



Society for Universal Sacred Music

Roger Davidson, grundlægger og præsident / Founder and President

The New York Virtuoso Singers

Harold Rosenbaum

Kunstnerisk leder og dirigent / Artistic Director and Conductor

**Society for Universal Sacred Music har som mission
at fremme skabelse og opførelse af musik,
der fejrer fællesskabet og ubetinget kærlighed
til Vorherre og det fundamentale broderskab
og søsterskab, som vi alle deler som Guds børn.**

*The mission of the Society for Universal Sacred Music
is to foster the creation and performance of music
that celebrates the unity and unconditional love of God,
and the fundamental Brotherhood and Sisterhood
we all share as eternal children of God.*

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Foreningen for Universal Sacred Music

275 E. Main Street, Suite 103
Mt. Kisco, NY 10549
USA
Telefon: 00-1-914-241-0303
Fax: 00-1-914-241-0311
www.universalsacredmusic.org

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Velkomstbrev af Roger Davidson, SUSM grundlægger og præsident

Welcome Letter from Roger Davidson, SUSM Founder and President



Society for Universal Sacred Music har, blandt flere vigtige, det formål, at bygge bro i hele verden - med erkendelsen af, at alle mennesker grundlæggende er brødre og søstre. Vi er børn af en Gud. Det er derfor vores ansvar at producere musik, der afspejler og fremmer denne enhed, og ærbødighed for det guddommelige i os. Disse værdier findes i mange kulturer, herunder poesi.

Fokus for denne koncert består af fire digte, skrevet af danske digtere, som jeg komponerede musik til for blandet kor a cappella mellem 1988 og 1996. Disse stykker, hvor musikken var inspireret af de musikalske og åndelige kvaliteter digtene indeholder, er en del af femten værker, med titlen: "Hilsen Til Danmark". De femten digte blev produceret i 1915 og udgivet af Vandrer Mod Lysets Forlaget.

Vi præsenterer dette program som en bro mellem USA og Skandinavien, en bro lavet af Musikalsk leder Harold Rosenbaum og The New York Virtuoso Singers, såvel som komponisterne.

Den resterende del af programmet består af kormusik fra vores repertoire, alle nyere komponerede eksempler på hvad vi kalder "universal kirkemusik" – musik som bevidner vores fælles kærlighed til Gud.

The Society for Universal Sacred Music has, among other essential purposes, a mission of building bridges throughout the world - with the understanding that all human beings are fundamentally brothers and sisters. We are all eternal children of the same unconditionally loving God. Therefore our responsibility is to produce music that reflects and promotes that fundamental unity, and a reverence for the divinity in all the universe and within each of us. Such values appear in the writings of many cultures, including poetry. The heart of this concert consists of four poems by Danish poets, which I set to music for mixed chorus a cappella; these pieces, the music of which was inspired by the highly musical and spiritual qualities of the poems themselves, are part of a set of fifteen such works, the title of which is "Hilsen Til Danmark," or "Greetings to Denmark." These fifteen poems were produced in 1915 and published by Vandrer Mod Lysets Forlag, the "Toward the Light Publishing House," and although the names of the poets will be familiar to everyone in Denmark, the poems themselves were written after their death and transmitted through thought inspiration in the same manner in which the book associated with these poems, "Vandrer Mod Lyset" or "Toward the Light," was produced. The musical and spiritual qualities of all these poems are so high that they inspired me to set them all to music, which I did between the years 1988 and 1996.

We present this program as our bridge from the United States of America to Scandinavia - a bridge which has been built by Music Director Harold Rosenbaum and The New York Virtuoso Singers every bit as much as by the composers.

The rest of the program consists of choral music from our repertoire, all recently composed examples of what we call "universal sacred music" – music that reflects the unity and unconditional love of God.

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Roger Davidson, grundlægger og præsident / Founder and President

presents

The New York Virtuoso Singers

Harold Rosenbaum

Kunstnerisk leder og dirigent / Artistic Director and Conductor

Musica Animam Tangens

Joshua Shank

Peace

Mark Kilstofte

To the Peacemakers

Roger Davidson

Hilsen til Danmark

Roger Davidson

Heden

Roger Davidson

Fader vor

Roger Davidson

Epilog

Roger Davidson

Tre Spirituals / Three Spirituals

Traditional

Deep River

arr. by Nancy Wertsch

This Little Light of Mine

arr. by John Work

Ezekiel Saw de Wheel

arr. by William Dawson

The New York Virtuoso Singers



Sopraner / Soprano

Eileen Clark
Elaine Lachica
Katherine Wessinger
Sarah Hawkey

Alter / Alto

Katharine Emory
Mary Marathe
Guadalupe Peraza
Abigail Wright

Tenor / Tenor

Sean Fallen
Alex Guerrero
Mukund Marathe
Timothy O'Connor

Basser / Bass

James Gregory
Steven Hrycelak
Thomas McCargar
John Rose

Nancy Wertsch, choral contractor

The New York Virtuoso Singers, blev grundlagt i 1988 af dirigent Harold Rosenbaum, er blevet USA's førende eksponent for moderne kormusik. Selv om koret udfører musik fra alle perioder, er vægten på kommissionering, udførelse og optagelse af musik af amerikanske komponister.

