

School of Music
Faculty of Fine Arts
University of Victoria

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**University
of Victoria**
School of
Music

FACULTY CONCERT SERIES

DR. LAUREL PARSONS

presents

*“Red Cross Nell and Khaki Jim”:
The WWI Songs of Gordon V. Thompson*

With

Anna Shill (M.Mus '13), soprano

and

members of Dr. Parsons's first-year musicianship class:

Matthew Connelly

Alexander Felton

Zachary Power

Nicholas Renaud

Austin Warren

Laurel Parsons, piano

Tuesday, February 3, 2015 • 8:00 p.m.

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall

MacLaurin Building, University of Victoria

Admission by donation

PROGRAM

Music and lyrics by Gordon V. Thompson (1888–1965)
unless otherwise noted.

Marching Off to War

That Old Tipperary Tune

*Fly the Flag**

lyrics by M. Gillmor Davis
music by Gordon V. Thompson

Imagining the Battlefield

Red Cross Nell and Khaki Jim
(with Nicholas Renaud as Khaki Jim)

Dreaming of Home

lyrics by Gordon V. Thompson
music by Jules Brazil (?-1955)

Remember Nurse Cavell

lyrics by Gordon V. Thompson
music by Jules Brazil

Women and Children Waiting at Home

When Your Boy Comes Back to You

I Want to Kiss Daddy Good-Night

Return of the Veterans

*You Are Welcome Back at Home Sweet Home**

*Please feel free to join in the chorus!

LYRICS

THAT OLD TIPPERARY TUNE

I've a dear Irish boy,
He's my pride and my joy;
And I love him as I never loved before,
But he left me one day
And he marched to the fray
While the bands were bravely playing songs of war:

Chorus:

*My boy marched away
On a bright summer day
To that old "Tipperary" tune
And the strains of "The Red, White and Blue;"
While the bugle call sounded "To Arms,"
And the band played "Rule Britannia"
That parting day in June
When he marched away to the "Maple Leaf"
And that old "Tipperary" tune.*

Though my eyes filled with tears,
As I thought of the years
That would pass before I saw his face again,
Still I felt mighty proud
As I followed the crowd
And we sang those good old songs with might and main!

[Chorus]

FLY THE FLAG (lyrics by M. Gillmor Davis)

Oh! proudly they march, yet each soldier knows
He may tread in his country no more;
Yet bravely they hurry their steps to the field
Where the deadly cannon roar:
To the time of martial music grand,
With its minor chord of pain,
They follow their chief to that distant land,
Freedom's rights there to maintain.

Chorus (sing along):

*Then fly the flag of Britain!
Fly the flag of Britain!
Wave it in the wind!
Flag of truth and honor,
Flag of peace and freedom,
Best old flag you'll find!*

*Flag our soldiers die for;
Flag our pris'ners sigh for;
Silk, or tattered rag,
Keep its colors waving,
While your home it's saving,
Fly, oh fly the flag!*

They know that for ages the loyal brave
To their colors have always been true.
And so one and all of that staunch, noble band
As was done they vowed to do.
For our British soldiers never stoop
With a flag of truce to yield!
For freedom and country they fight or die
On the far off battlefield!

[Chorus]

So may God protect them the gallant band
Who have enter'd the struggle for right!
Be with them on sea and be with them on land
When engaged in battle fight!
In the distant ages yet unroll'd,
Of their deeds in France we'll sing;
And time and again will the tale be told
How they fought to serve their King!

[Chorus]

RED CROSS NELL AND KHAKI JIM

A lad in Khaki, a lass in white;
He was wounded, she nursed him right:
Now he loves her; she wears a ring;
And together they sweetly sing:

Chorus:

*When at last the war is over
And the boys march home,
You and I will be in clover,
Never more to roam
From home sweet home but
Where the sun is always shining
On our cottage trim,
There the folks will say, "What sweethearts!"
Red Cross Nell and Khaki Jim!*

Now Nell is lonely; they're miles apart;
Reads a letter that cheers her heart:
"Sure I'm homesick—'tis all that's wrong;
Come and nurse me and sing this song:

[Chorus]

DREAMING OF HOME

We're fighting for our country and we're battling for the flag,
Struggling in the cause of freedom, steps will never lag;
Still there comes a vision shining bright where'er we roam,
Of a dear old mother waiting with the folks at home.

