



Presents

We Acknowledge You, Oh Lord

A Master's Recital

Joseph Oparamanuike, *Conductor*

Vesperae Solennes de Confessore (K. 339)

W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Dixit – *Allegro Vivace*

Confitebor – *Allegro*

Beatus Vir – *Allegro Vivace*

Laudate Pueri – *Fugue*

Laudate Dominum – *Andante ma un poco sostenuto*

Magnificat – *Adagio*

Erin Taylor, Joy Yelenoski, Maxwell Trochlil and Raphael Fernandez, *soloists*

Psalm 90

Charles Ives
(1874-1954)

Erin Taylor and Maxwell Trochlil, *soloists*

Oji M Eme Onu

Joseph Oparamanuike, *Tenor*

Obinna Ifediora

Udara M Too

Innocent Okechukwu

Reyes Organ and Choral Hall, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
Friday, February 17th, 2023, 8:30 PM

This is a degree recital for the Master of Sacred Music.

Sacred Music at Notre Dame prohibits the unauthorized recording, publication, and streaming of live performances.

Please silence all electronic devices.

Personnel

Featuring the SMND Concordia Choir & Orchestra

Concordia Choir

Soprano

Blessing Agu
Erin Taylor
Leah Martin
Maria Alejandrina Tinta-Segovia

Alto

Grace Jackson
Jessica Mattiace
Joy Yelenosky
Loren Masánqué

Tenor

Dallin Baldwin
Joe Balistreri
Maxwell Trochlil
Nicholas Schefstad

Bass

Desheng Huang
Raphael Fernandez
Stephen Drendall

Orchestra

Violin I

Jameson Cooper
Travon DeLeon

Cello

Brook Bennett

Violin II

Jessica Bennett
Maya Kvaratskhelia

Double Bass

Ed Randles

Timpani/Tubular Chime I

Andrew Cierny

Clarino

Jim Carter
Jeff Christiana

Tubular Chime II

Ellis Anderson

Bassoon

Eric Kuehner

Organ/Piano

Joe Balistreri

Gong

Owen Peck

Joseph Oparamanuike is a student of Dr. Nancy Menk.

Assistant Conductor – Dallin Baldwin

Texts and Translations

Dixit (Psalm 110)

Dixit Dominus Domino meo;
Sede a dextris meis,
Donec ponam inimicos tuos
Scabellum pedum tuorum.
Virgam virtutis tuae emittet
Dominus ex Sion: dominare
In medio inimicorum tuorum.
Tecum principium in die virtutis tuae,
In splendoribus sanctorum:
Ex utero ante luciferum
Genui te.
Juravit Dominus,
Et non poenitebit eum,
Tu es sacerdos in aeternum
Secundum ordinem Melchisedech.
Dominus a dextris tuis,
Confregit in die irae suae reges.
Judicabit in nationibus,
Implebit ruinas:
Conquasabit capita in terra multorum.
De torrente in via bibet,
Propterea exaltabit caput.
Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.
Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

The Lord said to my Lord;
Sit at my right hand,
Until I place your enemies
As a footstool for your feet.
The rod of your power
The Lord will send forth from Zion: rule
In the midst of your enemies.
Sovereignty is with you on the day of your
strength,
In the splendor of the Holy Ones:
Out of the womb before the light
I begot you.
The Lord has sworn,
And will not repent of it:
You are priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek.
The Lord at your right hand
Crushes kings in the day of His wrath.
He will pass judgment on the nations;
He will pile up calamities,
And shatter heads in many lands.
He will drink from the rushing stream on the
way;
Therefore, He shall lift up His head.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.

Confitebor (Psalm 111)

Confitebor tibi Domine,
In toto corde meo;
In consilio justorum,
Et congregatione.

I acknowledge you, o Lord,
With my whole heart;
In the council of the just
And in the congregation.