Fra sine tidlige dage i 1988, som en udløber af et kor skabt specifikt til Brooklyn Filharmonika, indtil i dag, med selvproducerede koncerter, optagelser, provisioner og ture, har NYVS skabt en unik niche for sig selv i den musikalske verden. NYVS er en professionel korsang ensemble på 12-16 medlemmer (nogle gange udvidet til 24 eller mere) dedikeret til at præsentere både sjældent hørte værker af tidligere og nutidige mestre samt premierer af nutidens komponister. Harold Rosenbaum har lagt særlig vægt på at støtte amerikanske komponister. NYVS er blevet præsenteret mange gange i radio og tv. I august 1993 var gruppen som det første gæstekor nogensinde på Tanglewood Music Centers årlige Festival for Nutidens Musik (de var

The New York Virtuoso Singers, founded in 1988 by conductor Harold Rosenbaum, has become the United States of America's leading exponent of contemporary choral music. Although the chorus performs music of all periods, its emphasis is on commissioning, performing and recording the music of American composers.

From its early days in 1988, as an offshoot of a chorus-in-residence created expressly for the Brooklyn Philharmonic, until the present day, with self-produced concerts, recordings, commissions and tours, NYVS has carved a unique niche for itself in the musical world. NYVS is a twelve to sixteen-member professional choral ensemble (sometimes expanded to 24 or more) dedicated to presenting both seldom-heard works by past and contemporary masters, as well as premieres by today's composers. Harold Rosenbaum has placed a special emphasis on supporting American composers. NYVS has been featured many times on radio and TV. In August 1993, the group appeared as the first-ever guest chorus at Tanglewood Music Center's annual Festival of Contemporary

tilbage igen i 2003), og i 2010 gjorde NYVS sin tredje optræden på Juilliard School.

NYVS har vundet den prestigebydte ASCAP-Kor Amerika "Award for Adventuresome Programming of Contemporary Music" tre gange, og har fået Kor Amerikas "American Choral Works Performance Award." Koret optræder på mere end 20 kommercielle CD'er: Sony Classical, Soundbrush, Albany, CRI, Bridge, Koch International, Capstone, KASP, og DRG. NYVS opførelse af Andrew Imbrie's Requiem, med The Riverside Symphony under George Rothman, modtog en Grammy-nominering i 2000 og blev valgt som 'Årets bedste' af Fanfare som kritikkernes valg.

Med støtte fra Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, The Koussevitzky Foundation of the Library of Congress og andre kilder, har The New York Virtuoso Singers bestilt 50 værker af komponister, herunder Mark Adamo, Bruce Adolphe, William Bolcom, John Corigliano, Richard Danielpour, Roger Davidson, David Del Tredici, David Felder, John Harbison, Stephen Hartke, Jennifer Higdon, Aaron Jay Kernis, David Lang, Fred Lerdahl, Thea Musgrave, Shulamit Ran, Joseph Schwantner, Steven Stucky, Augusta Read Thomas, Joan Tower, George Tsontakis, Richard Wernick, Chen Yi, Yehudi Wyner og Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. The New York Virtuoso Singers har uropført mere end 350 værker af komponister som Luciano Berio, John Harbison, Hans Werner Henze, Louis Andriessen, John Corigliano, Mark Adamo, Shulamit Ran, George Perle, Harrison Birtwistle, Ernst Krenek, Thea Musgrave, Jonathan Harvey, Arvo Paert og Andrew Imbrie.

The New York Virtuoso Singers opførte den amerikanske Premiere på kor versionen af David Lang's Little Match Girl Passion på den første New Sounds Live fra WNYC's Greene Space. Det var den indledende webcast på Q2, det nye hjem for ny musik i New York, og på nettet på Q2.org. I efteråret 2010, udførte den en koncert på Juilliard School med musik af William Schuman, præsidenten for det prestigebydte konservatorium fra 1945 til 1962.

Music (returning in 2003), and in 2010, NYVS made its third appearance at the Juilliard School.

NYVS has won the prestigious ASCAP-Chorus America "Award for Adventuresome Programming of Contemporary Music" three times, and has been given Chorus America's "American Choral Works Performance Award." It appears on over 20 commercial CDs: SONY Classical, Soundbrush, Albany, CRI, Bridge, Koch International, Capstone, KASP, and DRG. NYVS's performance of Andrew Imbrie's Requiem, with The Riverside Symphony under George Rothman, received a Grammy nomination in 2000 and was voted by Fanfare as Critic's Choice, Best of Year.

With grants from The Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, The Koussevitzky Foundation of the Library of Congress and other sources, The New York Virtuoso Singers has commissioned 50 works by composers including Mark Adamo, Bruce Adolphe, William Bolcom, John Corigliano, Richard Danielpour, Roger Davidson, David Del Tredici, David Felder, John Harbison, Stephen Hartke, Jennifer Higdon, Aaron Jay Kernis, David Lang, Fred Lerdahl, Thea Musgrave, Shulamit Ran, Joseph Schwantner, Steven Stucky, Augusta Read Thomas, Joan Tower, George Tsontakis, Richard Wernick, Chen Yi, Yehudi Wyner and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. The New York Virtuoso Singers has premiered over 350 works by composers such as Luciano Berio, John Harbison, Hans Werner Henze, Louis Andriessen, John Corigliano, Mark Adamo, Shulamit Ran, George Perle, Harrison Birtwistle, Ernst Krenek, Thea Musgrave, Jonathan Harvey, Arvo Paert and Andrew Imbrie.

The New York Virtuoso Singers performed the American Premiere of the choral version of David Lang's Little Match Girl Passion on the first ever New Sounds Live from WNYC's Greene Space. It was the inaugural webcast on Q2, the new home of new music in New York, and on the web at Q2.org. In the Fall of 2010, it performed a concert at the Juilliard School featuring the music of William Schuman, president of that prestigious conservatory from 1945 to 1962.