Chorus

*Thinking of friends left behind us,
Dreaming of girls that we know,
Thinking of boys who are missing,
Died for the flag we love so.
Longing for days when dear mother
Greets us again o'er the foam,
Mem'ries returning,
How our hearts are yearning
When dreaming of home.*

We're not a bit downhearted, we are far from feeling blue;
We are bent on victory and mean to see it through!
But when we are singing of the days that used to be,
Dreams of my own loving sweetheart often come to me.

[Chorus]

REMEMBER NURSE CAVELL

We have praised Joan of Arc, the soldier lass of France,
How she stirred defeated troops to make a fresh advance,
But our British hearts are moved
By a tale we long will tell,
Of how she faced the foemen's guns,
Our martyred Nurse Cavell!

Chorus:

*Remember how she gladly nursed your pals, boys!
Remember how she striv'd to make them well;
Don't forget how patiently she suffered,
And remember how she bore the prison cell!
Remember how she bravely gave her life, boys;
Remember when you're facing shot and shell,
She was made of British stuff –
So are you! and that's enough;
The Bull-Dog's loose!
Remember Nurse Cavell.*

Oh! Our brave heroic girls who nurse our wounded men,
Let their praises ring afar, the tale repeat again,
Hostile prisons could not break,
German threats could never quell,
The stalwart heart that knew no fear,
Our martyred Nurse Cavell!

[Chorus]

WHEN YOUR BOY COMES BACK TO YOU

Keep the lamp of hope still brightly burning,
Till your boy comes back to you;
And although your heart may oft be yearning
For one whose love is true,
Bear in mind the day he'll be returning;
So then, cheer up! don't be blue!
Ev'ry day you're far apart
You grow dearer to his heart,
Till your boy comes back to you!

Chorus:

*When your boy comes back to you,
You will keep your promise true;
You will watch, you will wait
By the old garden gate,
Till the regiment appears in view.
When your boy comes back to you
And the bands are playing too,
Won't your heart be beating fast,
Just to welcome him at last?
When your boy comes back to you!*

Don't forget to heed this word of warning,
It will mean so much to you;
Though it's dark tonight the sun at morning
Will shine with brighter hue
On the boys with glory all adorning;
You will share that glory too!
Wear a bright and sunny smile,
Tho' you wait a long long while,
Till your boy comes back to you!

[Chorus]

I WANT TO KISS DADDY GOOD-NIGHT

I am so very lonely now,
Since daddy went away
To be a great big soldier man,
I long for him each day.
But, oh! the time I miss him most
Is when to bed I go,
For then he'd always play with me,
That's why I miss him so!

Chorus:

*I want to kiss daddy "Good-night!"
I want him to tuck me in right!
My pray'rs have been said,
But I can't go to bed
Till daddy has turn'd out the light!
I want to kiss daddy "Good-night;"
I want him to hug me up tight;
And, oh! how I miss
My own daddy's sweet kiss!
I want to kiss daddy "Good-night!"*

Last night I had an awful dream,
I saw my daddy there,
Some naughty men were hurting him,
They never seemed to care.
But, oh! I'm glad it was not true,
For somewhere far away,
He wrote my mamma he'll be back,
And when he comes he'll stay!

[Chorus]

YOU ARE WELCOME BACK AT HOME SWEET HOME

'Twas a dark, dark day
When you marched away
With your gun upon your shoulder
And your head held high;
But a bright, bright day
Bro't you back our way
To your mother, home and sweetheart
'Neath a sunny sky.

Chorus:

*You are welcome back at home sweet home,
Laddie boy who sailed away across the foam,
By your sweetheart true and your mother too,
And ev'ry pal that wish'd the best of luck to you!*

*You are welcome back at home sweet home
And you'll never have to wander or to roam,
You're the boys who saved the nation,
Won our love and admiration!
You are welcome back at home sweet home!*

You have played the game;
You have made your name
And we never can forget you
We'll look after you.
You have fought our fight,
We must treat you right;
So we'll try to make you happy –
Help you start anew!

[Chorus]

BIOGRAPHIES

Laurel Parsons, Ph.D.

Laurel Parsons is a Canadian music theorist known for her research on the music of Elisabeth Lutyens, one of the pioneers of British serial music, and on the music of female composers. Her groundbreaking four-volume project *Analytical Studies of Music by Women Composers*, co-edited with Brenda Ravenscroft, will be published by Oxford University Press beginning in 2015.

