

VENTURA COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS

VENTURA COLLEGE
CONCERT CHOIR & SINGERS

present

FROSTIANA

randall thompson

& More Music
Celebrating the
Change of Seasons

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 17
7:00 PM

San Buenaventura Mission
211 E. Main Street

Brent Wilson, Director
Mark Holmstrom, Piano

Ventura
COLLEGE

PROGRAM

BRENT WILSON director
MARK HOLMSTROM piano

VC Singers

Oceans and Stars	Amy Bernon (b. 1967)
A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square	Manny Sherwin (1902–1974)
The Seal Lullaby Glow	Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)
Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies	arr. Pentatonix

VC Concert Chorus

(We ask that you hold your applause until
all seven songs of Frostiana are finished)

Frostiana	Randall Thompson (1899–1984)
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- I. The Road Not Taken
- II. The Pasture
- III. Come In
- IV. The Telephone
- V. A Girl's Garden
- VI. Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening
- VII. Choose Something Like a Star

VC Concert Chorus and Singers

And the Night Shall Be Filled With Music	Michael John Trotta (b. 1978)
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VC SINGERS ROSTER

Soprano

Isabella Catalano
Elaina Crenshaw*
Alyssa Escarcega
Mariah Gruber
Adrien Roberts*

Alto

Jessica Gonzalez-Rodriguez*
Gaia Hubbard*
Taryn Lakes
Abigail Levine
Isabella Perez
Mariah Young

Tenor

Todd Honeycutt*
Isaiah Maldonado
Ryan Williams

Bass

Luvi Avendano+
Larez Edmonson
Brian Hotchkin+
Jerome Morata
Gianni Nicolini

*-denotes guest artist
+-denotes VC faculty

VC CONCERT CHOIR ROSTER

Soprano

Deana Baxter
Lily Calhoun
Elaina Crenshaw*
Felix Duran
Kathleen Goodrich
Teresa Goodrich
Areli Leon
Camilla Mendez
Adrien Roberts*
Bella Ruff
Ashe Young

Tenor

Todd Honeycutt*
Isaiah Maldonado
Erick Marroquin
Ryan Williams

Alto

Kathleen Capolupo
Jessica Gonzalez-Rodriguez*
Gaia Hubbard*
Makena Kalbs
Katie Kolberg
Taryn Lakes
Kai Olmos
Shannon Ramirez
Paloma Rodriguez

*-denotes guest artist
+-denotes VC faculty

Bass

Luvi Avendano+
Zach Barnes
Donovan Bushnell
Victor Chavez
Ramon Damian
Larez Edmonson
Brian Hotchkin+
Evan Howard
Octavius Licon
Shane Lisle
Jesse Morales
Gianni Nicolini
Jose Quezada
Armando Santos

ABOUT “Frostiana”

Music by Randall Thompson, text by Robert Frost

In 1958, Randall Thompson was commissioned to compose a piece celebrating the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Amherst, Massachusetts. The townspeople suggested that Thompson set a poem by Robert Frost, the quintessential New England poet who had lived for a time in Amherst. Thompson, a friend of Frost's, agreed but rejected the town's choice of poem, *The Gift Outright*.

Instead, he chose to compose a suite of seven poems, and titled it *Frostiana*. Thompson subtitled the suite *Seven Country Songs*, and the poems he selected certainly provide a nostalgic glimpse of rural New England life. A common thread unites the poems, emphasizing the importance of the many small choices we are called to make throughout life. Through his sensitive settings of Frost's texts, Thompson gently counsels us to take the road less traveled, to keep our promises before we sleep, to stay our minds upon something like a star. Thompson himself conducted the premiere at the Bicentennial Commemoration on October 18, 1959. The Bicentennial Chorus, comprised of singers from throughout the township, was accompanied on the piano, as Thompson didn't orchestrate the work until 1965. Robert Frost attended, and was so delighted that at the conclusion of the performance, he rose to his feet and shouted, “Sing that again!”

