GRAMMY AWARD WINNING DR. JAMES K. BASS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



# NIGHTMARES ON ELM



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#### **CATALYST CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**

AN ENSEMBLE OF THE LONG BEACH CAMERATA SINGERS

### DR. JAMES K. BASS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**ANTHONY LOPEZ, COLLABORATIVE PIANIST** 

Immortal Bach	J.S. Bach (1685–1750)
	arr. Knut Nystedt (1915–2014)
Dies Irae	Zdeněk Lukáš (1928–2007)
Karitas Abundat	Hildegard von Bingen (1098–1179)
De Profundis	John August Pamintuan (b. 1972)
Moro Lasso al mio duolo	Carlo Gesualdo (1566–1613)
O vos omnes	Carlo Gesualdo (1566–1613)
Da pacem Domine	Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)
Daemon Irrepit Callidus	György Orbán (b. 1947)
In Noctem (from Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince)	Music by Nicholas Hooper (b. 1952)
	Lyrics by Steve Kloves (b. 1960)
Sally's Song (from The Nightmare Before Christmas)	Danny Elfman (b. 1953)
Grim Grinning Ghosts (from Disney's The Haunted Mansion)	Music by Buddy Baker (1918–2002)
	Lyrics by Xavier Atencio (1919–2017)
	Arranged by Roger Emerson (b. 1950)
Double, Double, Toil and Trouble	Jaakko Mäntyjärvi (b. 1963)

#### **SPECIAL THANKS TO**

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#### **CATALYST CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**

#### **SOPRANO I**

Emma Holm LC Powell

#### **SOPRANO II**

Maria Schafer Rebecca Tomasko

#### **ALTO I**

Tammi Alderman Becca Bishop

#### **ALTO II**

Kim Mendez Tiffani Santiago

#### **TENOR I**

Patrick Tsoi-A-Sue Lynn Atkins

#### **TENOR II**

Ricardo Martinez

#### **BARITONE**

Sam A Capella Brandon Guzman

#### **BASS**

**Connor Licharz** 







# **DR. JAMES K. BASS**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

James K. Bass, GRAMMY® Award-winning conductor and singer, is Professor and Director of Choral Studies at the Herb Alpert School of Music at UCLA. He also serves as Program Director for the Professional Choral Institute, Associate Conductor of the Miami-based ensemble Seraphic Fire, and Artistic Director of the Long Beach Camerata Singers.

Dr. Bass earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Miami (Florida), and Master of Music and Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of South Florida. He is also a graduate of the Interlochen Arts Academy.

As a performer, Bass has appeared with numerous professional vocal ensembles including *Seraphic Fire*, *Conspirare*, *Santa Fe Desert Chorale*, *Trinity Wall Street*, *Apollo Master Chorale*, *Vox Humanae*, *True Concord*, and *Spire*. He was featured baritone soloist on the GRAMMY®-nominated recording *Pablo Neruda: The Poet Sings* with soprano Lauren Snouffer, conductor Craig Hella Johnson, and the GRAMMY® Award–winning ensemble *Conspirare*. He also appears on *A Seraphic Fire Christmas*, a GRAMMY®-nominated disc, and on recordings released by Harmonia Mundi, Naxos, Albany, and Seraphic Fire Media.

Bass was selected by master conductor Ton Koopman of the Amsterdam Baroque Soloists to perform Cantatas by J. S. Bach at Carnegie Hall, and was an auditioned member of Robert Shaw's Workshop Choir at Carnegie. During his tenure as Artistic Director of the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay—the official chorus of the Florida Orchestra—he led five recordings and multiple world premieres. In 2012, he served as chorus master and co-editor for the Naxos recording *Delius: Sea Drift and Appalachia* featuring the Florida Orchestra conducted by Stefan Sanderling, and in 2014 prepared the recording *Holiday Pops Live!* conducted by Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik.

Throughout his career, Bass has been deeply involved with Seraphic Fire's rise to prominence as one of America's premier professional vocal ensembles. He has served as soloist, ensemble artist, editor, producer, and preparer for fourteen of the ensemble's recordings, and routinely conducts performances in Miami and on tour.

In 2011, he co-founded the Professional Choral Institute, and in its inaugural year *Seraphic Fire* and PCI received a GRAMMY® nomination for Best Choral Performance for their recording of Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. In 2017, *Seraphic Fire* and UCLA launched the Ensemble Artist Program to identify and train the next generation of high-level ensemble singers. In 2021, Bass won the GRAMMY® Award for Best Choral Performance for his work as Director of the UCLA Chamber Choir in partnership with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus on *The Passion of Yeshua*.