Harold Rosenbaum

Harold Rosenbaum er en af de mest velspillende og kritikerroste Korledere i vor tid. Han er i 2010 vinder af ASCAP Victor Herbert Award, i anerkendelse af hans bidrag til kor repertoire, og hans bidrag til amerikanske komponister og deres musik. Han er også vinder af 2008 amerikanske komponist Alliances Laurel Leaf Award, som blev overragt ham for hans "fornemme præstation i at fremme og tilskynde amerikansk musik." Han er udpeget af Parma Recordings som Ledende kordirigent, og vil stå for indspilning af vigtige korværker af levende komponister for denne etiket.

Som kunstnerisk leder af The Society for Universal Sacred Music, arbejder Rosenbaum med The Society for at skabe muligheder for universel kirkemusik, der skal udføres og hørt gennem koncerter, workshops og festivaler.

Rosenbaum etablerede The New York Virtuoso Singers, et professionel kor nu i sin 24. sæson. De bliver jævnligt inviteret til at optræde med førende orkestre, og prestigefyldte institutioner såsom Tanglewood Music Festival og The Juilliard School. Det har opført over 350 værker af komponister som Luciano Berio, John Harbison, Hans Werner Henze, Louis Andriessen, Shulamit Ran, George Perle, Ernst Krenek, Thea Musgrave, Jonathan Harvey, Arvo Pärt, Andrew Imbrie og mange andre.

Forud for dannelsen af The New York Virtuoso Singers, havde Rosenbaum allerede etableret sit kor bestående af frivillige amatører, The Canticum Novum Singers, som er en af New Yorks fornemmeste kor, præsenterer musik fra alle perioder, med særlig fokus på tidlige musik. The Canticum Novum Singers har opført over 500 koncerter i USA, og på fire europæiske ture. Dette kor har uropført over 60 kompositioner af komponister som Händel, JC Bach, Fauré, Bruckner, Harbison, Berio, Schnittke, Rorem, Schickele og George Benjamin.

En utrættelig fortaler for nutidige komponister og amerikanske komponister i særdeleshed, har han skabt en kor

Harold Rosenbaum is one of the most accomplished and critically acclaimed choral conductors of our time. He is the 2010 winner of ASCAP's Victor Herbert Award, given in recognition of his contribution to the choral repertory, and his service to American composers and their music. He is also the winner of the 2008 American Composer Alliance's Laurel Leaf Award, given for "distinguished achievement in fostering and encouraging American music." He has been appointed by Parma Recordings as Lead Choral Conductor, and will be recording important choral works by living composers for that label.

As the Artistic Director of The Society for Universal Sacred Music, Rosenbaum works with The Society to create opportunities for universal sacred music to be performed and heard through concerts, workshops and festivals.

Rosenbaum established The New York Virtuoso Singers, an all-professional choir now in its 24th season. They are regularly invited to perform with leading orchestras, and at prestigious institutions such as The Tanglewood Music Festival and The Juilliard School. It has premiered over 350 works by composers such as Luciano Berio, John Harbison, Hans Werner Henze, Louis Andriessen, Shulamit Ran, George Perle, Ernst Krenek, Thea Musgrave, Jonathan Harvey, Arvo Pärt, Andrew Imbrie and many others.

Prior to the formation of The New York Virtuoso Singers, Rosenbaum had already established his all-volunteer choir, The Canticum Novum Singers, as one of New York's premiere choirs presenting the music of all periods, with a special focus on early music. The Canticum Novum Singers has presented over 500 concerts in this country, and on four European tours. This choir has premiered over 60 compositions by composers such as Handel, J.C. Bach, Fauré, Bruckner, Harbison, Berio, Schnittke, Rorem, Schickele and George Benjamin.

A tireless proponent and advocate for contemporary composers and American

konkurrence, har bestilt over 50 værker, har dirigeret over 450 verdenspremierer, og har indspillet nutidig kormusik for SONY Classical, Albany, CRI, Soundbrush , Bridge, Koch International, Capstone, KASP og DRG. Han er også tre-gange modtager af ASCAP / chorus America Award for Adventuresome Programming af Contemporary Music, og en modtager af chorus Amerikas American Choral Works Performance Award. G. Schirmer Music Inc. har etableret sit Harold Rosenbaum Kor-serie, som Rosenbaum komponerer, redigerer og giver opførelsesforslag til dirigenter.

I Europa har Rosenbaum gennemført over 100 koncerter, har arbejdet med Budapest Symphony Orchestra, L'Orchestre d'Europe, New Prague Collegium, Madeira Bach Festival Orkester, Dohnányi Orchestra Budafok af Budapest og kor fra USA og Frankrig.

I USA har Rosenbaum samarbejdet over 100 gange med førende orkestre som The New York Philharmonic med James Conlon, The Brooklyn Philharmonic (over 55 gange) med Robert Spano, Lukas Foss, Dennis Russell Davies, Michael Christie, og Grant Llewellyn, The American Symfonietta med Leon Botstein, The American Composers Orchestra med Steven Sloane, The Riverside Symphony med George Rothman, The Orchestra of St. Luke's med Sir Charles Mackerras og Robert Spano, plus The Juilliard Orchestra, Concerto Köln, The Bard Festival Orchestra, The Westchester Symphony og mange andre. Han har også samarbejdet med The Paul Taylor Dance Company, Continuum, P.D.Q. Bach i Carnegie Hall og Avery Fisher Hall, med Mark Morris Dance Group, Bang på en dåse, The Glyndebourne Opera Company, SEM Ensemble, Da Capo Chamber Players, The New York Youth Symphony og Bel Canto Opera Company.

