

# *In Remembrance:*

## *A Tribute to Mary Legge*



### *Penthelia Singers*

Alice Malach, Artistic Director

#### With Guests:

Rosedale Presbyterian Church Choir

Chris Dawes, Director

Scott Metcalfe, piano

Sunday, June 11, 2023

2:30 pm

Rosedale Presbyterian Church  
129 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto

# Artistic Director's Message

Thank you for joining us today for In Remembrance - A Tribute to Mary Legge.

Last spring we lost a great lady, Mary Legge. With her caring nature and genuine interest in people, Mary was treasured by all who knew her. She was my high school music teacher at Earl Haig, and with her passing I lost my loyal mentor and dear friend. Mary was inspirational to her students, many of whom continued to pursue music either professionally or recreationally.

It is my great honour to direct Penthelia Singers, a choir that Mary founded over 25 years ago, and continue her legacy of choral music and community building. The longevity of Penthelia Singers and the important place the choir holds in the hearts of so many is a testament to Mary and her influence.

Today's program includes some "Mary Legge Favourites" from past seasons that you may recognize, as well as music that is new for the choir. Mary was forward-thinking and innovative, so we honour her with a diverse selection of music that we know she would have appreciated.

We are pleased to welcome the Rosedale church choir, a choir that Mary directed for many years, as our special musical guests at this concert. We are also grateful to the various members of the Penthelia community who will speak throughout today's performance, sharing their memories about Mary.

The concert concludes with Music When Soft Voices Die, a piece that was a favourite of Mary's and that she conducted at the Penthelia Singers 20th Anniversary Concert in June of 2017. We invite you to sing along or listen as you feel comfortable.

Enjoy the concert.

*Alice*

## ~ Program ~

**The Lake Isle of Innisfree** ..... Eleanor Daley

**Il est bel et bon** ..... Pierre Passereau arr. Norman Greyson

**Will the Circle Be Unbroken** ..... Trad. Appalachian arr. J.D. Moore

Rosedale Presbyterian Church Choir

**There is No Rose** ..... Philip Stopford

**Lobet den Herren (Motet VI) BWV 230** ..... J.S. Bach

**The Road Home** ..... Stephen Paulu

Penthelia and RPC

**In Remembrance** ..... Eleanor Daley

**Shiru** ..... Allan E. Naplan

**Ta na Solbici (And so we dance in Resia)**..... Samo Vovk

**No One Is Alone** ..... Stephen Sondheim arr. Joey Williamson

**Salaam Alaikum (Peace Unto You)** ..... Kofi J.S. Gbolonyo

**Ètò Enye Agbe (Three Symbolizes Life)** ..... Divine Gbagbo

**One More Colour** ..... Jane Siberry arr. Suba Sankaran

**Sing Gently** ..... Eric Whitacre

Alumni Sing-A-Long

**Music When Soft Voices Die** ..... Hugh Garland

For lyrics please visit [penthelia.com](http://penthelia.com)



# Penthelia Singers



Founded in 1997, Penthelia Singers has earned a reputation for presenting high quality, innovative concerts of choral repertoire in a multitude of styles and languages. A vibrant ensemble of women, we are committed to excellence in performing culturally diverse and musically sophisticated repertoire spanning the Renaissance to the 21st century. The choir seeks opportunities to collaborate with special guest artists such as Suba Sankaran

(world music), Raigelee Alorut (Inuit throat singing) and Steve Mancuso (Brazilian capoeira) to workshop different styles of music, as well as work with many talented instrumentalists who support our performances. Penthelia Singers is a welcoming group of women committed to high standards of music-making, diversity, community outreach and enjoyment through the learning process.

## **Soprano I**

Julie Brown  
Pilvi Carman  
Rebecca Carpenter<sup>‡</sup>  
Kristina Hunt  
Claire Nguyen

## **Soprano II**

Tantely Andrianoely  
Vania Lai Smyth\*  
Heli Leesment  
Patricia Perkins<sup>‡</sup>  
Astra Teo

## **Alto I**

Glynnis Burt  
Caroline Fredericks  
Sherry Zweig  
Abby Pierce<sup>‡§</sup>

## **Alto II**

Monika Medri-Kummerer\*  
Karen Sun  
Emily Taylor  
Katy Whitfield

\*virtual attendees    <sup>‡</sup>on leave    <sup>§</sup>percussion

Special thanks to Rev. Wes Denyer, Rev. Daniel Cho and the Board of Managers of the Rosedale Presbyterian Church for their ongoing support providing rehearsal and storage space.

Mary Legge was the organist and choir director for Rosedale Presbyterian Church from 1994-2003.

## **Rosedale Presbyterian Church Choir**

The volunteer and professional voices of the Choir of Rosedale Presbyterian Church maintain high standards of choral repertoire, the leadership of congregational singing, and community membership. They are an interesting mixture of congregational leaders, professional singers, and others drawn to a robust musical and liturgical concept of Presbyterian worship. Though the Choir requires music-reading and choral experience, new members can enter through a beginners' program in which the basic skills are developed and encouraged before one commits to the musical level needed to maintain full membership. The group has been directed by Christopher Dawes since 2016.