Seraphic Fire recently announced that Dr. Bass will assume the role of Artistic Director beginning in July 2026.



# TAMMI ALDERMAN ASSSOCIATE CONDUCTOR

**Tammi Alderman** is Director of Choral and Vocal Music at Temple City Unified School District, Associate Conductor for the Long Beach Camerata Singers and an adjunct music education faculty member for the School of Music at CSU Fullerton. She directs the choral program at Arrowbear Summer Music Camp and is on staff for the Choral Camp through the Pacific Chorale and CSU Fullerton. She is also frequently called upon as a professional chorister, adjudicator, guest conductor and clinician for choral sessions and festivals throughout the Southwest.

Ms. Alderman has taught elementary, middle school, high school and college choirs in California and Colorado for nearly two decades. Her classroom teaching focuses on community building within the ensemble utilizing both traditional and unconventional rehearsal spaces and practices. She regularly mentors collegiate pre-service teachers as well as providing a program for beginning high school conductors. Her choirs consistently receive the highest ratings in festivals and competitions, locally and nationwide. Choirs under Ms. Alderman's direction have toured extensively through the United States, Eastern and Western Europe, Canada, and China.

Students from her choirs have been selected as members of honor choirs at regional, state, divisional and national levels in every year of her teaching. For the last sixteen years Ms. Alderman has been an active member and served on the boards of the Southern California Vocal Association (currently serving as President) and California Choral Director's Association. Additionally, she hosts yearly honor choir auditions at her school site and serves as an adjudicator for High School and Middle School/Junior High SCVA Choir Festivals. Soon-to-be-Dr. Alderman is working on the completion of her dissertation through the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. Her writing is on methods for pairing of appropriate high school choral repertoire to the musicianship level of the ensemble.



# **ANTHONY LOPEZ**COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

Anthony Lopez (he/him) is a 2020 GRAMMY®-nominated pianist, vocal coach, and music director adept at classical, musical theatre, and jazz styles. He has performed with artists that include Arturo Sandoval, Susan Egan, Erin Mackey, Shoshana Bean, Olivia Hernandez, and Kate Reid among others. He has also performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival, ACDA National Conference, Carnegie Hall, Jazz at Lincoln Center in the Allen Room, and Segerstrom Hall. Along with his duties as the Staff Accompanist at Cypress College, Anthony teaches jazz and classical piano and vocal lessons, performs at weddings, corporate events, concert venues, and writes for small and large ensembles.



#### **LONG BEACH CAMERATA SINGERS**

Long Beach Camerata Singers was founded in 1966 by Frank Allen as the *Vocal Arts Ensemble.* In 1983, Dr. David Wilson, Professor of Choral Music at the University of Southern California, succeeded Frank Allen and led the choir for more than twenty years. LBCS has also been led by Dr. Jonathan Talberg (2005–2009), Director of Choral, Vocal, and Opera Studies at California State University, Long Beach; and Dr. Robert Istad (2009–2017), Artistic Director of Pacific Chorale and Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Fullerton.

The 2025–2026 Season marks the ninth season under the leadership of 2021 GRAMMY® Award–winning Artistic Director, Dr. James K. Bass, Director of Choral Studies at UCLA, Associate Conductor of the professional chamber choir *Seraphic Fire*, and Program Director of the Aspen Music Festival Professional Choral Institute. Now celebrating its 60th anniversary season, the Long Beach Camerata Singers presents *The Big Sing* in the fall, *Handel's Messiah* in December, and *Mozart's Requiem* in March. This season, the *Catalyst Chamber Ensemble* will offer three performances: *Nightmares on Elm* (a Halloween concert in October), *A Candlelight Christmas* (in December), and *Monteverdi: Reflections from Venice* (in May).

LBCS supports two education programs: the award-winning *Camerata Children's Music Academy*, which provides foundational vocal music instruction for children ages 3 to 5 through the YMCA and Long Beach City College Child Development Programs; and *Peace4Youth*, a social justice-oriented music curriculum presented in Long Beach Unified School District middle and high schools.

Long Beach Camerata Singers was recognized as the 69th Assembly District's **2025 Nonprofit of the Year** by Assemblymember Josh Lowenthal.



