

Join us for our Spring Concert:

A Light of Song

June 6, 2026 | 3:30 PM

St. Stephens United Church
7025 Granville St, Vancouver
Tickets: \$25

**High
Spirits
Choir**

Director: Ieva Wool
Accompanist: Zsuzsanna Lukacs

with special guests:
Todd Biffard on percussion
Mark LeBourdais on bass
Keegan Parkhurst on clarinet

highspiritschoir.ca

High Spirits Choir

❧ A Light of Song ❧

Ieva Wool, music director

Zsuzsanna Lukacs, accompanist

Todd Biffard, percussion; Mark LeBourdais, bass

Brad Leslie welcomes you to the concert with his musical stylings

Oggun Belele trad. Yoruba from Trinidad, arr. Brian Tate

Penny Lane John Lennon & Paul McCartney, arr. Bob Chilcott

Earth Song. Frank Ticheli

Maquerúle. trad. Colombian, arr. Julián Gómez Giraldo

Soloist: Krystal Esau

Black Is the Color of My True Love's Hair trad. American

arr. René Clausen

Clarinet: Keegan Parkhurst

Auass ("Child" in the Innu language) Alex Volland

The 23rd Psalm Bobby McFerrin

Don't Nobody Bring Me No Bad News Charlie Smalls

arr. Larry Shackley

Soloists: Alaric Posey, Kira Gerwing

❧ Intermission ❧

High Spirits Choir respectfully acknowledges that today's performance takes place on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, specifically those of the x^wməθkwəyə'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl'ílwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

- Pirate Song Tim Y. Jones
- The Witches' Trio Libby Larsen
text from Macbeth by William Shakespeare
- Ecce nunc benedicite Dominum Tomás Luis de Victoria
(1549–1611)
- A Boy and a Girl poem by Octavio Paz (1914–1998),
music by Eric Whitacre
- Charleston Alley Edgar M. Sampson, lyrics by Jon Hendricks
arr. Darmon Meader
Soloists: Alaric Posey, Jonathan Chaplan, Kira Gerwing
- Três Cantos Nativos Dos Indios Kraó arr. Marcos Leite
Soloist: Caroline Sniatynski
- Irish Blessing Joyce Eilers Bacak, trad. Irish text



Scan here for song texts, translations, and more information about High Spirits Choir

Do you love to sing?

High Spirits Choir welcomes new singers in September for our spring season. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:30 pm, starting September 16. Good choral experience is a must; reading music is an asset.

For more information, visit www.highspiritschoir.ca/join.

Love High Spirits but want something that's not so demanding? Consider one of our sister choirs, Simple Gifts (Tuesdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm) or Afternoon Delight (Thursdays 12:45 – 2:45 pm), also conducted by Ieva. Contact her at 604-732-7418, ieva@gottasing.ca, or www.gottasing.ca.

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Maquerúle

This catchy Colombian folksong, arranged by Julián Gómez Giraldo, tells the tale of a friendly baker who learns the hard way to collect the cash up front!

Syncopated rhythms add to the fun, along with vocal parts that mimic double-bass, piano, and trumpets.

*Maquerúle era un chombo, panadero de Andagoya,
lo llamaban Maquerúle, se arruinó fiando mogolla.*

Maquerúle was a baker fellow from Andagoya,
They called him “good old Maquerúle,” going broke selling on credit.

*Maquerúle, póngale la mano al pan, pa’que sude.
Pim, pam, pum, Maquerúle, pa’que sude.*

Knead the bread, Maquerúle, work it out.
Work the bread with your hands, sweat it out.
Pim, pam, pum, Maquerúle, pim, pam, pum, sweat it out.

*Maquerúle no está aquí, Maquerúle está en Condoto.
Cuando vengan Maquerúle, su mujer se fué con otro.*

Maquerúle isn’t here, he’s gone to Condoto.
When he gets back, he’ll find his wife’s run off with somebody else.

*Maquerúle, póngale la mano al pan, pa’que sude.
Pim, pam, pum, Maquerúle, pa’que sude.*

*Maquerúle amasa el pan, y lo vende de contado.
Maquerúle ya no quiere que su pan se venda fiado.*

Maquerúle kneads the bread, but now he sells for cash only.
Maquerúle doesn’t want to sell his bread on credit.

