Upcoming Concerts

Choral Arts Society and Vocal Chamber Ensembles
Monday, April 9, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets:
$10 General Admission
Free for VCU students with ID

Jazz Orchestra I with guest pianist Lee Muskier
Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 8 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets:
$7 in advance, $10 at the door
Free for VCU students with ID

Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Band
Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 7 p.m.
Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets:
$10 General Admission
Free for VCU students with ID

Learn more and buy tickets at
GO.VCU.EDU/CONCERTS

VCU Women’s Choir and
VCU Commonwealth Singers
present

Open Minds:
Music that Mends

Friday, April 6, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Sonia Vlahcevic Concert Hall
W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, VA

arts.vcu.edu/music
**Program**

I Dream a World........................................................................Joan Szymko, text by Langston Hughes

It Takes a Village.....................................................................Joan Szymko
Christiana Casey and Mikala Swank, soloists

No Time.............................Traditional Camp Meeting Song, arr. Susan Brumfield

Gaudete from Piae Cantiones, 1582.............................................arr. Michael Engelhardt
Alyse Coleman, Kayla Seabolt, Cassidy Hamilton, and Dyson Roy, soloists

Aint’ No Grave Can Hold My Body Down.................................Traditional
arr. Paul Caldwell & Sean Ivory

Stand in The Light.........................................................Stephan Moccio & Lauren Christy
arr. Roger Emerson

**VCU Women’s Choir**
Rebecca Tyree, conductor
Kate Julianna, assistant conductor
Dani Gibbons, pianist
Bryan Connolly, drummer/percussionist

Unclouded Day.........................................................Alwood, arr. Shawn Kirchner

Open Minds, Closer Thoughts...........................................Antonio J. Garcia

Prologue
Hot Dogs

   Kevin Mann and Trevor White, soloists

   Jack Anderson, Yasmine Uriah Scott, Synit Zecarias,
   Collin W. Aloï, and Evan Heiter, soloists

Hell Was On the Way

   Jonathan Carr and Renée McGowan, soloists

Affirmations

   Change

   Evan Heiter, Brian C. Donovan, Savannah Whittenburg,
   and Samantha Garcia, soloists

Epilogue

   Let my Love Be Heard.............................................Jake Runestad

   True Colors..................................................Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly, arr. Deke Sharon

   Georgia Cotter and Paige Melton, soloists

   Didn’t my Lord Deliver Daniel.................................Traditional, arr. Moses Hogan

   Jasmin Ward, Cathern Hazelwood, Hailey Broyles, Colleen Christman,
   Hayleigh Wilson, and Lida Bourhill, soloists

**VCU Commonwealth Singers**
Erin Freeman, conductor
David Kim, pianist

A note about *Open Minds, Closer Thoughts*, by Antonio J. Garcia

Supported in part by a 2017 VCUarts Dean’s Research Reassignment Award

Based on the book *Writing Our Way Out: Memoirs From Jail* by Dr. David Coogan

Incarcerated individuals are far from our thoughts, almost literally the last thing on our minds. It’s easier to go about our daily lives that way. But if we’re going to reduce crime, we have to deal with its root causes in our community—locally and beyond. Dr. David Coogan’s book inspired me to focus “closer thoughts” on these causes—and on the hope for individual and community redemption—in my own “open mind,” our students’, and yours. These issues are not distant: if you don’t have family members, neighbors, and friends whose lives have been darkened by drug abuse, child abuse, or resultant crimes, you are extraordinarily fortunate. If as a society we’re going to lessen the number of citizens victimized by crime, we have to understand better the tragic path their offenders took to jail; we can’t ignore this city within a city. Once inmates have served their time, they become our neighbors: so addressing crimes’ causes before the act takes place is in everyone’s best interests. This composition includes even more movements than you will hear premiered publicly today; and I am grateful to Drs. Freeman and Coogan, his contributing authors, the Commonwealth Singers, and VCUarts for the opportunity to create and share this music.

-- Prof. Antonio Garcia, Director, VCU Jazz Studies

**Authors of Writing Our Way Out: Memoirs From Jail:**
David Coogan, Kelvin Belton, Karl Black, Stanley Craddock, Ronald Greene,
Tony Martin, Naji Mujahid, Terence Scruggs, Andre Simpson, and Dean Turner