through the folds of time immemorial...

...It is time.

It is time to unfold

What has been hidden away,

And rejoice in our belonging.

Excerpt from *Through the folds of time*

poetry by Tiziana DellaRovere

The *Heart of Humanity* Concert Series

About the *Heart of Humanity* series

The mission of the *Heart of Humanity* series is to turn the concert hall into a space for renewed hope, communal healing, and mutual understanding.

Art is much more than entertainment. It reconnects us with our true essence, restores our humanity, and reaffirms our sense of belonging.

The arts are the ideal vehicle for social change and healing the wounds of the world because they speak directly to our hearts through symbolism, ritual, and shared communal experience.

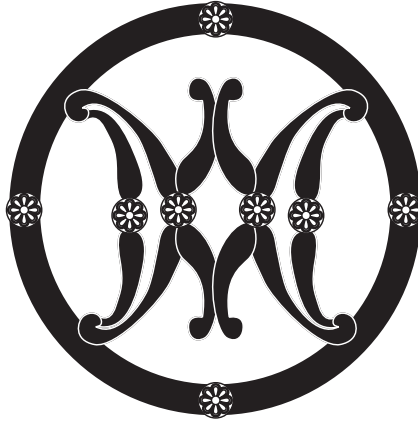
About Anima Mundi Productions



Anima Mundi Productions' mission is to create, present, and produce new musical works that harness the power of the arts to stir the soul, foster community, and address urgent social and environmental problems.

Anima Mundi

Anima Mundi means "The Soul of the World" and refers to our conviction that the soul of humanity and the fate of the planet are intertwined; we contribute to healing the soul of the world through the arts by providing experiences that bring people into their hearts and imagination, demonstrate the power of beauty, and heal societal wounds through the shared experience of live music.



ANIMA MUNDI PRODUCTIONS

Anima Mundi Productions is

Ethan Gans-Morse and Tiziana DellaRovere
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Rita Reitz

And our invaluable team of volunteers!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In our desire for collective healing and partnership, we offer this Acknowledgment of Indigenous peoples and their connections to the land that Southern Oregon University occupies. This Acknowledgement was developed in conversation between Grand Ronde Tribal staff, Siletz Tribal staff, and Native American Programs faculty and staff at Southern Oregon University; it continues to be a living statement through this ongoing partnership.

We want to take this moment to acknowledge that Southern Oregon University is located within the ancestral homelands of the Shasta, Takelma, and Latgawa peoples who lived here since time immemorial. These Tribes were displaced during rapid Euro-American colonization, the Gold Rush, and armed conflict between 1851 and 1856. In the 1850s, discovery of gold and settlement brought thousands of Euro-Americans to their lands, leading to warfare, epidemics, starvation, and villages being burned. In 1853 the first of several treaties were signed, confederating these Tribes and others together – who would then be referred to as the Rogue River Tribe. These treaties ceded most of their homelands to the United States, and in return they were guaranteed a permanent homeland reserved for them. At the end of the Rogue River Wars in 1856, these Tribes and many other Tribes from western Oregon were removed to the Siletz Reservation and the Grand Ronde Reservation. Today, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians are living descendants of the Takelma, Shasta, and Latgawa peoples of this area. We encourage YOU to learn about the land you reside on, and to join us in advocating for the inherent sovereignty of Indigenous people.

Honoring My Sister's Beauty

Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 3:00 pm

Oregon Center for the Arts at Southern Oregon University
The program runs approximately 90 minutes with no intermission

Prelude: There Is a Balm in Gilead/Through the Folds of Time

There is a Balm in Gilead

Traditional African American Spiritual

Improvisation by Lesa Terry, violin and Joe Williams, piano, with
Lindsay Patterson Abdou and Brooke Iva Lohman

Through the Folds of Time

Original poetry written and performed by Tiziana DellaRovere

Ave Maria

Hildegard von Bingen

Brooke Iva Lohman and Lindsay Patterson Abdou, vocalists

The Trees on the Mountain

From the opera *Susannah* by Carlisle Floyd

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano
Joe Williams, piano

Night

Music by Florence Price

A setting of poetry by Louise C. Wallace

Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano
Joe Williams, piano

Stabat Mater

Music by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

A setting of the first stanza of the traditional prayer

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano
Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano
Joe Williams, piano

