



UCD  
PHILHARMONIC  
CHOIR

# AN DÚLRA



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## LES FLEURS ET LES ARBRES

Camille Saint-Saëns 1835–1921

## SICUT CERVUS

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
1525–1594

## NORTHERN LIGHTS

Ola Gjeilo b. 1978

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## CUORE CHAMBER CHOIR

## PRAYERS OF KIERKEGAARD, NO. 2

Knut Nystedt 1915–2014

## STOPPING BY WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING

Eric Whitacre b. 1970

## HYMNE Á LA VIERGE

Pierre Vilette 1926–1998

## ALLELUIA, I HEARD A VOICE

Janet Wheeler (b.1957),

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## BE LIKE THE BIRD

Abbie Bettinis b. 1980

## THE BLUE BIRD OP. 119 NO. 3

Charles Villiers Stanford 1852–1924

## MORE WATERS RISING

Saro Lynch Thomason, arr. Saunder  
Choi b. 1988

## LOCH LOMOND

Traditional Scottish arr. Jonathan  
Quick b. 1970

# TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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## LES FLEURS ET LES ARBRES OP. 68 1882

Camille Saint-Saëns

*Les fleurs et les arbres  
Les bronzes, les marbres,  
Les ors, les émaux.  
La mer, les fontaines,  
Les monts et les plaines  
Consolent nos maux.*

*Nature éternelle,  
tu sembles plus belle  
Au sein des douleurs.  
Et l'art nous domine  
Sa Flamme illumine  
Le rire et les pleurs.*

The flowers and the trees,  
The bronzes, the marbles  
Objects of gold and enamel.  
The sea, the fountains  
The mountains and plains  
Console our sadness.

Eternal nature,  
You seem more beautiful  
Through sorrows.  
Art rules us  
It's flame illuminates  
Both laughter and tears.

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## SICUT CERVUS

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes  
aquarum,  
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.*

As a deer longs for the flowing  
streams,  
so longs my soul for thee, O God!

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## NORTHERN LIGHTS 2007

Ola Gjeilo

*Pulchra es amica mea,  
suavis et decora filia Jerusalem.  
Pulchra es amica mea,  
suavis et decora sicut Jerusalem.  
Terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata.  
Averte oculos tuos a me,  
quia ipsi me avolare fecerunt.*

Thou art beautiful, O my love,  
sweet and comely daughter of  
Jerusalem.  
Thou art beautiful, O my love,  
sweet and comely as Jerusalem.  
Terrible as an army set in array.  
Turn away thine eyes from me,  
for they have made me flee away.

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## BE LIKE THE BIRD 2009

Abbie Bettinis

Be like the bird that  
Pausing in her flight awhile  
On boughs too slight  
Feels them give way beneath her  
And sings, and sings, and sings  
Knowing she hath wings.

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## THE BLUE BIRD

Charles Villiers Stanford

The lake lay blue below the hill, cold  
and still  
O'er it, as I looked,  
There flew across the waters cold and  
still,  
There flew a bird whose wings were  
palest blue.

The sky above was blue at last,  
The sky beneath me, blue in blue.  
A moment ere the bird had passed,  
It caught his image as he flew.

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## MORE WATERS RISING 2018

Saunder Choi

There are more waters rising,  
This I know, this I know.  
There are more waters rising,  
They will find their way to me.  
There are more waters rising,  
This I know, this I know.  
There are more waters rising,  
This I know.

There are more fires burning,  
This I know...

There are more mountains falling,  
This I know...

I will wade through the waters,  
This I know, this I know...

I will walk through the fires  
This I know...

I will rebuild the mountains  
This I know...

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## LOCH LOMOND 2000

Traditional Scottish arr. Jonathan Quick

By yon bonnie banks and by yon  
bonnie braes,  
Where the sun shines bright on Loch  
Lomond  
Where me and my true love were ever  
wont to gae,  
On the bonnie bonnie banks of Loch  
Lomond.

