



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

University of Toronto Faculty of Music Gospel Choir

Dr. Darren Hamilton, *conductor*

Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 7:30 pm | Isabel Bader Theatre, 93 Charles Street, Toronto

PROGRAM

De Gospel Train

Recorded by the Fisk Jubilee Singers
Christopher Hawke, Kimberly Brathwaite, Erik Mohr, *soloists*

This Little Light of Mine

Inspired by recording by Toronto Mass Choir
Hannah Athanasiadis, Maura McGroarty, *soloists*

Down By The Riverside

Public domain - vocal arrangements by Darren Hamilton
Aislinn Brown, Lily Lee, Lutzen Riedstra, *soloists*

Soon and Very Soon

Recorded by Andraé Crouch, additional vocal arrangements by Darren Hamilton

We Shall Overcome

Musical arrangement by Rolio Dilworth, vocal arrangements by Darren Hamilton
Desarae Dee, *accompanist*

The Lord Is Blessing Me

Recorded by Bishop Larry Trotter

I Will Sing Praises

Recorded by Richard Smallwood and Vision
Featuring: University of Toronto Chamber Choir

I Don't Feel No Ways Tired

Recorded by the Reverend James Cleveland

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

As part of the Faculty's commitment to improving Indigenous inclusion, we call upon all members of our community to start/continue their personal journeys towards understanding and acknowledging Indigenous peoples' histories, truths and cultures. Visit indigenous.utoronto.ca to learn more.

Can't Give Up Now

Recorded by Mary Mary
Patricia Shirley, *guest soloist*

More Than I Can Bear

Recorded by Kirk Franklin and God's Property
Kimberly Brathwaite, *soloist*

Deliver Daniel

Recorded by Dexter Walker and Zion Movement

Better

Recorded by Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Crusade Choir
Patricia Shirley, *guest soloist*

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY OF MUSIC GOSPEL CHOIR

Dr. Darren Hamilton, *conductor*

Desaraé Dee, *professional gospel accompanist*

Duncan Wilson, *student accompanist*

Jordan Baldwin, *teaching assistant*

Sopranos

Aislinn Brown

Arushi Das

Sarah Gangl

Christine Hanson

Maura McGroarty

Karis Persaud

Altos

Hannah Athanasiadis

Jamie Bateman

Kimberley Brathwaite

Helen Choi

Sophia Gaber

Lily Lee

Tenors

Yujia Du

Christopher Hawke

Erik Mohr

Michael Pirri

Baritone/Basses

Abner Campos

Desmond Kumprey

Constantin Moeller

Julian Przybyslawski

Lutzen Riedstra

Concert Rhythm Section

Desaraé Dee, *musical director, lead keys, auxiliary keys*

Jerome Anderson, *auxiliary keys, lead keys*

Dyheim Stewart, *electric guitar*

Jonathan Aristide, *electric bass guitar*

Daniel Genus, *drums*

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

The University of Toronto Faculty of Music Gospel Choir is a credit course offering, currently open to students in the Faculty of Music and the Toronto School of Theology. The course explores various forms of gospel music repertoire, from its roots in African-American spirituals to mainstream contemporary gospel choir music. Throughout the course, students develop their aural musicianship skills and their ability to 'learn by ear' through a rote style of teaching. The course introduces students to various aspects of vocal Gospel music including articulation, enunciation, vocal production, vocal improvisation, stylistic nuances and performance practices. Students leave the course with an understanding of the historical, social and cultural context of Gospel music, an awareness of notable gospel musicians and an opportunity to engage in several authentic gospel music performances.

Dr. Darren Hamilton is an Assistant Professor of music education in the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto. His research interests lie in formal gospel music, popular music and hip hop music education, in addition to anti-Black racism, equity, diversity and social justice in music education. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in music education, he is the founding director of the University of Toronto Faculty of Music Gospel Choir. He has served as a member of the JUNO Award-winning Toronto Mass Choir (TMC) and the JUNO-nominated Youth Outreach Mass Choir. He has also guest conducted performances for TMC, the Oakville Choral and the University of Toronto Chamber Choir. Dr. Darren Hamilton was the recipient of the 2022 JUNO Award for MusiCounts Teacher of the Year, recognising his commitment to equity and diversity, as well as his professional contributions to the field of music education.

The University of Toronto Chamber Choir was formed in 2011 to provide Faculty of Music treble voices an opportunity to study music of many styles, and cultural expressions. The choir regularly works with emerging composers in residence to bring new creative choral music to the treble-voice repertoire. Under the direction of Dr. Lori-Anne Dolloff the choir has committed to singing texts and scores written by women composers and poets, and in multiple languages reflective of marginalized voices and experiences. On March 24, the ensemble will collaborate with Inuk soprano Deantha Edmunds, a recent recipient of the Order of Canada, to perform an afternoon of music that centers Indigenous composers, poets and performers.

Patricia Shirley is a JUNO-nominated gospel recording artist. A 'singers, singer', she is revered in the gospel music scene, celebrated in both secular and stage work and has made vocal performance its own form of athleticism, with her ability to leave audiences in awe. Patricia has appeared in movies, on television, in concert halls and churches, internationally. She has shared the stage with gospel greats such as Donnie McClurkin, Mary Mary, CeCe Winans, Kim Burrell, Fred Hammond, Sharon Riley and Faith Chorale and Toronto Mass Choir. She has also worked with Celine Dion, Mariah Carey, Pharrell Williams and Toronto's own, Drake. Patricia's voice will leave you captivated and the power in her voice will lift you to heights unimaginable, moving you to your core.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Emmanuel College: Beth Anne Fisher and Thomas Reynolds
Isabel Bader Theatre: Jeff Arnason and Sarah Babra
University of Toronto Chamber Choir: Professor Lori-Anne Dolloff, *conductor*
Event Photographer: Hyunwoo Mike Hwang, Oh Happy Day Photography
Live Stream Technician: Drew Henderson