Fiddlin'

Words and music by Lesa Terry

Performed by Lesa Terry

Bind Me, I Still Can Sing

Music by Libby Larsen

A setting of poetry by Emily Dickinson

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano

Joe Williams, piano

I'm a Woman

Blues by Koko Taylor

Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano

Joe Williams, piano

Charity

Music by Richard Hageman

Arranged by Dorothy Rudd Moore

A setting of poetry by Emily Dickinson

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano

Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano

Joe Williams, piano

***Your Beauty Is My Beauty* WORLD PREMIERE**

Music by Ethan Gans-Morse

Setting of a new poem by Tiziana DellaRovere

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano

Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano

Joe Williams, piano

She's Got the Whole World in Her Hand

Arrangement of the traditional

African American Spiritual by Margaret Bonds

Adapted by Lesa Terry

Brooke Iva Lohman, soprano

Lindsay Patterson Abdou, mezzo-soprano

Joe Williams, piano

Lesla Terry, violin

Poetry & Translations

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Traditional African American Spiritual

There is a balm in Gilead	Sometimes I feel discouraged,
To make the wounded whole;	And think my work's in vain,
There is a balm in Gilead	But then the Holy Spirit
To heal the sin-sick soul.	Revives my soul again.

Through the Folds of Time

Original poetry by Tiziana DellaRovere

It has been a long time
Since we have drunk the same water
And eaten the same bread,
As sisters often do.

It has been a long time
Since the golden threads
That bonded us together
Were torn into bits of dust
And tossed out every which way.

When and how the abduction took place
Nobody really knows.

Some of us wove and unwove a never-ending shroud.
Some of us dove into the sweet water of wild rivers and
streams.

Some of us turned into beautiful peacocks
And flew up into the sky
In search of the Creator.

Others of us became fierce and grew snakes in our hair.

All of us waited and waited.
Years, centuries, millennia.
Pressing down our longing, our sorrow,
We tucked our beauty away
Through the folds of time immemorial.

In silence, we folded the fabric of our soul,
A dowry we inherited from our mothers,
And they from their mothers before them.
We thought we were looking for a beloved
When we found each other.

In our eternal returning, we no longer endure.

It is time.
It is time to unfold
What has been hidden away,
And rejoice in our belonging.

I'm curious, my sister.
Now that we have grown so different,
Show me who you are.
Unfold your precious gifts,
That I may see you in your full glory
And recognize myself in you.

Ave Maria

*Ave Maria,
O auctrix vite,
reedificando salutem,
que mortem conturbasti
et serpentem contrivisti,
ad quem se Eva erexit
erecta cervice
cum sufflatu superbie.
Hunc conculcasti
dum de celo Filium Dei genuisti
Quem inspiravit
Spiritus Dei.*

Hail Mary,
O authoress of life,
rebuilding up salvation's health,
for death you have disturbed,
that serpent crushed
to whom Eve raised herself,
her neck outstretched
with puffed-up pride.
That serpent's head you ground to
dust when heaven's Son of God you
bore,
on whom has breathed
God's Spirit.

Scholarly Note

It is significant to note, as scholar Beverly Lomer has argued, that the Marian repertory would have been primarily intended for performance by the nuns of Hildegard's community, and therefore was free from the scrutiny of the church that relegated Mary to the role of mediatrix. In Hildegard's Mariology, Mary assumes the status of an essential partner. She is referred to by such fundamental titles as *auctrix vite* ("authoress of life") and *salvatrix* ("Lady Savior").