Rosenbaum er bosat i upper Westchester County med sin kone, Edie, som er lærer og sanger. De har to gifte døtre og tre børnebørn. I juni 2011 modtog han et æresdoktorat fra Queens College, hans alma mater.

composers in particular, he has created a choral composition competition, has commissioned over 50 works, has conducted over 450 world premieres, and has recorded contemporary choral music for SONY Classical, Albany, CRI, Soundbrush, Bridge, Koch International, Capstone, KASP and DRG. He is also a three-time recipient of the ASCAP/Chorus America Award for Adventuresome Programming of Contemporary Music, and a recipient of Chorus America's American Choral Works Performance Award. G. Schirmer Music Inc. has established its Harold Rosenbaum Choral Series, for which Rosenbaum composes, edits, and gives performance suggestions for conductors.

Throughout Europe Rosenbaum has conducted over 100 concerts, working with the Budapest Symphony Orchestra, L'Orchestre d'Europe, the New Prague Collegium, the Madeira Bach Festival Orchestra, the Dohnányi Orchestra Budafok of Budapest and choirs from the USA and France.

In this country Rosenbaum has collaborated over 100 times with leading orchestras such as The New York Philharmonic with James Conlon, The Brooklyn Philharmonic (over 55 times) with Robert Spano, Lukas Foss, Dennis Russell Davies, Michael Christie, and Grant Llewellyn, The American Symphony with Leon Botstein, The American Composers Orchestra with Steven Sloane, The Riverside Symphony with George Rothman, The Orchestra of St. Luke's with Sir Charles Mackerras and Robert Spano, plus The Juilliard Orchestra, Concerto Köln, The Bard Festival Orchestra, The Westchester Symphony, and many others. He has also collaborated with The Paul Taylor Dance Company, Continuum, P.D.Q. Bach in Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall, with The Mark Morris Dance Group, Bang on a Can, The Glyndebourne Opera Company, S.E.M. Ensemble, Da Capo Chamber Players, The New York Youth Symphony and The Bel Canto Opera Company.

Rosenbaum resides in upper Westchester County with his wife, Edie, a teacher and singer. They have two married daughters and three grandchildren. In June 2011, he received an honorary doctorate from Queens College, his alma mater.

Roger Davidson

Roger Davidson, pianist og komponist, samt grundlægger og præsident for både The Society for Universal Sacred Music og Soundbrush Records, kommunikerer gennem musik på utallige måder, men med en fælles vision og mål-at bygge broer mellem mennesker, kulturer, og trosretninger.

Født i Paris i 1952 af en fransk mor og en amerikansk far, Davidson flyttede til New York da han var et år gammel, hvor han begyndte at spille klaver på eget initiativ i en alder af 4, og fik violin undervisning i en alder af 8 år. En autodidakt musiker, Davidsons uafhængighed og evne til at improvisere er til stor fordel som jazzpianist. Formel skole uddannelse med David Del Tredici, Theodore Antoniou og andre på Boston University, bidrog til hans stærke baggrund som en dygtig komponist - som han har udviklet sig til stort set alle områder af musik.

Efter eksamen fra BU i 1980 med en kandidatgrad i komposition, blev Davidson opfordret af mentor og specialist i tidlig barok musik, Sidney Beck, til at strække sig ud over hans instrumental musik disciplin -Davidson havde allerede ansvar for et lokalt orkester som han startede i Boston på det tidspunkt - og tilmelde sig Westminster Choir College i Princeton.

På Westminster, blomstrede Davidsons kærlighed og påskønnelse for kor musik, og rollen som dirigent førte til komponering for kor - et udtryk for hans personlige mission "at skabe et repertoire af musik til at udtrykke Guds enhed og især hans ubetinget kærlighed til hele menneskeheden," , der senere skulle føre til hans udmøntning af begrebet "universelle kirkemusik" - og grundlæggelsen af Society for Universal Sacred Music i 2000.

På trods af dette nye fokus, mistede Davidson ikke sin forkærlighed for jazz, og efter en sommer i Tyskland, hvor han studerede stemme og underviste i improvisation på Lichtenberger Institutet (nær Darmstadt), blev det uventet fornyet. Den afdøde Helen Keane, jazz producent var en ven af Davidsons mor, da han var barn, og havde utsat Davidson for indspilnings sessioner med Woody Herman, folkesanger Jo Mapes og andre. Efter ikke at have set hinanden i flere år, deltog Keane

Roger Davidson, a pianist and composer, as well as the founder and president of both The Society for Universal Sacred Music and Soundbrush Records, communicates through music in myriad ways, but with a common vision and goal—to build bridges among people, cultures, and faiths.

Born in Paris in 1952 to a French mother and an American father, Davidson moved to New York when he was a year old, where he started playing piano on his own at age 4, and taking violin lessons at age 8. A self-taught musician, Davidson's independence and knack for improvising serve him well as a jazz pianist. Formal training in graduate school with David Del Tredici, Theodore Antoniou and others at Boston University, however, gave him a strong background as a skilled composer - which he has expanded into virtually all areas of music.

After graduating from BU in 1980 with a master's degree in composition, Davidson was urged by mentor and early baroque music scholar Sidney Beck to stretch himself beyond his instrumental discipline—Davidson had already led a community orchestra he started in Boston at the time—and enroll in Westminster Choir College in Princeton.