Oh! Ye'll take the high road, and I'll  
take the low road,  
And I'll be in Scotland afore ye,  
But me and my true love will never  
meet again,  
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch  
Lomond.

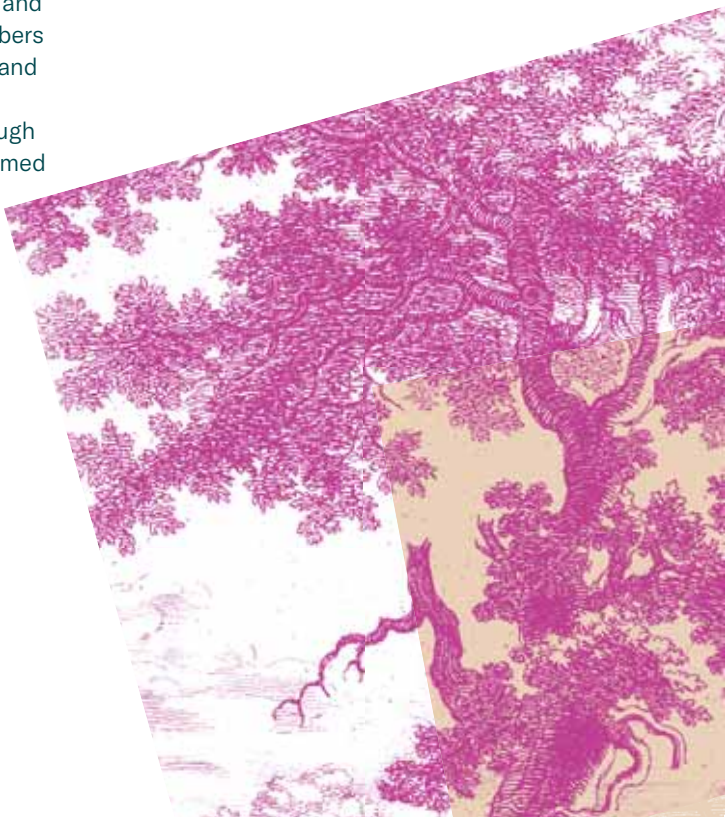
'Twas then that we parted, In yon  
shady glen,  
On the steep, steep side of Ben  
Lomond,  
Where, in purple hue, The highland  
hills we view,  
And the moon coming out in the  
gloaming.  
The wee birdies sing, And the wild  
flowers spring,  
And in sunshine the waters sleeping.  
But the broken heart will ken, Nae  
second spring again,  
and the world knows not how we are  
grieving.

# UCD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

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Founded in 2007, the UCD Philharmonic Choir performs a diverse range of choral music from all genres, regularly collaborating with its sister ensemble the UCD Symphony Orchestra in works such as Beethoven's *Choral Symphony* and *Ein Deutsches Requiem* by Johannes Brahms. The choir is offered as a performance module in the School of Music, and seeks to achieve the highest standards of choral technique and ensemble by exploring choral repertoire in an intensive and enjoyable environment. Its members receive training in sight-singing and vocal technique, improving their general musicianship skills through weekly rehearsals. Works performed

have included requiems by Brahms, Fauré, Duruflé, and Mozart, plus core repertoire from Tallis and Vivaldi to Britten and Arvo Pärt. The choir has also recently gave the world premiere of Peter Moran's new work for choir, soprano saxophone, harp and flute, *Entertaining Rama in the Garden*. The choir has joined the UCD Symphony Orchestra in concert on a number of occasions, including several sold-out concerts at the National Concert Hall.





