

MidAm
International

DOWNERS GROVE CHORAL SOCIETY / THE NAPERVILLE MEN'S GLEE CLUB / CHORUS AUSTIN



Take our survey!

Let us know how you heard about this concert



For more upcoming concerts,
visit **midamerica-music.com**
or scan the QR code

MAP
MIDAMERICA
PRODUCTIONS



John Patrick Rakes, Conductor



Ryan Heller, Conductor



MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025, AT 3:00 PM
PETERSKIRCHE, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Presented by MidAm International

Peter Tiboris: Founder, General Director, and Music Director Emeritus
Sir John Rutter, CBE: Conductor Laureate

Monday, June 16, 2025, at 3:00 PM
Peterskirche, Vienna, Austria

To Be Selected From:

BYRD Ave verum corpus

CALDARA Crucifixus from Missa in B-flat "Sancti Josephi"

STAINER God So Loved the World

THOMSON My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

DETT Let Us Cheer the Weary Traveler

PAULUS The Road Home

PARKER/SHAW Saints Bound for Heaven

John Patrick Rakes, Conductor

Downers Grove Choral Society & The Naperville Men's Glee Club

To Be Selected From:

ARR. UNDINE SMITH MOORE We Shall Walk Through the Valley

ANDROZZO, ARR. NATHAN CARTER If I Can Help Somebody

ARR. MARK LIVERSIDGE Down in the River to Pray

ARR. PARKER Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal

B.E. BOYKIN A Unified Prayer

ARR. STACEY V. GIBBS Down By the Riverside

ARR. H.T. BURLEIGH Deep River

ARR. DAWSON Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit

ARR. HOGAN The Battle of Jericho

Ryan Heller, Conductor

Chorus Austin

The Artists



Ryan Heller, Conductor

Described as exciting, dynamic and charismatic, Ryan Heller leads the award-winning Chorus Austin as Conductor and Artistic Director, having joined Austin's vibrant classical music scene in 2009. Mr. Heller and Chorus Austin have received numerous awards, including the Dale Warland Singers Commission from Chorus America, a two-time American Prize finalist, and winner of the national Chorus America/ASCAP Alice Parker Award, given to recognize a chorus for programming recently composed music.

The ensembles of Chorus Austin have been named one of the Top 10 Classical Musical Treasures by Robert Faires of the Austin Chronicle several times since Heller has led the organization. Mr. Heller has led ensembles across the United States with appearances at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and Chicago's Symphony Hall. He has toured internationally in Italy, Germany, New Zealand, Finland, Estonia, Sweden and, China, where he led combined choirs from Texas at the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing and at the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai. An Oregon native, Mr. Heller received his Master of Music degree in Conducting from Portland State University and his Bachelor's of Music degree in Conducting from Chapman University. He is in frequent demand as a conductor, singer and coach.



John Patrick Rakes, Conductor

John Patrick Rakes is a versatile conductor, professor, and pianist whose dedication to artistic and educational excellence is evident throughout his performing and teaching. He is the Artistic Director of both the Downers Grove Choral Society and the Naperville Men's Glee Club, ensembles which continue to celebrate a long-standing tradition of choral excellence. Recent performances include the choral society's 65th anniversary performance of Handel's *Messiah*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, and Powell's *The Cry of Jeremiah*. In 2022,

Dr. Rakes conducted the Carnegie Hall premiere performance of Zelenka's *Miserere* in C minor. In 2024, the Downers Grove Choral Society was selected as a national finalist for the American Prize in Choral Performance-Community Division. Dr. Rakes earned a Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting and Pedagogy (D.M.A.) from the University of Iowa where he was privileged to study under Dr. Timothy Stalter and Dr. David Puderbaugh. His doctoral thesis, "A critical edition of *Missa Gratiarum* in C by Antonio Caldara (ca. 1671-1736)", was an international research and editorial project.