At Westminster, Davidson's love and appreciation for choral music blossomed, and conducting gave way to composing for choir - an expression of his personal mission “of creating a repertoire of music to express the unity of God and especially His unconditional love for all humanity,” that would later lead to his coining of the term “universal sacred music” - and the founding of The Society for Universal Sacred Music in 2000.

Despite this new focus, Davidson's love of jazz was not lost, and after a summer in Germany studying voice and teaching improvisation at the Lichtenberger Institut (near Darmstadt), it was unexpectedly renewed. The late Helen Keane, jazz producer was a friend of Davidson's mother when he was a child, and had exposed Davidson to recording sessions with Woody Herman, folk singer Jo Mapes and others. After years apart, Keane attended a concert by Davidson, and after the show, encouraged him to get into jazz performance. Although he had

en koncert med Davidson, og efter showet, opfordrede hun Davidson til, at optræde med jazz. Selvom han tidligere havde deltaget i Stanford Jazz workshops på Stanford University under ledelse af Stan Getz og Dizzy Gillespie, var det Keane's opfordring og introduktion til bassisten David Finck og trommeslageren Dave Ratajczak, der førte til hans første studie indspilning og senere til aktiv udførelse.

Den "jazz prøvekørsel" i 1991, som Davidson så det, blev senere udgivet som Ten to Twelve af Soundbrush Records i 2006, plademærket som Davidson grundlagde i 2002. I sine forskellige kapaciteter som mærkets største kunstner, producer og A & R mand, har Davidson udviklet en imponerende liste af håndplukkede musikere fra hele verden og et bredt, varieret katalog, som allerede har vundet mærket en Latinamerikansk Grammy.

I de seneste år, blev Davidson i stigende grad fascineret af tango, brasiliansk musik og, senest, klezmer, alle de stilarter, der har tjent som vidunderlige drivkræfter til bredden og dybden af hans følelsesmæssige udtryk. Hans tango udforskninger som komponist blev første gang dokumenteret på *Mango Tango* (1995), en optagelse "med forskellige former for tango, ikke bare argentinske." Siden har han også indspillet *Amor por el Tango* (2002) og *Pasión por la Vida* (2008), en duet med Latinamerikanske Grammy vinder Raúl Jaurena, en mester i bandoneon, den knap harmonika, der er indbegrebet af instrumentet i tango.

Davidson har også haft et mangeårigt kærlighedsforhold til brasiliansk musik, og har indspillet *Rodgers i Rio* (2002), en brasiliansk-inspireret version af Richard Rodgers 'standarder, *Bom Dia* (2007), der indeholder nogle af hans egne sange, og *Brazilian Love Song* (2009). Hans seneste udgivelse er *On the Road of Life*, et samarbejde med klezmer mester Frank London. Kommende optagelser omfatter en ny jazz trio CD, indspillet i 2011, *Journey to Rio*, en dobbelt-CD indspillet i Rio de Janeiro (samme år) på næsten 30 af Davidsons oprindelige brasilianske melodier, og *Hilsen Til Danmark* - et sæt af femten sange og anthems for kor baseret på digte af fremtrædende danske digtere fra de sidste to århundreder, sunget af The New York Virtuoso Singers.

previously attended Stanford Jazz Workshops at Stanford University under the leadership of Stan Getz and Dizzy Gillespie, it was Keane's urging and introduction to bassist David Finck and drummer Dave Ratajczak that led to his first studio recording and, later on, to active performing.

The "jazz trial run" in 1991, as Davidson saw it, was later released as *Ten to Twelve* on Soundbrush Records in 2006, the label Davidson founded in 2002. In his various capacities as the label's main artist, producer and A&R man, Davidson has developed an impressive roster of hand-picked musicians from around the world and a broad, diverse catalogue that already has won the label a Latin GRAMMY.

In recent years, Davidson became increasingly intrigued by tango, Brazilian music and, most recently, klezmer, all styles that have served as wonderful vehicles for the breadth and depth of his emotional expression. His tango explorations as a composer were first documented on *Mango Tango* (1995), a recording "featuring different kinds of tango, not just Argentine." Since then, he has also recorded *Amor por el Tango* (2002) and *Pasión Por La Vida* (2008), a duet with Latin GRAMMY winning Raúl Jaurena, a master of the bandoneón, the button accordion that is the quintessential instrument in tango.

Davidson has also had a longstanding love affair with Brazilian music, and has recorded *Rodgers in Rio* (2002), a Brazilian-tinged take of Richard Rodgers' standards, *Bom Dia* (2007), which included some of his own songs, and *Brazilian Love Song* (2009). His most recent release is *On the Road of Life*, a collaboration with klezmer master Frank London. Upcoming recordings include a new jazz trio CD, recorded in 2011, *Journey to Rio*, a 2-CD set recorded in Rio de Janeiro (in the same year) of nearly thirty of Davidson's original Brazilian tunes, and *Hilsen Til Danmark* ("Greetings to Denmark") - a set of fifteen songs and anthems for choir based upon poems by distinguished Danish poets of the past two centuries, sung by The New York Virtuoso Singers.

Musica Animam Tangens - Joshua Shank

Latin:

Musica animam tangens
Maria vitae effundens
Flumina cor liberantia omnes amore amantia

Musica sonans resonans
Implens meam essentiam
Meam inundat animam
Velut fluctibus montem submersum
Ut tangam Deum.

English:

Music touching;
Exhaling its breathless oceans of life
Currents that free hearts giving love to
All that open the sounds that fill
The mountain of my existence
And overflow my soul to God.