SOURCE: International Society of Hildegard von Bingen Studies

The Trees on the Mountain

Libretto by Carlisle Floyd

The trees on the mountains are cold and
bare The summer jes' vanished and left them
there Like a false hearted lover, jes' like my
own Who made me love him, then left me alone

The coals on the hearth have turned gray and
sere The blue flame just vanished and left them
there Like a false hearted lover, jes' like my
own Who made me love him, then left me alone

Come back, O summer, come back blue
flame My heart wants warmin', my baby a
name Come back, O lover, if jes' for a day Turn
bleak December once more into May

The road up ahead lies lonely and far There's
darkness around me and not even a star To show
me the way or lighten my heart Come back, my
lover I fain would start

The poor baby fox lies all cold in his lair His
mama jes' vanished and left him there Like a
false hearted lover jes' like my own Who made
me love him, then left me alone

Come back, O summer, come back blue
flame My heart wants warmin', my baby a
name Come back, O lover, if jes' for a day Turn
bleak December once more into May

Come back, O summer, come back blue
flame My heart wants warmin', my baby
a name Come back, O lover, if just for a
day Turn bleak December once more into May

Come back!

Night

Poetry by Louise C. Wallace

Night comes, a Madonna clad in scented blue.
Rose red her mouth and deep her eyes,
She lights her stars, and turns to where,
Beneath her silver lamp the moon,
Upon a couch of shadow lies
A dreamy child,
The wearied Day.

Stabat Mater

*Stabat Mater dolorosa
iuxta crucem lacrimosa
dum pendebat Filius*

The mother of sorrows
stood in tears beside the cross
on which her Son was hanging

Fiddlin'

Improvisation by Dr. Lesa Terry

Bind Me, I Still Can Sing

Poetry by Emily Dickinson

Bind me—I still can sing—
Banish—my mandolin
Strikes true within—

Slay—and my Soul shall rise
Chanting to Paradise—
Still thine.

I'm a Woman

Blues by Koko Taylor

Charity

Poetry by Emily Dickinson

If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain;
If I can ease one life the aching,
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain.

Your Beauty Is My Beauty

Poetry by Tiziana DellaRovere

I come from the other side of the dark.

I come from the other side of the light.

Where is my redemption?

Be silent, and listen to the whispers of the night.

I am piercing

The illusion of the dazzling light

To find the truth.

I have torn down walls

And dug tunnels under dungeons

To breathe freedom.

I believed I owned the vastness of the ocean,

But I was tethered by seaweed wrapped around my ankles.

They put chains around my waist,

And I owned nothing but my soul.

When I emerged to the surface,
When I rose up,
I was naked under unbearable scrutiny,
I hid in the underbrush of the forest,

I became transparent.
I became invisible.

I see you sister.
Through the folds of time, I see you.

You're no longer invisible.
You're no longer transparent.

I see you, clothed in moonlight.
I see you, clothed by the sun.

I give you the warmth of my heart.
I give you the solace of my wisdom.

Your beauty is my beauty.
Together, we hold the world in our hands.

She's Got the Whole World in Her Hand

Adaptation of traditional African American Spiritual

She's got the whole world in Her hand,

She's got the whole world in Her hand,

She's got the whole world in Her hand,

She's got the whole world in Her hand.

She's got the wood and the waters in Her hand,

She's got the wood and the waters in Her hand,

She's got the sun and the moon right in Her hand,

She's got the whole world in Her hand.

She's got the birds and the bees right in Her hand,
She's got the birds and the bees right in Her hand,
She's got the beasts of the field right in Her hand,
She's got the whole world in Her hand.

She's got you and me right in Her hand,
She's got you and me right in Her hand,
She's got everybody in Her hand,
She's got the whole world in Her hand.

Names and Bios

BROOKE IVA LOHMAN

Soprano

Hailed as “witty, adorable, and one to watch” (Singerpreneur), soprano Brooke Iva Lohman has sung with many Southern California opera companies, including LA Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, Pacific Opera Project, Glendale Opera, Orange County Opera, Mission Opera, and Independent Opera. On the international stage, she has traveled to Germany to perform the Lieder of Richard Strauss at the Schloss Freudental in Allensbach for their “Wine &...” concert series, and at the Hochschule für Musik, Trossingen.