#### **CATALYST CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**

**The Catalyst Chamber Ensemble** was founded in November 2022 as a natural progression of the *Long Beach Camerata Singers* brand, supplementing the already robust choral community that exists in Long Beach and throughout Southern California. Now in its fourth season, Catalyst offers compelling *a cappella* performances of music from antiquity to the most important compositional voices of today, providing acoustically and emotionally transformative live music experiences.

**Dr. James K. Bass** is the Founding Conductor and Artistic Director of the *Catalyst Chamber Ensemble*.



#### LYNN GARY ATKINS, JR.

Hailed as a voice with "rich vocal color and appealing quality," American tenor and conductor **Lynn Gary Atkins, Jr.** is a proud son of the Jersey Shore. A 2004 graduate of Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Lynn has excelled with a dual career in education and performance; he has been heard singing in choirs and small ensembles behind Julie Andrews, Sarah Brightman, Charlotte Church, Linda Eder, Denyce Graves, and Patti LaBelle; and with the New York Philharmonic, New Jersey Symphony, Richmond Symphony, and the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra.

In 2012, Lynn was a member of the first cohort to receive the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting from James Madison University in Virginia. Atkins has appeared as a featured tenor with the Richmond Philharmonic, the Petersburg Symphony, Litha Symphony Orchestra of New York City, and the Inner-City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (ICYOLA). Atkins spent a total of 18 years teaching choral music in secondary schools on the East Coast.

Atkins is currently Assistant Professor of Music at California State University, Dominguez Hills, where he serves as Director of Choral Activities and Voice Area Coordinator. He is also Artistic Director of two ensembles in the Los Angeles metro area: the L.A. Bronze Handbell Ensemble and the South Coast Chorale of Long Beach. Lynn started singing with the Long Beach Camerata Singers in September 2024.



#### **BECCA BISHOP**

**Becca Bishop** is a singer-songwriter and educator out of Long Beach. Becca is a singer-songwriter and performs her own compositions all over Southern California. Becca is the Classic Worship Lead at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and also vocal coaches at various schools around Southern California including our very own Jordan High School of Long Beach. She also is the Assistant Director of the Orange County Choral Academy in Irvine. In her spare time, she founded a micro music festival called \*By the Porchlights\*, bringing live music to people's homes. You can find her original music on all streaming platforms.



#### **SAM A. CAPELLA**

**Samuel Aaron Capella (aka Sam A. Capella)** is a Latino-American vocalist and educator based in Southern California. Born in Los Angeles and raised in Fontana, he moved to Long Beach in 2007 to pursue a life dedicated to music, studying voice with *Tim MacDougall* at *California State University, Long Beach*.

He has performed with numerous premier choral ensembles throughout Los Angeles and Orange County, including *Pacific Chorale, Long Beach Camerata Singers, Tonality, Los Angeles Philharmonic Chorus*, and *Los Angeles Master Chorale*. He is a three-time GRAMMY® Award-winning artist, contributing to two winning albums with the *LA Philharmonic* and to the 2023

GRAMMY®-winning soundtrack for *Encanto*.

In addition to his work as a chorister and soloist, Samuel serves as a vocal coach for a local high school. In October 2024, he launched a new project—a karaoke-centric YouTube channel where audiences can sing along to their favorite duets with Sam. You can find him at YouTube.com/@SamACapella.



#### **BRANDON GUZMAN**

**Brandon Guzman** is a Southern California native and recent graduate from CSULB. Since exiting university he has worked with different choral ensembles such as the Long Beach Camerata Singers, Tonality, and most recently the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Brandon is a proud performer of all types of music; his specialties range from classical and opera to pop and folk. Some performance highlights include singing solos in concert oratorios such as Haydn's *Missa Solemnis in B-flat ("Harmoniemesse")* and Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem*. In addition, Brandon is a budding session singer, having sung for the Netflix film *Spiderhead* and the National Geographic series *America the Beautiful*. He has also performed alongside Björk, Tiësto, and The Kronos Quartet.



#### **EMMA HOLM**

A Bay Area native, **Emma Holm** moved to Southern California in 2021 to earn two B.A. degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance at California State University, Long Beach. Following graduation, Emma decided to pursue a single-subject teaching credential in music at California State University, Fullerton. She is currently a student teacher in the Irvine Unified School District, working with choir students in elementary and high school. Prior to student teaching, Emma spent one year teaching music and choir to grades 1–8 at Maple Village Waldorf School in Long Beach. Emma sings with Los Angeles-based group Tonality, Long Beach Camerata Singers, and Catalyst Chamber Ensemble.