*Untitled by Ryan Newstrom (b. 1979)
Text used by permission of the poet.
Latin translation by Dr. Byron Stayskal*

Peace - Mark Kilstofte

When will you ever, Peace, wild wooddove, shy wings shut,
Your round me roaming end, and under be my boughs?
When, when, Peace, will you, Peace? I'll not play hypocrite
To own my heart: I yield you do come sometimes; but
That piecemeal peace is poor peace.
What pure peace allows
Alarms of wars, the daunting wars, the death of it?
O surely, reaving Peace, my Lord should leave in lieu
Some good! And so he does leave
Patience exquisite,
That plumes to Peace thereafter.
And when
Peace here does house
He comes with work to do, he does not come to coo,
He comes to brood and sit.

Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889)

To the Peacemakers - Roger Davidson

To all who work for peace on Earth,
We thank you from our hearts for evermore.

But let us now all work for peace,
Speak for peace
And act for peace.
Om Shanti.

For all human beings are children of God,
And who is God if not love?
Who is God if not peace?
Om Shanti.

Let there now be no more wars;
Let there now be no more arms;
Let us forgive with all our hearts
And live as the brothers and sisters we have
been,
Now and forevermore.

Shanti, Shanti, Shanti
Peace, Peace, Peace

To all who work for peace on Earth,
Om Shanti Om.

Hilsen til Danmark / Greetings to Denmark - Roger Davidson

Til Danmark vi kommer med Sommer og Dag; med himmelske Blommer vi kranse vort Flag.
We are coming to Denmark with summer and day; with heavenly flowers we encircle our flag.
Vor Sang eder bærer en Hilsen fra Gud; vor Sang eder lærer, Liv ej slukkes ud.
Our song carries a greeting from God; our song teaches you that life shall not die out.
Med taareblændt Øje vi alle os bøje for jer, der end leve paa Jord.
With tear filled eye, we all us bow for you who still live on earth.

I Danmark vi døde af Vandringen træt, i Guldmorgenrøde vi fylke os tæt.
In Denmark we died, tired by the wandering; in the golden dawn, we muster together tightly.
For Dansken til Ære vi tone vort Flag, til eder vi bære et Glimt af vor Dag.
To honor the Dane, we show our colors we bring to you a glimpse of our day.

Thi Døden er vegen, og Solen er stegen af Havet med straalende Glans.
For death has yielded and sun has risen from the sea with brilliant radiance.
Vi alle blev sæknet i Graven med Sorg, men nu er vi bænket i Himmelens Borg.
We all were lowered into the grave with sorrow, but now we are seated in Heaven's castle.
Krist alle har draget af Mørke og Død, han ingen har vraket, har alle genfød.
Christ has drawn everyone from darkness and death; he rejected none; all were reborn.
I Herligheds Sale med Gammel og Tale vi leve i Evheds Ly.
In halls of splendor, we live with joy and with talk; we live in eternity's shelter.

I Skovenes Skygge ved Hav og ved Strand I Dannemænd bygge, o, vogt eders Land!
In the shade of the forests, at sea and at shore, you men of honor are building,
oh, guard your land!
Thi her fra det Høje med Taarer vi se, I ej vil jer bøje, at slet I jer te; I alle vil herske,
og ingen vil tærsket det Korn, som paa Markerne staar!
Since here from above we see with tears that you won't yield, that you carry on badly;
You all want to rule but nobody will trash the grain in the field!

Til alle vil tale i fyndige Ord, jer Synd vi afmale i enstemmigt Kor.
We talk to all of you with emphatic words; we depict your sins in unison.
Af Nælder er mange i Danmarks Muld, og Hundene glamme saa højt efer Guld.
Many nettles grow in Denmark's soil, and dogs bay so loud after gold.
Den falske skal blegne, Bedrageren segne, før Danmark sig rejser af Støv.
The deceitful shall fade; the swindler sink before Denmark can rise from the dust.

Vort Land ejer Sjæle med fribaerne Ord; I ej maa jer fjæle for dybt under Jord.
Our land has souls with freeborn words; you must not hide yourself too deep under ground.
Ak, Danmark, vi bede, o, hæv dig paa ny!
Alas, Denmark, we pray, oh, rise anew!
Gud Herren vil lede sit Folk under Sky.
God the Lord will lead his folk under the sky.
Lad Ordene funkle og Slethed fordunkle og jage hver Stymper fra Bord.
Let the words sparkle and wickedness be obscured and chase every poor wretch from the table.

Snart Dag vil oprinde med Sol over Land, bort Skyerne svinde, der sortned vor Strand.
Soon day will dawn with sun over land; the clouds that blackened our shores will disappear.
I alle skal tage ved Arbejdet fat, thi ellers I smage den sorte Nat.
You all must get down to work; if not, you will taste the darkest night.
Guds evige Naade jer følge og raade, at aldrig I vandre jer træt!
God's eternal grace shall follow and counsel you so that you never wander fatigued!

I Brødre skal være paa Hav og i By.

You shall be brothers at sea and in town.

Lad Freden jer bære til Fremskridt paa ny!

Let peace carry you to progress anew!

Lad Hjerterne banke i Kærlighedstakt, lad Hadet ej vanke med Ondskab i Pagt!

Let the hearts beat in time with Love; don't let hate be in alliance with spite!

Paa Danemarks Lykke I alle skal bygge med Glæde, med Tro og med Lyst.

With joy, faith and with delight, you all shall build on Denmark's blessings

Lad Saga optegne hver fuldkommen Daad!

Let saga record every completed deed.

