Program Note

Tonight’s concert from the Williams Concert and Chamber Choirs features music that explores themes of violence, crisis, and the search for peace. Our pieces reflect these themes through a variety of lenses: we will present music that examines immense grief, the power of rhetoric, the universal love of a mother for her child, the turning point that sets us in the right direction, the hope of a sunrise, and the ideal picture of a world in which violence no longer exists.

In addition to our work on the music for this evening, this semester, the choirs have also set out to explore how music and the performing arts can affect social change and intersect with issues of social justice. To that end, the students organized a teach-in on gun violence on our campus last week, which brought together a panel of experts with different perspectives on the topic of gun violence. The panel provided the greater Williams College community with a nonpartisan educational experience on the topic of gun violence and helped to identify how we and other members of our community can affect actionable change on this issue in our daily lives.

With tonight’s concert, we hope to further that educational experience and continue connecting more deeply with our community on this important issue. There are a variety of ways that you can educate and involve yourself this evening. First, we have invited representatives from two organizations in our community that are involved either directly or indirectly with this topic: Be SMART and 18 Degrees. These organizations have staffed tables at the back of the hall tonight. Please make your way there at intermission and/or at the end of the concert to connect with those organizations, learn about the work they do, and get involved in their missions if you are so moved.

Second, the choir has chosen to encourage donations from the audience to directly benefit 18 Degrees. Programs and services provided by 18 Degrees promote the well-being and strengths of children, youth, and families to build better communities in Western Massachusetts. If you have the means to donate to this incredible cause which directly impacts the lives of young people affected by and susceptible to gun violence in our community, please consider donating via the QR Code below, or by visiting their website www.18degreesma.org. Under the menu “My donation is for”, you can select “Youth Development Programs” if you would like to donate specifically to programs that support young people.

![QR Code Image]
Texts and Translations

**Miserere Mei**  
*Traditional Latin prayer*

Miserere mei, O Jesu  
*Have mercy on me, O Jesus*

**I Conquer the World with Words**  
*Poem by Nizar Qabbani*

I conquer the world with words,  
conquer the mother tongue,  
verbs, nouns, syntax.  
I sweep away the beginning of things  
and with a new language  
that has the music of water the message of fire  
I light the coming age  
and stop time in your eyes  
and wipe away the line  
that separates  
time from this single moment.

**Christi Mutter**  
*Paraphrase of traditional Stabat Mater text*  
*by Heinrich Bone*

Christi Mutter stand mit Schmerzen  
bei dem Kreuz und weint von Herzen,  
as ihr lieber Sohn da hing.  
Durch die Seele voller Trauer,  
schneidend unter Todesschauer  
Angst und Jammer, Qual und Bangen,  
alles Leid hielt sie umfangen,  
das nur je ein Herz durchdrang.  
O du Jungfrau der Jungfrauen,  
woll auf mich in Liebe schauen,  
dass ich teile deinen Schmerz.  
*Christ’s mother, standing in pain*  
*by the cross and weeps from her heart*  
*For her beloved son, who hangs there.*  
*Through her soul full of grief,*  
*Parting under the shadow of death.*  
*Fear and grief, torment and fear;*  
*She embraced more pain than ever*  
*Pierced any other heart.*  
*O virgin of virgins,*  
*Look at me in love,*  
*So that I might feel your pain.*
**Light of a Clear Blue Morning**  
*Lyrics by Dolly Parton*

It's been a long dark night  
And I've been a waitin' for the morning  
It's been a long hard fight  
But I see a brand new day a dawning  
I've been looking for the sunshine  
‘Cause I ain't seen it in so long  
Everything's gonna work out fine  
Everything's gonna be alright,  
It's gonna be okay.  
I can see the light of a clear blue morning  
I can see the light of a brand new day  
I can see the light of a clear blue morning  
Everything's gonna be alright  
It's gonna be okay.

**The Definition of Crisis**

crɪˈsɪs  
/ˈkrɪsis/  
noun  
1. a time of intense difficulty, trouble, or danger.  
2. a time when a difficult decision must be made.  
3. the turning point when an important change takes place.

**We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace**  
*Text by A.L. Hatter*

We shall walk through the valley in peace  
If Jesus himself shall be our leader  
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

There will be no trials there  
If Jesus himself shall be our leader  
We shall walk through the valley in peace.

**WIPIP!!!**  
*Haitian Creole text by Gabriel T. Guillaume*

Wipip! Gade ki jan la vi-a bèl’o!  
*Wow! Look at how beautiful life is!*
Wipip! Gade ki jan kè mwen kontan’o!
Wow! Look how happy my heart is!
Wipip! Nan pwenn Kayen, nan pwenn Abel!
Wow! There is no Cain and Abel!

Solèy taye banda sou tout la tè beni;
The sun shines all over the blessed earth;
An ba yon sèl drapo tout nasyon reyini.
Under one flag, all nations unite.
Nan pwenn miray, nan pwenn frontyè;
There are no gates, there are no borders;
Nan pwenn batay, nan pwenn lagè… Wipipip!
There are no fights, there are no wars… Wow!