#### **CONNOR LICHARZ**

German-American bass **Connor Licharz** is an active performer with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Long Beach Camerata Singers, Los Angeles Opera Chorus, Catalyst Ensemble, Pacific Chorale, Choral Arts Initiative, Adoro Ensemble, Voices of Terpsichor, and other LA-area choral ensembles. He has performed under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Zubin Mehta, and Eva Ollikainen, as well as sung background vocals for Josh Groban, Sarah Brightman, and The Who. Connor has also appeared as a soloist and chorister with the Colorado Bach Ensemble in Denver, CO, and the Long Beach Symphony.

In addition to his work as a singer, Connor has performed solo organ recitals in California, New York, and Germany and is an active composer and arranger with works performed in more than 20 countries. He holds both a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music in Vocal Chamber Music from the University of Redlands. Connor currently serves as Director of the Long Beach Camerata Peace4Youth Program and the Camerata Carolers. He also serves on the boards of Adoro Ensemble, where he directs the tenor-bass ensemble, and Voices of Terpsichor, where he is a singer and quest conductor.



#### **RICARDO MARTINEZ**

**Ricardo Martinez** (he/him) is a tenor in the Los Angeles region singing in professional choir ensembles including the Long Beach Camerata Singers, Catalyst, Pacific Chorale and the newly formed Terpsichor! He has performed many of the great works of the choral repertoire including Verdi's *Requiem*, Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Duruflé's *Requiem*, Fauré's *Requiem*, and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, to name a few and has sung the solos in many of Mozart's lesser-performed masses. He has also sung in a few professional Opera Choruses, most recently as a Tenor in a production of Verdi's *Rigoletto*.

He was recently recognized as an emerging artist by Long Beach Camerata and awarded a grant to further his development as a professional musician.

He has sung several opera roles including Le Mari in Poulenc's Les Mamelles de Tirésias, Brack Weaver in Kurt Weill's Down in the Valley, the Duke of Mantua in Verdi's Rigoletto and is an active member of the Opera Singers Book Club (OSBC) where he continues to study Opera roles, Currently Rodolfo in Puccini's La Bohème. Ricardo has also taken on music administrative work which included the contracting of professional musicians and ensemble management. In his free time Ricardo enjoys the study of foreign languages (currently French, Japanese and Italian) and he enjoys taking his big German Shepherd, Copper, on nature walks.



#### **KIM MENDEZ**

Mx. Kim Mendez sparkles on stage in a multitude of genres and styles—from opera to bluegrass to pop to musical theatre—with over thirty years of performance experience. Their artistic identity is rooted in collaboration, connection, and activism for the LGBTQIA+ community. Notable roles include Major General Stanley (The Pirates of Penzance), Sor Rafaela in the world premiere of Juana, Beggar Woman (Sweeney Todd), and Baba (The Rake's Progress).

Choral experience includes performances with Seraphic Fire, Long Beach Camerata Singers, and the Long Beach Symphony, as well as participation

in the GRAMMY® Award-winning recording of *The Passion of Yeshua* with the *UCLA Chamber Singers* and the *Buffalo Philharmonic* (2020). They are a graduate of the *BMP Producers Academy* and the *Seraphic Fire Professional Choral Institute*.

This past summer, Mendez traveled to Portland, Maine, for an Artist Residency with *Hogfish Opera*. There they performed in *Svadba*, a six-voice, unaccompanied Serbian opera by *Ana Sokolović*. During the residency, they also developed and presented a portion of their own regenerative arts project—a choral soundscape illustrating the LGBTQIA+ experience of being the cycle breakers within their families of origin, and the complex emotions that title carries. They look forward to continuing work on this piece and to applying what they learned at Hogfish about intentional, regenerative art-making to all of their creative endeavors in Los Angeles.

Mx. Mendez holds associate degrees in music and humanities from *Pasadena City College*, as well as *Bachelor of Music* and *Master of Music* degrees from *UCLA's Herb Alpert School of Music*. In their off hours, they enjoy reading, sewing, spending time in nature, playing with their dog Diego, and making music with friends and family.



#### **LC POWELL**

**LC Powell** is best known for their work spanning film, television, stage, and recording over the last two and a half decades.