Magna opera Domini,
Exquisita in omnes voluntates ejus.
Confessio et magnificentia opus ejus;
Et justitia ejus manet
In saeculum saeculi.
Memoriam fecit mirabilium suorum,
Misericors et miserator Dominus.
Escam dedit timentibus se.
Memor erit in saeculum
Testamenti sui.
Virtutem operum suorum
Annuntiabit populo suo.
Ut det illis
Hereditatem gentium;
Opera manuum ejus
Veritas et iudicium.
Fidelia omnia mandata ejus,
Confirmata in saeculum saeculi,
Facta in veritate et aequitate.
Redemptionem misit Dominus
Populo suo;
Mandavit in aeternum testamentum suum.
Sanctum et terribile nomen ejus:
Initium sapientiae timor Domini;
Intellectus bonus omnibus,
Facientibus eum.
Laudatio ejus manet
In saeculum saeculi.
Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.
Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Great are the works of the Lord,
Chosen by all His desires.
I acknowledge as well the magnificence of
His deeds;
And His justice endures
From generation to generation.
He has made memorials of His miracles,
A merciful and compassionate Lord.
He gives food to those that fear Him.
He will remember forever
His covenant.
The power of His works
Will be announced to His people.
So that He may give them
The inheritance of the nations;
The works of His hands
Are truth and justice.
All His commandments are faithful,
Confirmed from generation to generation,
Made in truth and fairness.
The Lord has sent salvation
To His people;
He has given His covenant for eternity.
Holy and awesome is His name;
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of
wisdom;
All who practice it have a good
understanding.
His praise endures
From generation to generation.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.

Beatus Vir (Psalm 112)

Beatus vir qui timet Dominum,
In mandatis ejus volet nimis.
Potens in terra erit semen ejus,
Generatio rectorum benedicetur.

Gloria et divitiae in domo ejus,
Et justitia ejus manet
In saeculum saeculi.
Exortum est in tenebris lumen rectis,
Misericors et miserator et justus.
Jucundus homo,
Qui miseretur et commodat,
Disponet sermones suos in iudicio.
Quia in aeternum non commovebitur.
In memoria aeterna erit justus,
Ab auditione mala non timebit.
Paratum cor ejus sperare in Domino.
Confirmatum est cor ejus;
Non commovebitur
Donec despiciat inimicos suos.
Dispersit, dedit pauperibus,
Justitia ejus manet
In saeculum saeculi.
Cornu ejus exaltabitur in gloria.
Peccator videbit et irascetur,
Dentibus suis fremet et tabescet;
Desiderium peccatorum peribit.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.
Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Blessed is the man who fears the Lord,
Who greatly delights in His commandments.
His seed will be potent on the earth,
The generation of the righteous will be
blessed.

Glory and wealth will be in his house,
And his righteousness will endure
From generation to generation.
A light has arisen in the dark for the upright;
Merciful, compassionate, and just.
Happy is the man
Who is compassionate and generous,
Who chooses his words with discretion;
For he will never be disturbed.
The just will be eternally remembered,
And will not fear evil tidings.
His heart is ready to trust in the Lord.
His heart is strengthened;
He will not be troubled
Until he looks down upon his enemies.
He disperses and gives to the poor,
His righteousness will endure
From generation to generation.
His horn will be exalted in glory.
The sinner will see and be angered,
Will gnash his teeth and sulk;
The desires of sinners will perish.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.

Laudate Pueri (Psalm 113)

Laudate pueri Dominum,
Laudate nomen Domini.

Sit nomen Domini benedictum ex hoc
Nunc et usque in saeculum.
A solis ortu usque et ad occasum,
Laudabile nomen Domini.
Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus,
Et super coelos gloria ejus.
Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster,
Qui in altis habitat,

Et humilia respicit in coelo et in terra?

Suscitans a terra inopem
Et de stercore erigens pauperem:
Ut collocet eum
Cum principibus populi sui.
Qui habitare facit sterilem
In domo, matrem filiorum laetantem.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.

Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Praise the Lord, O sons,
Praise the name of the Lord.

May the name of the Lord be blessed from
henceforth
And forevermore.
From the rising of the sun to its setting,
The name of the Lord is praiseworthy.
The Lord is exalted above all people,
And His glory is above the heavens.
Who is like the Lord our God,
Who dwells on high
And regards the lowly in heaven and on
earth?

Supporting the needy on the earth,
And raising up the poor from the dust;
In order to place him
With the princes of His people.
Who makes the barren one to dwell
In a house as the happy mother of children.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.

Laudate Dominum (Psalm 117)

Laudate Dominum omnes gentes;
Laudate eum, omnes populi.
Quoniam confirmata est
Super nos misericordia ejus,
Et veritas Domini manet in aeternum.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper.

Et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Praise the Lord, all nations;
Praise Him, all people.
For His has bestowed
His mercy upon us,
And the truth of the Lord endures forever.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and
forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen

Magnificat

Magnificat anima mea Dominum.

Et exultavit spiritus meus

in Deo salutari meo.

Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae.

Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent

omnes generationes.

Quia fecit mihi magna, qui potens est,

et sanctum nomen eius.

Et misericordia a progenie in progenies,
timentibus eum.

Fecit potentiam in brachio suo,

dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.

Deposuit potentes de sede et exaltavit humiles.