*Maquerúle, póngale la mano al pan, pa’que sude.
Pim, pam, pum, Maquerúle, pa’que sude.*

Auass

by Alex Vollant

Alex Vollant is from the Innu First Nation in Québec. They wrote this piece “to explore issues of the history of Canada that are usually difficult to approach, such as Residential Schools, which were designed and founded to ‘kill the Indian in the child.’ I envisioned a survivor elder [who] would go inside their own self, to visit their inner child. . . . However sad this all may be, the most important portion of this piece is the ending, which is filled with hope and anticipation for a brighter future.”

Auass

Child,

Astem ute

Come here

Tshe uitemuin

And tell me

Ka tutakuin

What they did to you.

Eka shetshe

Don't be scared.

Apu tsheku akuitan

I will never hurt you.

Uapel tsheka meletshishekashu.

Tomorrow will be brighter.

Los Novios
(A Boy and a Girl)

poem by Octavio Paz (1914 – 1998),
translation by Muriel Rukeyser

<i>Tendidos en la yerba</i>	Stretched out on the grass,
<i>una muchacha y un muchacho.</i>	a boy and a girl.
<i>Comen naranjas, cambian besos</i>	Savoring their oranges,
<i>como las olas cambian sus</i>	giving their kisses like waves
<i>espumas.</i>	exchanging foam.
<i>Tendidos en la playa</i>	Stretched out on the beach,
<i>una muchacha y un muchacho.</i>	a boy and a girl.
<i>Comen limones, cambian besos</i>	Savoring their limes,
<i>como las nubes cambian sus</i>	giving their kisses like clouds
<i>espumas.</i>	exchanging foam.
<i>Tendidos bajo tierra</i>	Stretched out underground,
<i>una muchacha y un muchacho.</i>	a boy and a girl.
<i>No dicen nada, no se besan,</i>	Saying nothing, never kissing,
<i>cambian silencio por silencio.</i>	giving silence for silence.

High Spirits Choir

Soprano

Anita Perkins Franca Varelas
Autumn Hong Krystal Esau
Brenda Cameron Lidia Morales Lee
Christina Reed Pat Dutcher-Walls
Diana Gonzalez Samantha Merz
Suzanne Ryder

Alto

Betty Ann Rivers Wang Megan Reiter
Caroline Sniatynski Libby Taylor-Manning
Christina Grammenos Liesbeth Thoraval
Joan Fitzpatrick Marian Lowery
Kira Gerwing Renate Preuss

Tenor

Bruce Dolsen Jonathan Chaplan
John Richardson Neil Chong-Kit
Jon Lewak Sara Young
Veronica Meyer

Baritone / Bass

Aidan Langdon Dušan Kalanovic
Alaric Posey Ed Ho
Doug Abel Jürgen Stumper
Thomas Mann

Thanks to our supporters!

A heartfelt thanks for your support!

We wish to thank our friends and supporters. Your presence here today, in addition to your participation in our various fundraising initiatives, is key to covering both the choir's performing and operating costs.

The Vancouver High Spirits Choral Society is a registered non-profit charity. Our volunteers in the lobby today are able to issue tax receipts for any donations greater than \$10.

Your generosity helps us cover costs like bringing music to care homes as well as others who might otherwise not be able to experience the joy live music can bring. The High Spirits board also believes that singers should not be turned away for financial reasons; another way your gifts help keep the melodies and harmonies alive!

Please know how much we appreciate any ancillary contribution you choose to make.

Other options available to support us:

Visit our website's donation page
<https://www.highspiritschoir.ca/support>

Mail a cheque made payable to High Spirits Choir:
c/o Ieva Wool
323 – 333 Wethersfield Drive
Vancouver, BC V5X 4M9

Thank you for your support!

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High Spirits Choir

Ieva Wool
Music Director



Ieva Wool is a gentle and light-hearted conductor and singing teacher, with a passion for having fun and building community. Ieva's spirited and often cheeky leadership injects rehearsals – and concerts – with a good share of playfulness as well as musical magic. She brings her many years of experience as a trainer, group facilitator, and Gestalt therapist to her choirs and students. Ieva's singers learn a lot, and have fun doing it.

Ieva recently published a fantasy novel, *Heartfire*, available on Amazon.

Zsuzsanna Lukacs
Accompanist

The Hungarian pianist Zsuzsanna Lukacs was born in Targu Mures, Romania. She graduated from the Gheorghe Dima Academy of Music in Cluj-Napoca, obtained a “1er Prix de Virtuosité” at the Lausanne Conservatory in Switzerland and a Master's Degree in Piano Performance at the University of British Columbia. Zsuzsanna studied chamber music at the European Mozart Academy in Poland. She has performed extensively both as a soloist and collaborative pianist in Europe, Canada, and the US.