# AMY RYAN

## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

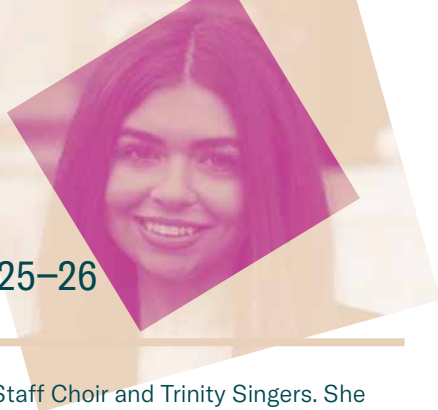


Amy Ryan is a Dublin-based conductor, lecturer and performer. She currently lectures at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, and previously at Trinity College Dublin. Artistic Director of UCD Philharmonic Choir since 2014, she has also appeared as Guest Conductor with the UCD Symphony Orchestra on multiple occasions, and taught conducting to undergraduate students at UCD. She recently contributed a chapter to the book *Perspectives on Conducting* for Routledge press, in which she draws on her practice with UCD Philharmonic Choir. Amy also conducts the professional choir of St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Mount St., and the Irish language upper voice choir, Cór Duibhlinne.

Amy founded Cuore Chamber Choir, leading them to first prizes at all the major choral competitions in Ireland and more recently to a number of prizes at Tallinn International Choral Festival, 2023. As conductor of Jubilate Choir, Amy presented the Irish premiere of Graun's 18th century passion oratorio, *Der Tod Jesu*, along with performances of other symphonic choral works. Previously, she has also worked with Irish National Opera, Blackwater Valley Opera Festival, North Dublin Opera, and Lyric Opera chorus, Irish Youth Choir and St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral Girls' Choir. She completed her training at the Kodály Institute of the Liszt Academy of Music, Hungary, earning both a Master's degree in Kodály Music Pedagogy (distinction) and an Advanced Diploma in Choral Conducting (distinction), studying under Péter Erdei and Dr László Nemes. Amy was Chairperson of Kodály Ireland from 2018-2022, directing their annual summer course, and was appointed to the board of Sing Ireland in December 2022.

# CIARA MURPHY

## UCD SCHOOL OF MUSIC ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR 2025–26



Ciara Murphy is the UCD School of Music Associate Conductor for 2025–26 and makes her debut this evening with UCD Philharmonic Choir. A conductor and music educator from Sligo, she holds bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education from Trinity College Dublin, and is Chair of the European Choral Association's Youth Committee (2025–27). Named the 2024 City of Derry International Choir Festival's Most Promising Conductor, Ciara is passionate about choral leadership and music education. She directs Sligo Orpheus Choir, Atlantic Technological University (ATU) choir and Sligo Concert Band, and has led ensembles including Trinity Orchestra, Trinity

Staff Choir and Trinity Singers. She co-manages the Sligo Youth Choral Festival and led her children's choir to first prize at the 2024 Feis Ceoil. Ciara has studied and undertaken masterclasses with conductors Maria Goundorina, Dr Shane Lynch, Petra Grassi, Robert Houlihan, Dr Bernie Sherlock, Anna Fűri, and Dr Katalin Kiss. In the coming months, she will study with Italian conductor Andrea Angelini through the International Federation for Choral Music's Conducting Mentorship Programme. She is also a member of the steering committee for the Europa Cantat 2027 Choral Festival in Liepaja, Latvia.



# CUORE CHAMBER CHOIR

Cuore Chamber Choir is an internationally award-winning mixed-voice Dublin-based choir founded by conductor Amy Ryan in 2014. The choir consists of thirty singers from a range of nationalities and ages, committed to high-quality performances of rewarding music, from early polyphony to contemporary premieres.

Cuore has consistently achieved high standards including Gold at the International Choir Competition *Ave Verum*, Baden, Austria (2024) and two second prizes at the Tallinn International Choir Festival (2023). Closer to home, Cuore achieved first place in RTÉ lyric fm's *Choirs for Christmas competition* (2024), at the Feis Ceoil (2023), Cork (2018), Mayo (2016), Sligo (2016) and New Ross

(2015). Cuore has a particular affinity for the music of living composers, having been awarded special prizes for contemporary music by RTÉ lyric fm (2024), in Tallinn (2023), the Feis Ceoil (2023) and Cork (2022 and 2018). Beyond competitions, the choir engages in charitable performances, collaborations with orchestra in Ireland's National Concert Hall, and its own regular concerts.

