

The Arizona Choir

Miguel Ángel Felipe, conductor

american god



Sunday, October 21, 2018
Congregation Anshei Israel
3:00 p.m.

 THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
Fred Fox School of Music



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PROGRAM

Twelve Qur'anic visions (2007)Eric Banks
(b. 1969)

X. *The star of justice*
Crystal Kachevas, soprano

XII. *The paths of peace*

Jasmine Arrow Music (2009)Forrest Pierce
(b. 1972)

- I. *Thousands*
- II. *Freedom*
- III. *Arrow*
- IV. *Jasmine*
- V. *Peace*

Angel Band (2010)Shawn Kirchner
to an 1862 tune by William Bradley (b. 1970)

The Valley of Delight (2012)Paul Crabtree
(b. 1960)

- I. *Journey*
- II. *Workdance*
- III. *Death and Resurrection*

Unclouded Day (2010)Shawn Kirchner
to an 1879 tune by Rev. Josiah Kelley Alwood (b. 1970)

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A free-will collection will be taken at the end of the performance.





Texts

Twelve Qur'anic visions

X. The star of justice

(I call to witness) the heavens and the morning star – (86.1)

How does one recognize the morning star, (86.2)

That shines with such a piercing brightness? (86.3)

It is the guardian over every soul. (86.4)

O you who believe,

When the call to prayer is made on Friday (the day of gathering),

Come quickly to remember God, and put aside all business. (62.9)

Turn your face toward the Holy Mosque,

Wherever you may be, turn your faces, all of you. (2.144)

Pray to your Lord in humility and privacy,

For he does not love the ostentatious. (7.55)

Commemorate the name of your Lord

In both morning and evening. (76.25)

Bow down before him during the night,

And glorify him through the whole night through. (76.26)

Patient, sincere, devout, and charitable

Are those who seek forgiveness at dawn. (3.17)

O you who believe,

Stand up and be witnesses for God in all fairness,

And do not let the hatred of anyone seduce you from justice.

Be just: for this closest to piety. (5.8)

God does not wish injustice upon the creatures of this world. (3.108)

Say: "He is God, the one and only. (112.1)

God is the absolute one. (112.2)

He has begotten no one, and is the begotten of no one. (112.3)

There is no one comparable to him, the one and only." (112.4)

XII. The paths of peace

Hold fast to the rope of God, all of you, and be not divided;

Remember the grace that God showed you when you were enemies,

When he joined your hearts and made you brothers, by his grace. (3.103)

And if they seek peace, do the same yourselves,

And trust in God, for indeed, he is all-hearing and all-knowing. (8.61)

Peace be upon the messengers. (37.181)

They are guided with gentle words;

They are guided to the exalted way. (22.24)

God will guide all who seek his favor unto the paths of peace.

He will lead them out of darkness into light,

By his grace, he will guide them along the way of all virtue. (5.16)





Jasmine Arrow Music, from the Dhammapada

Translated by F. Pierce

I. *Thousands*

Better than a thousand pointless verses is
one stanza in which one finds peace. (verse 100)

II. *Freedom*

Hatred is never settled by hatred.
Hatred is settled by freedom from hatred. This is the everlasting law. (verse 5)

III. *Arrow*

Fragile and flickering as it is, the wise person straightens
out the restless mind, like a fletcher crafting an arrow. (verse 33)

IV. *Jasmine*

The scent of jasmine cannot blow against the wind, nor
can that of sandalwood. But the scent of the good does
blow against the wind, and the good person brings flowers
to the four corners of the earth. (verse 54)

V. *Peace*

The wise find peace on hearing the truth; peace like a
deep, clear, calm lake. (verse 82)

Angel Band (1860)

Jefferson Hascall (1807–1887)

The latest sun is sinking fast,
my race is almost run.
My strongest trials now are past,
my triumph is begun!

Chorus

O come, angel band, come and around me stand,
O bear me away on your snow-white wings
to my immortal home.
Bear me away on your snow-white wings
to my immortal home.

I know I'm near the holy ranks
of friend and kindred dear;
I brush the dew on Jordan's banks,
the crossing must be near. *Chorus*

I've almost gained my heav'nly home,
my spirit loudly sings;
The holy ones, behold, they come!
I hear the noise of wings. *Chorus*





The Valley of Delight

Texts by Lynn Emanuel (b. 1949) and, in italics, Ann Lee (1736-1784)

I. Journey

God's nature is dual,
male and female equally.

*I saw a large tree every leaf
of which shone with such
brightness*

*as made it appear like a
burning torch.*

*I knew that God had a
chosen people in America.*

*I saw them in a vision, and
when I met them in America
I knew them.*

Like Jonas by the fish
was I received by it,

Swung and swept
in its dark waters,

Driven to the deeps by it
and beyond many rocks.