Esurientes implevit bonis,

et divites dimisit inanes.

Suscepit Israel puerum suum

recordatus misericordiae suae.

Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,

Abraham et semini eius in saecula.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto,

sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper

et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

My soul magnifies the Lord.

And my spirit rejoices

In God my Savior.

For He has regarded the lowliness of His
handmaiden.

Behold, from henceforth, I will be called
blessed

by all generations.

For the Mighty One has done great things for
me,

And holy is His name.

His mercy is for those who fear Him from
generation to generation.

He has shown strength with His arm,

He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of
their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from
their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped His servant Israel

in remembrance of His mercy.

According to the promise He made to our
ancestors,

to Abraham and to His descendants forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and
forever,

and for generations of generations. Amen.

Oji M Eme Onu

Oji m eme onu,
'he ria gi akokwalam
Eshi anyi g'ihuni
Ihe m ji emere gi oji akokwalam.
Onye mearam nnadi
bia gburum aka.
O nwanne lee

Udara M Too

Udara m too
Udara m mia
Udara m cha
Udara m daa
Tooru nwa enwe nne
Tooru nwa enwe nne
Nwunye nna moo
Zuta udara n'ahia
Rachawo nwa enwe nne
Rachawo nwa enwe nna
En'uwa bu oriri
Onye zucha onaba
Nwammuo eh, biko

He who boast with me,
May I never lack someone like you .
Whenever we will meet.
May I never lack what to entertain you with.
He who accepts me as a true friend.
Come and have a handshake.
Oh, my brother.

Grow, My Cherry Tree

Grow, my cherry tree.
Bring fruit, my cherry tree.
Ripe, my cherry fruit
Fall, my cherry fruit.
Grow for the motherless
Grow for the fatherless
My stepmother
Buy cherry from the market.
Motherless child, eat.
Fatherless child, eat.
The world is for merriment.
When you are done, you leave.
Spirits, please.

Program Notes

Vesperae Solennes de Confessore – W. A. Mozart

Vesperae Solennes de Confessore K339 (The Solemn Vespers of the Confessor) is one of the two vespers settings Mozart composed for the Salzburg Cathedral in 1780 when he was the organist of the Archbishop of Salzburg. This composition came a year after the **Vesperae Solennes de Dominica** with the usual vespers setting of five psalms and closing with the *Magnificat*. The popularity of this setting came from the simple music of movement 5, *Laudate Dominum*, set for a soprano solo with homophonic choral interludes.

Mozart was born in Salzburg into a musical family on January 27, 1756. He studied piano with his father, and he became a child prodigy along with his sister, Nannerl. They made several tours across Europe. Mozart composed various types of music: symphonies, concertos, opera, sacred music, and others. Upon his return to Salzburg in 1779, he took the job as the organist at Salzburg Cathedral where he composed these vespers.

Vesperae Solennes de Confessore is written for SATB chorus and soloists with violins, cello, double bass, continuo, C trumpets, trombones, timpani with one bassoon obbligato. This composition which begins and ends in C Major is divided into six movements. Mozart combines the old-style counterpoint with the then modern homophonic style. It begins with *Dixit Dominus Domino Meo* (Ps. 110) in a homophonic allegro vivace, with every instrument playing to give great support to the text, “*the Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand until I place all your enemies on your feet...*”. It alternates between chorus and soloist. The second movement, *Confitebor* (Ps. 111), (*I acknowledge you, oh Lord*), from which I drew the title of this recital, has a thinner texture without trumpet and timpani. This provides a somewhat calming but firm assurance of our appreciation to God with the continuous Alberti accompaniment in the strings. Movement III, *Beatus Vir* (Ps. 112) combines various compositional elements, homophony, polyphony, melismatic passages and a bit of counterpoint. The fourth movement, *Laudate Pueri Dominum* (Ps. 113) is a fugal composition with subject and answer entrances telescoping the text. Movement five presents the popular *Laudate Dominum* (Ps. 117). Mozart composed this movement for soprano solo and bassoon obbligato, with choral interludes and strings/continuo accompaniment. The last movement, *Magnificat*, is the only movement that has two tempi, adagio and allegro with the soprano solo. Mozart brings back the trumpet and timpani in this movement to give the piece a grand closure.

Psalm 90 – Charles Ives

Charles Ives, born in Connecticut into a musical family, is known as one of the greatest American composers and organists in the 20th century. He began piano study under his father before he was handed over to a more advanced teacher. Although, his father, George Ives, thought he would continue with a career in piano, he actually became one of the greatest young organists in Connecticut. He wrote a series of compositions, often especially setting psalms to music. Psalm 90 turned out to be one of his best and most successful.