## **Do you love to sing?**

Are you interested in becoming a member of Penthelia Singers?

Contact us to set up an audition.

Phone: 416-579-7464 or email:  
alice\_malach@hotmail.com

## Alice Malach, Artistic Director



Over the past 25 years, Alice Malach has developed a passion for rehearsing and conducting choral ensembles. She was first introduced to choral music through the inspirational teaching of Mary Legge at Earl Haig Secondary School, where Alice attended the Claude Watson School for the Arts as a piano major. This led to choral conducting studies at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music with Doreen Rao and Wayne Strongman, and summer choral studies at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey.

As an accomplished pianist and conductor, Alice has worked with numerous children's choirs through the Toronto District School Board, the Royal Conservatory of Music, and the Glenn Gould School. Through a long-term affiliation with Toronto's Jewish choral community, Alice has conducted Temple Sinai's youth choir and has worked as both adult choir director and accompanist for Temple Emanu-El. Alice taught for many years with the Toronto District School Board, including at Northlea Elementary School, where she directed their award-winning choirs. She is currently the Head of Music at Havergal College in the Upper School, where she teaches vocal music and directs three choirs.

Alice holds an Artist Diploma in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the Glenn Gould School, an A.R.C.T. diploma in Piano Performance, a Kodaly Pedagogy Certificate, and recently completed an MA in Music Education. In 2014, Alice was nominated by the Ontario Arts Council for the prestigious Leslie Bell Prize for Excellence in Conducting.

## Christopher Dawes, Director

Christopher Dawes is an active and sought-after performer, conductor and consultant active principally in the worlds of choral and church music. His work is heard frequently across Southern Ontario, both as a solo artist and with some of the region's foremost ensembles and institutions. He is a two-decade collaborator with the Instrumental and Choral Conducting programs of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music, Artistic Director of the Marion Singers of Greater Toronto, and a leading and a leading figure in the Southern Ontario Chapter of the Hymn Society of the United States and Canada, and Canada's Summer Institute of Church Music. He lives in Georgetown, Ontario with his wife Marcia, their three children and two dogs.



## Scott Metcalfe, piano

Scott Metcalfe is one of the most sought-after piano players on the Toronto music scene. Coming from a classical and jazz background in Winnipeg, Scott Metcalfe moved to Toronto in 2002 to study jazz at Humber College. Since then his palette has expanded and he continues to perform throughout Toronto and the GTA as well as across Canada. In addition to playing original contemporary jazz compositions in his own trio, Scott accompanies many

singers and artists in a wide variety of styles. He has recorded on numerous CDs and has also worked as the arranger/producer for a handful of jazz-RnB artists including Jordana Talsky and Ori Dagan. Scott's interests include teaching students of all ages as well as accompanying dance performances from flamenco to ballet to moving meditation. Scott is always looking to expand his musical style and improve his craft as an accompanist, band leader, producer, and just plain music lover.

Top: Mary and Alice

Middle: Mary and Penthelia Singers at an outdoor concert

Bottom: Mary confers with accompanist Dan Bickle



Top: Mary lends an ear with accompanist Judith deHaney

Middle: Mary Anderson, Mary Legge, Susie Henderson at Mary's Penthelia retirement party

Bottom: Karen Sun, Mary Legge, Gabrielle Kemeny at Mary's Penthelia retirement party





## Mary Legge, Founding Artistic Director

In the fall of 1997, when Mary Legge retired from an active career as the Director of Choral Music in the Claude Watson Programme for the Arts at Earl Haig Secondary School in North York, she founded the Penthelia Singers with a group of enthusiastic alumnae of the Earl Haig Girls Chamber Choir. The debut concert was performed on May 3, 1998 at Rosedale Presbyterian Church. A variety of songs in Finnish, German, Japanese, Latin, Romanian, Welsh, West Georgian and, of course, English, tended to establish the linguistic characteristics of future performances.

Mary challenged this choir with a diverse variety of repertoire. The disparate characteristics of Bach Cantatas, Opera choruses, Broadway songs, works in graphic notation as well as repertoire in at least 22 languages required a singer's imagination and vocal resilience to be at ease in these demanding styles. She often championed Canadian compositions and women composers.

After 10 years at its helm, Mary retired as Artistic Director of the Penthelia Singers and passed the torch to one of her former students, Alice Malach. Mary continued to be part of the Penthelia community by being a mentor to Alice, guest conducting, being an extra ear at dress rehearsals, and being one of our biggest fans.

Born and raised in Muskoka, Mary spent her adult life in Toronto, where she taught school for over 35 years. A graduate of University of Toronto, she had a rewarding career as a devoted music educator, church organist, and choral adjudicator. She sang with the Mendelssohn Choir and was a Royal Canadian College of Organists Board member. Mary was an avid gardener, a keen member of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, an enthusiastic lawn bowler, and a proud Canadian.

## *In Remembrance*



To honour Mary Legge, please consider a donation to The Royal Conservatory School's Scholarships and Bursary Fund.

<https://www.rcmusic.com/support-us/music-education>





*[www.penthelia.com](http://www.penthelia.com)*

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of Non-Discrimination