Dr. Parsons is also an award-winning music theory and musicianship instructor with an interest in developing teaching and learning strategies to facilitate music-reading for music students with dyslexia. With Dr. Marion Porath of the UBC Faculty of Education and UBC Opera Director Nancy Hermiston, Dr. Parsons held a SSHRC Insight Grant for their project *Libretti of Learning: Portraits of Journeys to Operatic Accomplishment*, a qualitative study of opera students with dyslexia and other learning differences.

In recent years, circumstance and curiosity have led her into research on music and Canadian history, first through a paper on the links between representations of Inuit poetry in Canadian postwar music and nationalist politics at the University of Tromsø. The research journey Dr. Parsons will present tonight began while she was sorting through old sheet music in her father's piano bench following his death in 2010. Her father Frederic G. Thompson, Gordon V. Thompson's middle son, was four days old when the shot that killed Archduke Franz Ferdinand set the world on the path to war.

Anna Shill, soprano

"[Possessing] a lovely voice, artistry in spades and a delightful stage presence" (*Music in Victoria*), soprano Anna Shill has been recognized for her work in concert and opera, performing repertoire from Bach to Boechler.

Anna is a graduate of the UBC Opera Bachelors of Music Program, completing her Masters at UVic in Voice Performance. She is also an alumni of Opera Nuova.

Her recent oratorio work includes Handel's *Messiah* and Haydn's *Creation* (Via Choralis), Mozart's *Vesperae solennes de confessore* (Victoria Mendelssohn Choir; UVic Chorus and Orchestra), Mendelssohn's Second Symphony and Gounod's *St. Cecilia Mass* (Victoria Summer Choir), and Vivaldi's *Gloria* (West Coast Consort).

Anna has performed a number of opera roles, including Despina (*Così fan tutte*), Noémie (*Cendrillon*), Cis (*Albert Herring*), Papagena (*The Magic Flute*) and Second Woman (*Dido and Aeneas*). She also premiered to great acclaim the principal role of The Young Night in *Ithaca*, a new opera by Justin Boechler.

Coming up, Anna will be performing in a recital with repertoire by Josephine Lang with Dr. Harald Krebs, followed by Schubert's *Shepherd on the Rock* and Mendelssohn's *Hear My Prayer* with the Victoria Mendelssohn Choir.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to my wonderful singers for making this music come alive so beautifully! Kristy Farkas, UVic School of Music Concert & Publicity Manager, was terrifically helpful with arrangements and advertising. Thanks also to Tim Lowan for the loan of the Canadian Red Ensign, the Canadian War Museum, Bernie Spring at Antiquarius Books in Falkland, BC, and Denise Choppin of Turtle Creek Books in Mississauga.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Free admission)

WELLNESS DAY

A day for YOU! Release some mid-term stress with an afternoon of puppy cuddles, yoga, and meditation. Talk with campus Food & Health Service experts and find out about fitness programs offered by Vikes Rec at the Resource Fair in the lower lobby. MacLaurin Building, B-Wing lobbies and various rooms

Wednesday, February 4, 7:00 p.m. (Admission by donation)

ANNUAL SOLO BACH COMPETITION

Featuring the solo suites and sonatas by J.S. Bach performed by UVic string students. The jury will elect three prizewinners and the audience has the opportunity to vote for the Audience Prize.

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall

Friday, February 6, 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. (Free admission)

WEST COAST STUDENT COMPOSERS SYMPOSIUM

An annual meeting of student composers from UBC, SFU, and UVic. Three concerts showcase composers and performers from each institution.

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall

Friday, February 6, 8:00 p.m. (\$15 & \$10)

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA WIND SYMPHONY: *One Ring to Rule Them All!*

Dr. Gerald King, Conductor

David P. Gagnon, Graduate Assistant Conductor

Johan de Meij – *Symphony No. 1: The Lord of the Rings*

John Estacio – *Prairie Ride and Sunset*

And more!

University Centre Farquhar Auditorium

Saturday, February 7, 8:00 p.m. (\$25)

FACULTY CONCERT SERIES: Lafayette String Quartet

W. A. Mozart – *String Quartet in B-flat major, Kv. 458*

Jean Coulthard – *String Quartet No. 2: Threnody*

Ludwig van Beethoven – *String Quartet in A minor, Op. 132*

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall

Tickets available at the UVic Ticket Centre (250-721-8480),
online (www.tickets.uvic.ca) and at the door.

To receive our *On the Pulse* brochure and
newsletter by email, contact: concert@uvic.ca



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