



Presents

INVOCATION AND DANCE

The Matthew Shephard Outreach Series

Please silence all cell phones and noise-making devices.

Program

Give Me The Splendid Silent Sun (1991) I. Take Me Away, Text by Walt Whitman	Michael Hennagin (1936-1993)
Elegy for Matthew (1999) Text by John Stirling Walker	David Conte (b. 1955)
Invocation And Dance (1989) Text by Walt Whitman	David Conte
Give Me The Splendid Silent Sun (DATE!) II. Sunrise, Text by Walt Whitman	Michael Hennagin (1936-1993)
Top of the World (1972)	Richard Carpenter and John Bettis Arrangement by Vince Peterson (2013)

Performers

Vince Peterson, Artistic Director and Conductor
Members of Chameleonic and Choral Chameleon

Sean Forte and Matthew Stephens, Piano
Ayden Khan and Erica Mariani, Percussion

Free public performances on:

Monday, October 14, 7:30 pm | St. Paul's Church, 199 Carroll Street, Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn

Saturday, October 19, 2 pm | John Street Church, 44 John Street, Manhattan, with lecture by David Conte + Live Web Stream

Monday, October 21, 8 pm | John Street Church, 44 John Street, Manhattan + Live Web Stream

Saturday, October 26, 8 pm | Park Avenue Christian Church, 1010 Park Ave, Manhattan

Sunday, October 24, 4 pm | Union Church, 7915 Ridge Blvd, Bay Ridge, Brooklyn

+ The performances on October 19 and 21 will be streamed live on our web site www.ChoralChameleon.com.

Program Note

All of us in the Choral Chameleon family believe that when we are given gifts in this life, we are charged with the duty of using those gifts to serve others. We earnestly desire the companionship of our audiences in our concerts because their energy feeds us and confirms the use of this beautiful art of choral music as one of social justice and positive world impact. Matthew Shepard's untimely and tragic death was, without a doubt, a pivotal event for the human rights movement in this country. Although the horror of it was almost too much to bear, his death was not in vain. He instantly became an immortal saint and guardian angel for generations of LGBTQ youth who have followed. This concert tells the story to people of NYC who live fast paced lives. It bids us to lift our heads from the hustle and bustle of this place for a moment and follow the sun, as over a Wyoming prairie. The music of David Conte, by turns elegiac and joyfully hopeful acts as a centerpiece. It takes us through a wide range of emotional reactions and we ultimately arrive at the most important message of Matthew's story, which is one of our shared responsibilities of mutual love and respect for each other in society. It's not about political action or propaganda. To put it simply, it's about using our gift of choral music to celebrate and nurture all people who will listen.

(over)

Choral Chameleon and Chameleonic

The mission of Choral Chameleon is to engage its listeners in a diverse and innovative musical experience through its integrative concert programming and education outreach.

Hailed by Time Out New York as a "shape-shifting" and "poetic" ensemble, **Choral Chameleon** has carved its niche in the NYC concert scene. Founded by Vince Peterson in 2008, the group has become known for inspiring listeners with its truly amalgamated concert programming, which deals with real human themes relatable to any audience member. Its singers comprise the most varied musical backgrounds and influences, giving the group an ever-changing, idiomatically virtuous, and spontaneously transforming sound, never experienced before in the concert hall. Choral Chameleon places the understanding of each style it performs at the very center of the rehearsal process, never resting until the inherent nuances of each piece are fully honored and preserved. These concert programs equally welcome first-time listeners as well as seasoned concertgoers. The group strives to redefine the role of a choir in the performing arts and to put choral singing where it is least expected.

In 2012, the organization added **Chameleonic**, a concert choir representing all five boroughs of New York City and a beautiful tapestry of cultural and musical backgrounds. Chameleonic was founded to break ground in choral music practice for avocational musicians. It is uniquely co-led by Artistic Director, Vince Peterson, and an ever-changing roster of assistant conductors, each of whom give unique and varied perspectives on interpretation, style, and rehearsal technique. www.ChoralChameleon.com

Vince Peterson, conductor

Native San Franciscan, **Vince Peterson** is now a Brooklyn-based composer, conductor, and keyboardist. He is the founder of the critically-acclaimed vocal ensemble, Choral Chameleon, which celebrated its fifth anniversary season in 2012-2013, and which has made significant strides in modern choral music. The New York Times called Peterson "authoritative beyond his years," and The Brooklyn Eagle praised his concert programming as "a stunning symphony of the spiritual and secular", while hailing him as a solo performer "with depth and vigor" who "provided a universal context which resonated with his audience." www.VincePeterson.com

Thanks!

We extend our sincere thanks to St. Paul's Church, John Street Church, Park Avenue Christian Church and Union Church for hosting these performances as well as all those generous contributors to our season. We are so grateful to Barry Centani and his fabulous players for underwriting a portion of the percussion costs. This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council. A complete list of season donors may be found at www.ChoralChameleon.com/donate.html



Please help change the voice of choral music with a donation to Choral Chameleon. Your generous contribution of \$10, \$20 or more helps us commission new music, educate future composers & conductors, challenge avocational singers and continue our innovative programming. We appreciate your attendance at our concerts and your financial support!

Upcoming Concerts

October 19 and 20 - *Methodical* – Choral Chameleon Sings in the Language of Music

December 7 and 8 - *Go Where I Send Thee* - Chameleonic Celebrates the Season Around the World

April 12 and 13 - *Raindance* - Chameleonic Sings to the Sowing and the Harvest

May 17 and 18 - *Taste* - Savor the Flavors of Music as we team up with rising celebrity chef Lish Steiling

June 10 - *Summer Institute Performance* - Performance of new choral works and student conducting demonstrations

Tickets on sale now at www.ChoralChameleon.com

Please recycle this program by returning to an usher.