No stranger to the modern repertoire, Brooke has a love for new music and has performed the works of local composers. Most recently, she performed the role of Ticie Pruett in Nathan Wang’s *On Gold Mountain* with LA Opera Connects at the Huntington Library’s Chinese Gardens.

Brooke was named a finalist in the 2022 Music International Grand Prix, a semi-finalist in the 2022 Loren L. Zachary Competition, and was named the Cal-Western Region Winner in the 2020 NATS Artist Awards competition, receiving the Irvin Bushman Award.

LINDSAY PATTERSON ABDOU

Mezzo-Soprano

Described as “...having a voice that haunts and thrilled,” mezzo-soprano Lindsay Patterson Abdou is a proud performer of contemporary opera and choral music.

Performance highlights include the world premiere of Anthony Davis’ *The Central Park Five* as Sharonne Salaam with Long Beach Opera, Bow in the Industry’s *Sweet Land*,

and The Metropolitan Opera’s 2019/2020 production of *Porgy and Bess* in the chorus ensemble. Lindsay is also a roster alto with Tonicity, where she has sung background for Björk in her 2022 California tour.



She has sung on the soundtracks for numerous Hollywood films, including *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*, *Disenchanted*, *Shazam: Fury of the Gods*, *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*, and Disney’s *Strange World*.

Lindsay received her B.A. in Music from the University of California Riverside and M.M. in Vocal Performance from California Baptist University. When not performing, Lindsay is a proud momma to daughter Vianne and son Gabriel.

DR. LESA TERRY

Violin, Poet

As a violinist, composer, artistic director, educator, and scholar, Dr. Lesa Terry is at the vanguard of contemporary musical interpretation and an artist whose creative genius consistently brings distinctive innovation to musical performance.



Her background includes membership with the Atlanta and Nashville Symphony Orchestras, as well as performances, lectures, clinics and master classes with the Uptown String Quartet and the legendary Max Roach Double Quartet.

Ms. Terry serves as the founder and musical director for the Women's Jazz Orchestra of Los Angeles, presenting performances for the World Festival of Sacred Music, Hollywood Bowl Jazz Festival, and the Los Angeles Pan African Film Festival.

JOE WILLIAMS

Piano

Joe Williams is a scholar, independent curator and sound liberator from Tacoma, WA. He recently presented research on a dozen piano works by Black composers born between 1981-1996 at the MTNA national conference in Reno, NV. He is a recipient of the 2022 Paul Chaorsh Independent Scholar Fellowship from the Society for American Music. He serves on the Tacoma Arts Commission and appears on ArtsWA's curator roster.



A passionate advocate for accessible, high quality music education, Mr. Williams is founder and director of Tukwila Kids Make Music, a free after-school music mentorship program, and also an advisory board member for the New Music Initiative for Black Voices.

He was mentored by the late Frances Walker-Slocum, an alum of Washington D.C.'s Paul Laurence Dunbar High School — the first high school to serve African-Americans in the United States.

Tiziana DellaRovere

Born in Milan, Italy, Tiziana DellaRovere is an accomplished writer of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction. She has written three librettos for operas by composer Ethan Gans-Morse and poetry for their program symphony, *How Can You Own The Sky?*, their oratorio of Covid pandemic stories, *Six Feet Apart*, and numerous art songs and choral collaborations.



Tiziana's writings flow from her convictions about the cultivation of love as a fierce, courageous and down-to-earth power that can heal the heart of humanity and the social structure of our world. In all of her work, the healing power of love is presented experientially as a living, tangible connection with the vibrant life-force that each person carries within.

Tiziana dedicates her writings and visual art to highlighting contemporary issues of social justice, equality, and inclusion. In addition to her work as poet and librettist, Tiziana is a published author whose works explore the rebalancing of the archetypal masculine and feminine, as in her books *Sacred Fire: Rites of Passage and Rituals of Worship*, *Adorata: The Path of Enlovenment*, *Adorata: The Codes of Love*, and her upcoming *The Sacred Lovers Within*.