Wipip! Gade ki jan la vi-a bèl’o!
Wow! Look at how wonderful life is!
Wipip! Gade ki jan kè mwen kontan’o!
Wow! Notice at how my heart is so content!

Nan pwenn Kayen, nan pwenn Abèl…
There is no Cain and Abel…
Nou tout se yon fanmi’o!
We are all one family!
Nan pwenn la gè…
There is no fighting, there is no war…
Nou tout se yon fanmi’o!
We are all one family!
Nan pwenn bonm, nan pwenn fizi…
There are no bombs, there are no guns…
Nou tout se yon fanmi’o!
We are all one, we all make one…
Nou tout se yonn, nou fe yon sèl…
Look, look around! Wow!
Gade, gade! Wipip!

Lapè, lanmou, la jwa; wi sa bèl’o!
Peace, Love, Joy; How beautiful!
Wi nou kontan, kontan;
We are content, we are happy;
wi sa bèl’o!
yes, How beautiful!

Men choublak tout koulè anvayi jaden mwen;
Flowers of all colors have taken over my garden;
Rosiyòl ak toutrèl ap fè
de la lajounen.
Nightingales and pigeons are singing scales all day long.
Bèt sovaj ak mouton
dòmè nan menm kabann;
Wild beasts and sheep
La kontantman gaye nan mitan tout savann.
are sleeping on the same bed;

Pou tout moun ki renmen,
For all those who love,
an nou rele “bravo!”
let us call out “Hurray!”
Pou tout moun ki sou la tè,
For all people on earth,
an nou rele “bravo!”
let us call out “Hurray!”
Pou la vi-a kap donnèn, an nou rele “bravo!”
For the blessings of life, let’s cry out “Hurray!”
Pou mizik tout koulè, an nou rele “bravo!”
For music of all colors, let us shout “Hurray!”

Bravo pou lanmou’a!
Hurray for the Love!
Bravo pou lavi’a!
Hurray for the Life!
Bravo pou mizik la!
Hurray for the Music!
Bravo pou lapè’a!
Hurray for the Peace!
Pou tout moun kap koute!
Hurray for all those who are listening!

Woy! Ala yon bèl bagay lè moun respekte
Wow! What a wonderful thing when people
moun;
respect each other;
Lè lapè ak lanmou simaye toupatou.  
Kèlkilanswa lakay, ositou nan travay,  
Lè nou tout fè yon sèl, se sak fè la vi-a bèl’o!

La vi-a bèl’o! Gade, gade!

Tout zanmi kap koute, nou pa dwe jann bliye,  
Sak fè la vi-a bèl, se lè yonn renmen lòt.

Gade ki jan la vi-a bèl’o.  
Gade ki jan kè mwen kontan’o.  
Wipip!!!

When peace and love is spread everywhere.  
Whether at home or at work,  
When we all become one, life is amazing!

Life is beautiful! Look around, just look around!

To all friends listening, we must never forget,  
Life is beautiful when we love one another.

Look how amazing life is.  
Look how happy my heart is.  
Wow!!!

Peace I Leave With You  
*John 14:27*

Peace I leave with you,  
my peace I give unto you:  
not as the world giveth, give I unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled.

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**Jephte**

1. Historicus:  
Cum vocasset in proelium filios  
Israel rex filiorum Ammon  
et verbis Jephte acquiescere noluisset,  
factus est super Jephte Spiritus Domini  
et progressus ad filios Ammon  
votum vovit Domini dicens:

2. Jephte:  
"Si tradiderit Dominus filios Ammon  
in manus meas, quicumque primus  
de domo mea occurrerit mihi,  
offeram illum Domino in holocaustum."

3. Chorus:  
Transivit ergo Jephte ad filios Ammon,  
ut in spiritu forti et virtute Domini  
pugnaret contra eos.

1. Narrator (Leah Rosenmann):  
When the king of the children of Ammon  
made war against the children of Israel,  
and disregarded Jephthah's message,  
the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthe  
and he went on to the children of Ammon,  
and made a vow to the Lord, saying:

2. Jephte (Cooper Johnson):  
"If You will indeed give the sons of Ammon  
into my hand, then whoever comes first  
out of the doors of my house to meet me,  
I will offer him to the Lord as a sacrifice."

3. Chorus (Chamber Choir):  
So Jephthe crossed over to the sons of Ammon  
with the spirit, strength, and valor of the Lord  
to fight against them.
4. Historicus:
Et clangebant tubae et personabant tympana et proelium commissum est adversus Ammon.

5. Historicus:
Fugite, cedite, impii, perite gentes, occumbite in gladio. Dominus exercituum in proelium surrexit et pugnat contra vos.

6. Chorus:
Fugite, cedite, impii, corruiete, et in furore gladii dissipamini.

7. Historicus:
Et percussit Jephte viginti civitates Ammon plaga magna nimis.

8. Historicus:
Et ululantes filii Ammon, facti sunt coram filiis Israel humiliati.

9. Historicus:
Cum autem victor Jephte in domum suam reverteretur, occurrens ei unigenita filia sua cum tympanis et choris praecinebat:

10. Filia:
"Incipite in tympanis, et psallite in cymbalis. Hymnum cantemus Domino, et modulemur canticum. Laudemus regem coelitum, laudemus belli principem, qui filiorum Israel victorem ducem reddidit."