Visit [cuore.ie/tickets](https://cuore.ie/tickets) to purchase tickets to *Christmas with Cuore*, which takes place in St. Mary's Haddington Rd., Dublin 4 at 7:30pm on Saturday 20th December. The concert will include two of tonight's pieces, plus festive favourites, Irish premieres, and the world premiere of a new carol from Rhona Clarke.





# UCD PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

## SOPRANOS

Oyinkansola Akintola  
Alba Bethencourt Blasi  
Ebba Bergman  
Maeve Bhurtun  
Chloe Burke  
Abbey Coffey  
Natalie Eickenhorst  
Tan Yong Ern  
Lian Fernandes  
Fionnuala Fitzgerald  
Tiffany Yang Fei  
Mitali Gupta  
Madeliene Hartmann  
Caoimhe Hill  
Clara Hulpke  
Izzy Jenkins  
Alanna Kane  
Aislinn Kelly  
Alyssa Landry  
Clodagh Loftus  
Aoife Lynch  
Isha Maitra  
Annu Maria Manu  
Emily Meade  
Kate McCarthy  
Lauren McGowan  
Holly McCreesh  
Georgia McGrath Kraak  
Laoise Mulvey  
Magdalena Müller  
Machi Nishizawa  
Martha Nugent  
Tessa Parker  
Monika Paszkowska  
Gráinne Ní Dhaighre  
Anindita Saha

Rose Smithet  
Sofia Suratel  
Laxmi Vaiji  
Isabelle Wijaya

## ALTOS

Hena Adlakha  
Addy Bainbridge  
Mia Burke  
Emer Byrne  
Aideen Cassidy  
Freyja Cleary  
Lunna Correa de  
Carvalho  
Marcela Alexandra Díaz  
Rivadeneira  
Aideen Dunne  
Zoë Ellis  
Tristan Eleazar  
Ella Rose Feeney  
Sophie Fitzsimons  
Dina Gorelik  
Carolyn Graber  
Zoe Helly  
Abaigael Hynes  
Mia Keane  
Tess Keogh  
Winnie Kouematchoua  
Áine LaFauci  
Yik Yu Lee  
Una Maguire  
Maeve McCann  
Clare McCarthy  
Rebecca McGowan  
Ruth McHale  
Ava Mehra  
Marianna Molteni

Ciara Murphy  
Julia Nikolova  
Muireann Ní Raghallaigh  
Maeve O' Connor  
Grace O' Donovan  
Anna O'Sullivan  
Karen O' Sullivan  
Lina Osite  
Charlotte Schnabel  
Sonia Sceibner  
Sherlene Soo Yun  
Finja Spielmann  
Emma Rudden  
Richelle Yabut  
Sarah Walsh

## TENORS

Laura Harris  
Willem Kollen  
Zhaopeng Li  
Joshua Lobo  
Emma March  
Aidan McNerney  
Harry O' Leary  
Harry Squires

## BASSES

Gavin Bowen O' Connor  
Butros Coptý  
Alessandro Corazza  
Manus Mac Gearailt  
Hadif Razin Haris  
Fadzlan  
Eoghan Mac Muirís  
Nils Paliga  
Douglas Sato

# THANK YOU

# JOIN US

UCD Philharmonic Choir would like to thank the following for their kind help and support over the trimester:

UCD School of Music

Dr Tomás McAuley

Dr Fiona French

Dr Ciarán Crilly

Clare Dixon

Mary Walsh

Robin Fuller

All at Whitefriar Street Church,  
Dublin 2

Auditions for UCD Philharmonic Choir will reopen in January for the spring trimester. Auditions can be completed either by video submission or in person: further details can be found by scanning the QR code below.

Our next performance, in conjunction with UCD Symphony Orchestra, will take place at the National Concert Hall on Wednesday, 8th of April 2026.



UCD Philharmonic Choir



ucdphilchoir



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CHOIR**