Powell's work as a music producer, voice director, music contractor, music casting director, and performer has garnered numerous GRAMMY® and Emmy® wins and nominations. She is most recognized for her large catalogue of work on four seasons and the upcoming fifth season of *Phineas and Ferb* as a series vocal arranger and performer.

With over 100 television and film credits, Mx. Powell serves as voice director, music producer, music contractor, music arranger, and voice actor with clients including Netflix, HBO Max, Amazon, Riot Games, DreamWorks, Disney,

Cartoon Network and more. Powell is currently Director of Vocal Arts and Musical Theatre at Burbank Music Center in Burbank, California. Learn more at <a href="https://lcpowell.me">https://lcpowell.me</a> @mxlcpowell



#### **TIFFANI SANTIAGO**

**Tiffani Santiago** is a mezzo-soprano based in Southern California. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance at California State University, Fullerton. Tiffani has toured in Austria, Southern Germany, Italy and all throughout the United States. She has placed in the top three of both the Senior and Graduate Divisions in the National Association of Teachers for Singers Collegiate Auditions.

Tiffani has performed roles such as Mum in Britten's *Albert Herring*, Zita in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*, and Madam Flora in Menotti's *The Medium*. She has been a soloist for Pacific Symphony and Long Beach Symphony. Classical music has given her many opportunities to share the stage with numerous

musical artists throughout her career, including John Williams, Andrea Bocelli, Juanes, and Frederica von Stade.



#### **MARIA SCHAFER**

As a soloist and choral artist in Southern California, soprano Maria Schafer finds herself equally at home among art song, choral, and contemporary music. Her nuanced interpretation and astute intonation garner placement in film soundtracks, new music collectives, and small groups. After vocal studies at CSU Long Beach and Mt. San Antonio College, Ms. Schafer has gone on to sing at the Montreal Jazz Festival, competed in the Riga Jazz Stage competition, and has performed across the USA, Canada, Latvia, and Japan. Her four full-length albums featuring her compositions and bandleading can be heard across the continent including local radio station KKJZ (Los Angeles) and CBC Radio in Canada.



#### **REBECCA TOMASKO**

**Rebecca Tomasko** is a Los Angeles-based soprano with a focus in chamber ensembles and choral performance. While earning her B.A in Studio Art at Azusa Pacific University, she continued to perform as a cellist and vocalist, and has since flourished as a professional soprano in ensembles across Southern California, performing with Catalyst Chamber Ensemble, Tonality, Pacific Chorale, Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Voices of Terpsichor, Vox Ardens, and more.

Recent performance highlights include Michael Abels' At War With Ourselves: 400 Years of You with Tonality and The Kronos Quartet, the Final Fantasy VII Rebirth and Distant Worlds orchestra performances, Joby Talbot's a cappella

work *Path of Miracles*, and joining acclaimed soprano Hila Plitmann in Maria Newman's soprano duet *The Wind*.

Rebecca is also an emerging session singer, and is privileged to have sung on GRAMMY-winning albums by both Carla Patullo and the LA Phil with Gustavo Dudamel. She can also be heard in theme parks (Disneyland, Disney California Adventure Park and Disney World), Netflix and Amazon Prime Video shows, as well as Carla Patullo's second album with Tonality, *Nomadica*.



#### **PATRICK TSOI-A-SUE**

**Patrick Tsoi-A-Sue** is a musician from the LA area. He started his musical career as a child, in Trinidad where he found his voice. In the year 2000, he and his family moved from Trinidad to live in the United States. After six years at Pasadena City College he transferred to California State University Long Beach (CSULB) for a double major in Vocal Performance, and Music Education. He graduated CSULB in 2016 and then earned his Single-Subject Music Credential in 2018.

Since graduating Patrick has been teaching voice lessons as well as teaching/ substitute teaching at different school campuses. He has also been performing with various groups always striving to be better. The most recent to earliest

groups he has been associated with are: San Francisco Opera, Tonality, Los Angeles Opera, Los Angeles Master Chorale, and Long Beach Camerata Singers. Patrick is excited to showcase his abilities as a performer and is grateful for the opportunity to sing today.



# DR. JAMES K. BASS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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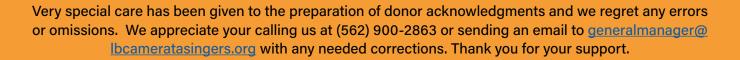
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