Tiziana studied law and philosophy in Milan, painting and sculpture at the California College of Arts and Crafts, and clinical psychology at San Francisco State University. Her writing, teachings, and paintings are unified in her devotion to bringing the mystical experience of the sacred into everyday life.

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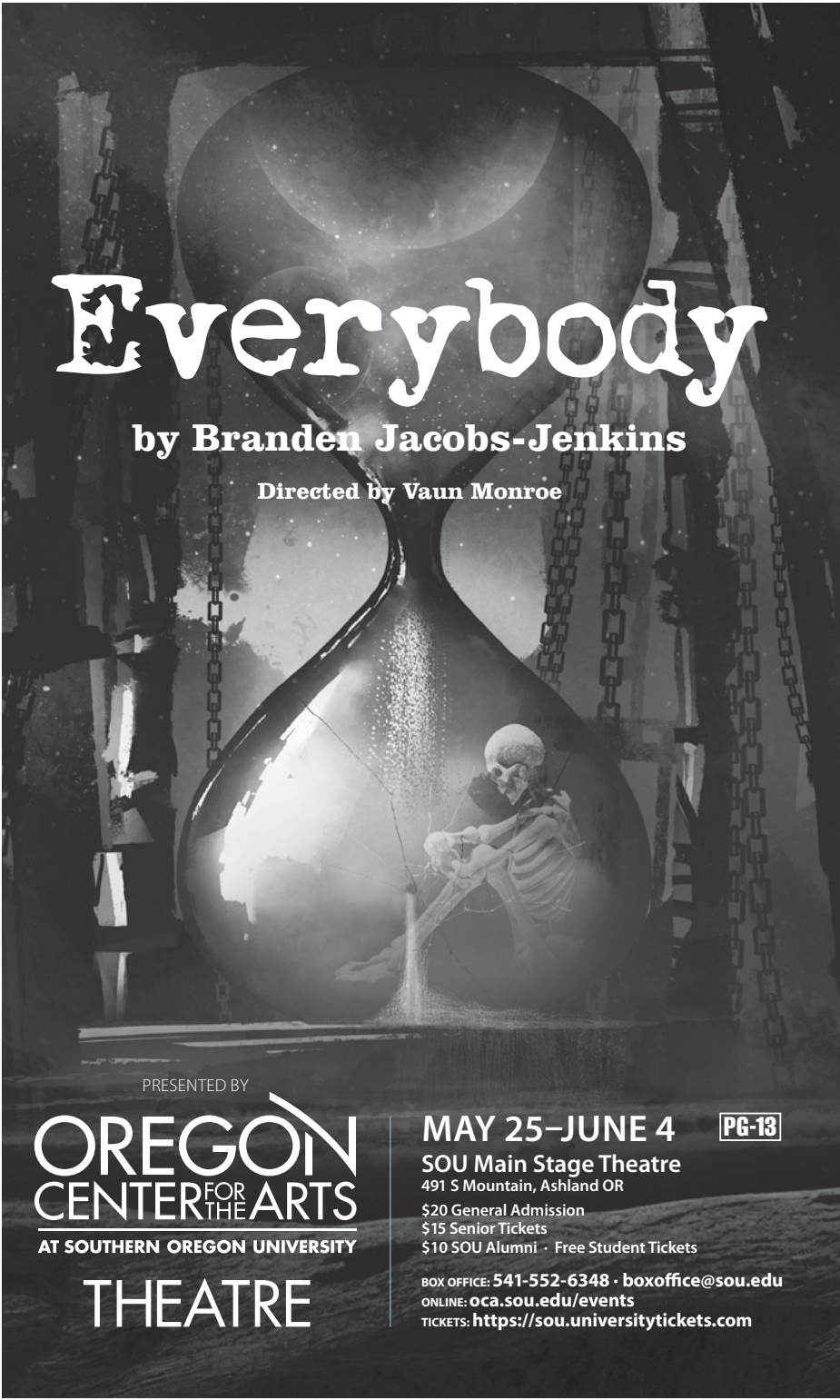
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Learn more at
www.AnimaMundiProductions.com/Dreams