Without any touching of its
teeth, I tumbled into it

With no more struggle
than a mote of dust

Entering the door of a
cathedral, so muckle were
its jaws.

How heel over head
was I hurled down

The broad road of its throat,
stopped inside

Its chest wide as a hall,
and like Jonas I stood up

Asking where the beast was
and finding it nowhere,

There in grease and sorrow
I built my bower.

II. Workdance

*I have seen Jane praising
God in the dance.*

*When David killed Goliath
there was dancing.*

*O virgin of Israel, Praise his
name in the dance.*

*Carnal affections must die
that spiritual affections may live,*





*and all who will be true
followers of Christ must live
a celibate life.*

*I put my hands to work and
my heart to God.*

*Jubilee of jubilees, where the
rich and the poor, high
and the low,*

*the bond and the free, male
and female, all become
one; and love is the bond
of their union.*

III. Death and Resurrection

Free from sin.

Free from pain.

Love surround me,
make me whole.

Grow in light.

Fill my soul.

(Traditional American, fragments)

Scrape the sun from the wall
of the sky.

Cast the great nets of autumn
over the houses.

Even the throat of the lily is a
dangerous inlet.

Let the world stand wearily
on the stoop of the jail
of the world and the light of
the mind, that small lamp,
pearl of shine, let the night
come into it,
as iron filings to a magnet,
mother.

*Do all your work as though
you had a thousand years
to live*

*and as you would if you knew
you must die tomorrow.*

Unclouded Day (1879)

Rev. Josiah Kelley Atwood (1828-1909)

O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies,

They tell me of a home far away,

And they tell me of a home

Where no storm clouds rise:

O they tell me of an unclouded day.





Chorus

O the land of cloudless days,
O the land of an unclouded sky,
O they tell me of a home
where no storm clouds rise:
O they tell me of an unclouded day.

O they tell me of a home
Where my friends have gone,
They tell me of a land far away,
Where the tree of life in eternal bloom
Sheds its fragrance through the unclouded day. *Chorus*

O they tell me of a King in His beauty there,
They tell me that mine eyes shall behold
Where He sits on a throne
that is bright as the sun
In the city that is made of gold. *Chorus*

The Arizona Choir

Soprano

Hangyu Bai
Frannie Barrows
Erika Burkhart
Emily Garcia
Crystal Kachevas
Chunghee Lee
Anna Li
Yuchen Luo
Yujia Luo
Sunny Park
Emma Petersen
Rebeckah Resare

Alto

Athena Beebe
Kaitlyn Bertenshaw
Angelica Dunsavage
Kelsie Grimsley
Shainy Manuel
Diana Peralta
SarahBeth Redlhammer

Tenor

Gavin Ely
Tim Klingler
Nicky Manlove
John McMeen
Jeff Vanderlee
Thomas Wininger

Bass

Brayton Bollenbacher
Peter Fischer
Gabriel Machado
Octavio Moreno
Jordan Murillo
Erik Peregrine
John Willis

Rehearsal Pianist

Tadeo Tapia

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Angelica Dunsavage





Dr. Miguel Ángel Felipe joined the faculty of the University of Arizona in 2018 and serves as director of choral activities and associate professor of music. He has held similar positions at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Boston University.

Felipe is active in the U.S., Asia, South America and Europe. Upcoming and recent engagements include leading choirs in Spain, Brazil and Texas; presenting master classes in Sweden, Singapore and Pennsylvania; and adjudicating choirs in Indonesia, Germany and Arizona.

Felipe's choirs have performed internationally and domestically, often to high praise: "the [ensemble], under the direction of Miguel Felipe, has progressed to the point that it is simply a fine vocal instrument in absolute terms."

A devoted supporter of new music and lesser known masterpieces, Felipe has commissioned extensively and spoken at U.S. events about the composer-conductor relationship. His programs often meld adventurous with traditional repertoire exploring with audiences and singers an evolving, global choral tradition. His research focuses on choral innovations in Indonesia and Southeast Asia, on concepts of the influence of choral societies in cultural development, and on conducting pedagogy.

Felipe has served on the faculty of Oberlin College & Conservatory, the Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Brown University, and Mount Holyoke College. He has led choirs at Harvard University; Universidade de São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto (Brazil); and in various churches including the Lutheran Church of Honolulu where he served as the director of music and liturgy from 2011 to 2014.

A frequent guest conductor, Felipe has been described as a "a dynamic ... conductor who had clearly committed himself to bringing the best" of singers. He's active as vice president of the National Collegiate Choral Organization, as the past vice president of the Hawai'i Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association and as a member of Chorus America. Felipe is a proud member of Pi Kappa Lambda, the national music honor society.

Felipe earned his Bachelor of Music degree, *summa cum laude*, at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and his Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees at Boston University where he studied with Dr. Ann Howard Jones, David Hoose, Craig Smith, and Joseph Flummerfelt.