Ives began this composition while working as the choirmaster and organist at the First Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, New Jersey and at Central Presbyterian Church, Manhattan. He kept working and adjusting Psalm 90 after a few trials with his choir. Between 1923-24, there were three sources of this composition that were put together by John Kirkpatrick and Gregg Smith to create the edition you are going to hear tonight. Source A was a two pages of preliminary sketches for verses 1, 4, 5, 6, 12 and 17 and some bells motifs, Source B was the complete pencil sketch of a six-page gathering of prayers and declamations, and Source C was the patch for the introduction

with captions and verses 1-3. It was discovered that Source C was an improvement over Source B. Kirkpatrick and Smith used primarily Sources B and C.

Ives gave a captioned introduction in the first 5 measures which states, 'The Eternities', 'Creation', 'God's wrath against sin', 'Prayer and Humility' and 'Rejoicing in Beauty and Work'. These five captions characterize five symbolic harmonic styles of verse 1, verses 2 & 10, verses 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11, verses 4, 6 and 13 and verses 14 -17 respectively.

Ives made use of several musical elements in Psalm 90: dissonance, polytonality, cluster chords, homophone, polyphone, whole tone scales, chants, drones, and musical palindromes to paint the color of the meaning of each verse. Tonight, bells are substituted with two sets of tubular chimes.

Oji M Eme Onu – Obinna Ifediora

Oji M Eme Onu is an Owerre folk song from the Eastern part of Nigeria. There Owerre language is an Igbo dialect, widely spoken by several towns in the Owerre Municipal, Owerre North and Owerre West Local Government Areas.

In this song, the singer sings about his friend who boast of him in appreciation in all his achievements. This is commonly sung at several traditional gatherings of local kinsmen amongst the Owerre people. *"You who is proud of me who are proud of me, may I not lack a person like you. The day you'll visit me, may I not lack Kola Nut, with which to welcome you."* In Igbo land, when you offer a visitor some kola nut, it means you have welcomed him. It is the most important ritual object in the Igbo tradition, used for our devotions when we invoke the name of God.

Obi Ifediora, a renowned Nigerian baritone, started singing at the age of 9 as a treble in his church choir, All Saints Anglican Church Surulere, Lagos. He was moved to tenor at age 12. At the age of 17, he was moved to bass, and he immediately became an integral member of the choir. A week after he was moved to sing bass, he sang *"Rejoice oh Judah"* from *Judas Maccabaeus*. He later moved on to become a member of the Lagos City Chorale and the MUSON Choir where he performed several works.

He studied voice with Annamaria Popescu of the Schulich School of Music, McGill University, Canada and Tom Oliver a Hamilton resident and renowned voice teacher who has trained several professional Broadway singers. He studied vocal performance and composition at the University of Nigeria Nsukka, under Jude Nwankwo and Peter Sylvanus. He has composed a wide range of pieces for the organ, piano, and other instruments, and few choral works. Obinna is a strong believer in African music and believes every African should promote it. In 2011, he was awarded a scholarship by the MTN Foundation to study music (Vocal Performance) at the prestigious MUSON Diploma School of Music and he graduated in 2013 as the Best Male Operatic student.

Udara M Too – Innocent Okechukwu

Udara M Too is an Igbo folk song which tells the tale of a motherless child who was constantly maltreated by her stepmother. The child asked the universe to look after her and provide for her. A cherry tree grew at that spot where she cried. She was finally enriched by the proceeds from the cherry tree. This tale teaches young children morals on how to be good to everyone they come across.

Innocent is a prolific Nigerian composer and pianist, with over one hundred compositions to his credit. He earned his first degree in Music at the University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN) majoring in Composition with a minor in Piano and graduating with a first class honors and emerged the Best graduating student from his department in 2016.

He also holds an Advanced certificate in Piano Performance from the Trinity College of London School of Music Board in Dubai, UAE.

In June of 2018, Innocent moved to Dubai, UAE, as an instructor in a fast-growing music institute, Solid Rock Music and Dance Zone, Dubai. He worked as a collaborative pianist for the Trinity examination board.

He is currently studying with John Howell Morrison as a graduate student in Music Composition at Longy School of Music of Bard College, Cambridge, USA. In 2022, he published his first book, *Musical Echoes*, a collection of his original compositions, which is available for purchase on Amazon.

He is the current recipient of the Bronwyn and Jeffrey Lamont Artistic and Social Change Fellowship as well as Certified Music Practitioner Scholar and Access for Equity Scholar.