—Yvonne Grover

BRENT WILSON director

Brent Wilson is a Los Angeles-based tenor, conductor and stage director, and is the Department Chair of Performing Arts and Director of Voice, Choirs, Opera and Musical Theatre at Ventura College, resident guest director at Viterbo University, and director of choral studies at University of California, Santa Barbara. Locally as a conductor, Wilson served as Assistant Conductor and Chorus Master of Opera Santa Barbara for over twenty productions and conducted productions of *The Consul* and *Don Pasquale*. He has appeared as guest conductor for the UCSB Orchestra and Opera, receiving top prizes for collegiate opera production from the National Opera Association for the production of *Twelfth Night*.



Wilson has worked with choral groups such as the Grammy-nominated ensemble Boston Baroque, Handel and Haydn Society, Handel Oratorio Society (Chicago), Long Beach Camerata, and Santa Barbara Master Chorale, and opera ensembles including Boston Lyric Opera, Maine Grand Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, Granite State Opera, Chicago Opera Theater, Lyric Opera of Chicago, and Opera Theatre Saint Louis.

Additionally, he has been on faculty at the Tanglewood Institute through Boston University, Augustana College, and Viterbo University where the National Opera Association awarded his production of *Trouble in Tahiti* a 3rd prize in Division I collegiate productions. He is a member of the National Opera Association, American Choral Directors Association, National Association of Teachers of Singing, and champions the training of young singers and has students in the Broadway tours of *School of Rock*, *Rock of Ages*, and *Hamilton*. He has recently embarked on a project to rediscover and remount works by Gian Carlo Menotti that have been lost since their debuts on NBC and CBS in the '60s and '70s. Wilson received Voice Performance degrees from Augustana College (B.A.) and Boston University School of Music (M.M.) and also holds degrees in Computer Science/Mathematics from Augustana. In his free time, Wilson likes to compete in marathons and other endurance sports and has completed five Ironman competitions, fourteen marathons, and most recently ran across the Italian Dolomites Alta Via 1 75 mile trail in a weekend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 30-December 3

The Laramie Project: 10 years later

Nathan Cole, director

VC Theatre Department

Helen Yunker Auditorium

Friday, December 8 at 7:30pm

VC Jazz Band

Fundi Legohn, director

Helen Yunker Auditorium

Saturday, December 9 at 7:30pm

VC Symphony and Chamber Orchestra

Ashley Walters, director

Helen Yunker Auditorium

Sunday, December 10 at 2:30pm

Chamber Music

Ashley Walters, director

Helen Yunker Auditorium

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<http://www.venturacollege.edu/performing-arts>

Special thank you to Miriam Schwab and Helen Yunker for their generous gifts that enable us to do such robust programming.

DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING ARTS FACULTY & STAFF

Dean of Health, Kinesiology, Athletics & Performing Arts	Ronald Mules
Department Chair, Performing Arts	Brent Wilson/Nathan Cole
VCPAC Technical Director	Jamie Birkett
VCPAC Assistant	Maggie Zinke
Schwab Performing Arts Assistant	Laura Solis

MUSIC FACULTY

Bassoon	Nick Akdag
Keyboards	Dr. Ovanes Arakelyan
Voice	Dr. Luvi Avendano
Percussion	Jordan Curcuruto
Keyboards	Dr. Felix Eisenhauer
Oboe, Clarinet	Kimaree Gilad
Voice	Brian Hotchkin
Trombone	Dr. Gwang Kim
Brass, Jazz ensemble	Fundi Legohn
Flute	Carol Lockart
Guitar	Dr. Cesar Mateus
Bass, Ethnomusicology	Barry Newton
Classical Guitar	Dr. Hugo Nogueira
Trumpet	David Pittel
Theory, Composition	Dr. Ollie Powers
Strings, Composition	Dr. Andrew Tholl
Brass	Jon Titmus
Cello, Chamber, Orchestra	Dr. Ashley Walters
Voice, Choir, Musical Theatre, Opera	Brent Wilson
Music Theory	Dr. Scott Wolf

SPECIAL THANKS

Ronald Mules, Luvi Avendano, Brian Hotchkin, Helen Yunker,
Miriam Schwab, Elaina Crenshaw, Mark Holmstrom