Kun vaagne I hegne jert Land og jert Raad; det herligt skal klinge hvert folkeligt Ord,
naar Bud det vil bringe om Freden paa Jord.

Only by being awake you can hedge your land and council; every plain word shall ring
splendidly when it brings the message of peace on earth.

I Kalken skal tømme, strengt Herren vil dømme, om aldrig I stride mod Synd.

You shall empty the cup the Lord will judge you severely if you never will fight against sin.

Er Dagen oprunden med Solglans og Vaar, er Freden genvunden, fluks Arbejdet gaar.

If day has dawned with sunlight and springtime, then peace has been regained,
and the work flies swiftly.

Bed Herren da sænke sin Glæde paa Jord, vi ved, han vil skænke jer Kærligheds Flor!

Then ask the Lord to spread his joy on earth; we know he will bestow blossoms of Love on you!

Ja, alle han kvæger af Livskildens Bæger fra Paradis' straalende Hjem.

Yes, he refreshes you all from the fountain of life's cup, from the radiant home of paradise.

Fra Himmelens Sale vi sende jer Bud; vi digte og tale om Enigheds Skrud.

From heavenly halls we send you messages; we write and speak about unity's vesture.

Til Danmark vor Moder, til Hytte og Borg, til Søster og Broder, med Glæde og Sorg,
med Taarer i Øjet vi Blomster har føjet i Kranske om Evigheds Fryd.

To Denmark our mother, to huts and to castle, to sister and brother, we have formed
garlands of flowers, with joy and with sorrow with tears in eye, around Eternity's joy

N.F.S. Grundtvig, 1911

Heden / The Heather - Roger Davidson

Mørkebrune Hede med Moser og Kær, flikkede Klædning med Stolthed du bær;

Dark brown heather with bogs and ponds, you wear your patched clothes with pride;

milevidt du strækker din lyngklædte Arm, sandgul og nøgen er din mægtige Barm.

For miles you stretch your heathery arm, your mighty bosom is naked and yellow as sand.

Alle mine Længsler du ejed engang, alle mine Tanker, min Glæde og Sang.

Once you held all my yearnings, all my thoughts, my joy and song.

Herlig var Vint'rens og Sommerens Dragt, Sneens hvide Dække og Foraarets Pragt.

Winter and summer's vesture, snow's white cover and spring's splendor were all glorious.

Over Heden vandred jeg i Solskin og Regn, drømmende laa jeg bag vilde Rosers Hegn;

I wandered through the heather in sun and in rain. I lay dreaming behind hedges of wild roses;

Bierne summed, og Porsens ramme Duft blanded sig med Aftenens kølige Luft.

Bees buzzed and the acrid scent of bog myrtle mixed with the evening's cool air.

Skyerne maled Fatamorganas Land; blaanende Bjerge og blinkende Vand, dunkle Pinjeskove og gyldne Druers Høst skimted jeg bag Bølgernes havgrønne Bryst.

The clouds painted mirages; mountains, faded into blue, sparkling water, dark pine forests and a harvest of golden grapes--that was what I glimpsed behind the waves' sea-green bosom.

Vingede Tanker mig bar til Sydens Land; grønne Lunde smiled paa klipperig Strand,

Winged thoughts carried me to the land of the South; green groves smiled on the rocky beach, farverige Billeder i Skyen jeg saa, strømmende Floder og Himlens rene Blaa.

and I saw colorful pictures in the clouds, as well as flowing rivers and the pure blue sky.

Koglende Drømme! – til Taagens klamme Gus vækked mig af Tankernes svimlende Rus.

Bewitching dreams – in misty damp fog – woke me from my thoughts' giddy ecstasy.

Farverne sluktes med Solens sidste Glød, fjerne Klokketoner i Aftenen lød.

With the last glow of sun, the colors faded; in the evening, distant bells were ringing.

Sanddækte Hede, din Bakke og Dal danne med Guds Himmel den herligste Sal.

Sand-covered heather, your hill and valley form a magnificent hall with God's sky.

Ensom har jeg staaet der i Stormenens Sus, lyttende til Søernes kogende Brus;

Lonely, I stood in the storm's whistle, listening to the waves' boiling roar;

rødlighvide flammende, takkede Lyn hvislende spruded og blænded mit Syn;

red-white flash lightning belched forward, sparkled, and blinded my sight;

Mørkets Aander hylde en Helvedes Sang, Tordenen drøned med brumlende Klang.

Spirits of darkness howled in a hellish song; thunder boomed with a rumbling sound.

Svimlende følte jeg den Mægtiges Haand, vældig Han løste Naturens Tungebaand.

Dizzy, I felt the Almighty's hand, powerfully he loosened Nature's tongue.

Uvejrets Rasen og Stormenes Stød, klagende Sukke fra alle Sider lød.

From all sides one heard the fury of bad weather, the storm's blasts and moaning sighs.

Ak, hvor jeg længtes mod Morgenens Skær, længtes efter Fuglenes fløjende Hær;

How I longed for the glimmering of the dawn, longed for the crowd of singing birds;

kvidrende de hilse hver gryende Dag, vuggende i Luft'en paa bløde Vingeslag.

twittering, they greet every daybreak, swaying in the air with soft flapping wings.

Lynggroede Hede med Tuer og Krat, fløjende Drosler og Raagers hæse Skrat,

Heather-covered moor with mounds and scrub, fluting thrushes, and the hoarse crowing of rooks,

ofte har jeg travet gennem Moser og Sand, vadet over Bækkenes rislende Vand;

often have I wandered through bogs and sand, waded through the brook's purling water;

Himmelbjergets Søer og Skoven ved Ry smilende lokked bag den disede Sky,

Himmelbjerget's lakes and the forest near Ry smilingly allured me behind the misty cloud.

grønnende Enge med saftrige Straa skued jeg ved Bredden af Karups blanke Aa.