11. Filia/Soprano:
Hymnum cantemus Domino, et modulemur canticum, qui dedit nobis gloriam et Israel victoriam.

12. Filia:
Cantate mecum Domino, cantate omnes populi, laudate belli principem, qui dedit nobis gloriam et Israel victoriam.

4. Narrator (Avi Kahn and Lea Obermüller):
And the trumpets sounded, the drums resounded, and battle against Ammon ensued.

5. Narrator (Samuel Boyce):
Flee, give way godless ones; perish, foreigners! Fall before our swords, for the Lord of Hosts has raised up an army, and fights against you.

6. Chorus (Chamber Choir);
Flee, give way, godless ones! Fall down! And with our raging swords, be scattered!

7. Narrator (Lea Obermüller):
And Jephte struck twenty cities of Ammon with a very great slaughter.

8. Narrator (Ellie Beams, Leah Rosenman, Francesca Hellerman):
And the children of Ammon howled, and were brought low before the children of Israel.

9. Narrator (James Blasdell):
When Jephte came victorious to his house, his only daughter was coming out to meet him with tambourines and with dancing. She sang:

10. Daughter (Carolyn Mielke):
"Strike the timbrels and sound the cymbals! Let us sing a hymn and play a song to the Lord, let us praise the King of Heaven, let us praise the prince of war, who has led the children of Israel back to victory!"

11. Filia/Soprano (Carolyn Mielke and Lea Obermüller):
Let us sing a hymn and play a song to the Lord, who gave glory to us and victory to Israel!

12. Filia (Carolyn Mielke):
Sing with me to the Lord, sing all you peoples! Praise ye the prince of war, who gave glory to us and victory to Israel!
13. Chorus:
Cantemus omnes Domino,
laudemus belli principem,
qui dedit nobis gloriam et Israel victoriam.

14. Historicus:
Cum vidisset Jephte, qui votum Domino
voerat,
filiam suam venientem in occursum, in dolore
et lachrimis scidit vestimenta sua et ait:

15. Jephte:
"Heu mihi! Filia mea,
heu decepisti me, filia unigenita,
et tu pariter,
heu filia mea, decepta es."

16. Filia:
"Cur ergo te pater, decipi,
et cur ergo ego
filia tua unigenita decepta sum?"

17. Jephte:
"Aperui os meum ad Dominum
ut quicumque primus de domo mea
occurrerit mihi, offeram illum Domino
in holocaustum. Heu mihi!
Filia mea, heu decepisti me,
filia unigenita, et tu pariter,
heu filia mea, decepta es."

18. Filia:
"Pater mi, si vovisti votum Domino,
reversus victor ab hostibus,
cee ego filia tua unigenita,
offer me in holocaustum victoriae tuae,
hoc solum pater mi praesta
filiae tuae unigenitae antequam moriar."

19. Jephte:
"Quid poterit animam tuam, quid poterit te,
moritura filia, consolari?"

20. Filia:
"Dimitte me, ut duobus mensibus
circumeam montes, et cum

13. Chorus (Chamber Choir):
Let us all sing to the Lord,
let us praise the prince of war,
who gave glory to us and victory to Israel!

14. Narrator (Emily Ham):
When Jephte, who had sworn his oath to the
Lord, saw
his daughter coming to meet him, with anguish
and tears he tore his clothes and said:

15. Jephte (Cooper Johnson):
"Woe is me! Alas, my daughter,
you have undone me, my only daughter,
and you, likewise,
my unfortunate daughter, are undone."

16. Daughter (Carolyn Mielke):
"How, then, are you undone, father,
and how am I,
your only-born daughter, undone?"

17. Jephte:
"I have promised to the Lord that whoever comes
first out of the doors of my house
to meet me, I will offer him to the Lord
as a complete sacrifice. Woe is me!
Alas, my daughter, you have undone me,
my only daughter, and you, likewise,
my unfortunate daughter, are undone."

18. Daughter:
"My father, if you have made an oath to the
Lord, and returned victorious from your
enemies, behold! I, your only daughter
offer myself as a sacrifice to your victory,
but, my father, fulfill one wish to
your only daughter before I die."

19. Jephte:
"But what can I do, doomed daughter;
to comfort you and your soul?"

20. Filia:
"Send me away, that for two months
I may wander in the mountains, and with
sodalibus meis plangam virginitatem meam.


22. Chorus (Ellie Beams, Katie Sanborn, Noah Robie, Theo Cohen): Then Jephthah's daughter went away to the mountains, and bewailed her virginity with her companions, saying:

23. Filia/Echo (Carolyn Mielke/Avi Kahn and Lea Obermüller): Mourn, you hills, grieve, you mountains, and howl in the affliction of my heart!

24. Chorus (Concert Choir): Weep, you children of Israel, weep, all you virgins, and for Jephthah's only daughter, lament with songs of anguish.