On the bank of Krarup's shiny creek, I watched the greening meadows full of succulent straw.

Høstlige Dage, naar Jagten gik ind, over Lyngen strejfed jeg med Bøssen ved Kind;

In autumn days when the hunt began, I roamed through the heather with a gun to my cheek; ræddeligen flygtede Vildtet af Sted, springende og vejrende Hunden fulgte med;

The fearsome game was fleeing followed by jumping and sniffing dogs;

søgende gik det igennem Krat og Lund, gennem brune Moser til Aftenens Stund.

searching, we went through scrub and grove, through brown bogs until evening time.

Alle disse Tider for længst er forbi, endnu jeg mindes hver Bakke, hver Sti!

Of all these times, long forgotten, still I remember each hill and every path!

Sandede Hede med Moser og Kær, Fuglenes fløjende, vingede Hær;

Sandy heather with bogs and ponds, winged armies of' fluting birds;

ligeskøn var Høstens og Sommerens Dragt, Vint'rens hvide Dække og Foraarets Pragt!

*equally beautiful was autumn, and summer's dress, as well as winter's white cover
and the splendor of spring!*

Mørkebrune Hede, min Længsel og Lyst, inderligen hvilte jeg ved dit stolte Bryst;

*Dark brown heather, my yearning and joy, sincerely I rested in your proud bosom;
tusinde Tanker har jeg tænkt i din Favn, jublende Toner har priset dit Navn!*

*thousands of thoughts have I thought in your embrace; jubilant tones have praised
your name!*

St. St. Blicher, 1911

Fader For / Our Father - Roger Davidson

Fader vor i Himlens høje Sale, send din Fred og Ro til alle ned!

Our Father in Heaven's tall halls, send down your peace and calm to us all!

Lær os lytte til Naturen Tale, thi den viser os din Kærlighed!

Let us listen to Nature's voice; it shows us your love!

Lær os alle trygt til dig at bede: giv os Livet i vor Frelsers Navn!

Teach us to pray with confidence: give us life in our Savior's name!

Fader vor, du vil os alle lede, til vi samles i din aabne Favn.

Our Father, you will lead us all 'til we gather in your embrace.

Lad din Engel vandre ved vor Side, naar vi glide paa den trange Sti!

Let your angel walk beside us when we slide on the narrow path!

Lad os alle sikkert faa at vide, at ej alt med Livet er forbi!

Let us all know for certain that not everything is over when life comes to an end!

Fader vor, du kender vore Veje; naar vi saares af den skarpe Tjørn, send din Naade til vort Sygeleje, vaag du trofast over dine Børn!

*Our Father, you know our ways; when we are wounded by sharp thorn,
send your mercy to our sickbed; faithfully watch over your children!*

Fader vor, vi alle til dig længes, kald i vore Sjæle Troen frem!

Our Father, we all are longing for you; bring forth the faith in our souls!

Iad ej koldt og dødt vort Hjerte stænges ud fra Evighedens lyse Hjem!

Do not let our cold and dead hearts be excluded from eternity's bright home!

Lad de Ord, vi i vor Barndom lærte, af en elsket Moder, om din Søn, lyse for os som en Haabets Kerte, naar vi sukke frem vor stille Bøn!

*Let the words of your son, which we in our childhood learned from a beloved mother,
shine before of us like hopes' candle when we sigh forth our silent prayers!*

Fader vor, naar Dødens Klokker ringe, kalde os fra Livet her paa Jord, lad vor Sjæl mod Himlen højt sig svinge did, hvor Evighedens Lykke bor!

*Our Father, when death's bells toll, call us up from life here on earth; let our souls rise
high towards heaven, where eternity's happiness resides!*

Frejs os, naar de vilde Storme bruse, og vi angre, hvad vi her forbrød!

Save us when wild storms roar and we regret what wrongs we have committed!

Lad os høre Englens Vinger suse, naar vi mødes af den stærke Død!

Let us hear the beating of angels' wings when we are met by stern death!

H. C. Andersen, 1911

Epilog / Epilogue - Roger Davidson

Lurens Toner gjalde over Hav og Land, gyldne Tiders Skjalde gæste Danmarks Strand.

The sounds of the lure blare out over sea and land, scalds of golden times visit Denmark's beach.

Sjælens fagre Drømme flyve fra vort Hjem, Himmelblybets Strømme bære Tanken frem.

The beautiful dreams of the soul fly away from our home, the flows from the skies bring forward our thoughts.

Svunde Dages Minde kalder og til Jord, brudte Baand vi binde, bryde Tyvedragts Ord.

Memories of bygone days call us to the earth, broken ties we bind breaking the words of discord.

Soles slukte Luer sank bag Tidens Hav, døde Mænd du skuer rejse sig af Grav.

Burnt-out flames of suns set behind the sea of time, dead men you see rising from their graves.

Aanders stolte Skarer fylked' for dig staa fjernt fra Mørkets Farer skal vi Maalet naa.

Proud flocks of spirits standing in masses before you, far away from the dangers of darkness we shall fulfill our goal.

Gennem Nattens Taage flammer vidt vor Bavn, Danmarks Sønner vaage, hviske

Danmarks Navn!

Through the mists of night are flaming wide our beacon, Denmark's sons keep guard while whispering Denmark's name!

P. C. Plough, 1913