



The Church  
for the Fellowship  
of All Peoples

**77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
**The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples**  
**A Classical Music Concert**

**Sunday, October 17, 2021**

**3:00 P.M.**





## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**CARL BLAKE** (piano) holds three degrees in piano performance: Bachelor of Music (*magna cum laude*) from Boston University, Master of Arts from San Jose State University, and Doctor of Musical Arts from Cornell University. Dr. Blake has performed to critical acclaim three times in Weill Recital Hall (formerly, Carnegie Recital Hall), Wigmore Hall (London) and L'Hermitage (Winter Palace of the Czars, St. Petersburg, Russia). In addition, he has toured in France, England, Central and South America, and the Caribbean Islands as Artistic Ambassador for the United States Department of State. Currently, he serves as Director of Music of The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco and serves on the Board of Directors of Noontime Concerts SF.

**WILLIAM (Bill) QUIST** (piano) was educated primarily at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. He came to the Bay Area in the early 1970s and has been an independent free-lance musician ever since. Primarily a chamber musician with a love for collaborating with singers, he has concertized and sung in a variety of venues including the Legion of Honor and De Young Museums, the Herbst Theatre, Mission Dolores, and Noontime Concerts SF. Mr. Quist is unique in the history of the San Francisco Symphony since he is the only musician to play for the chorus, sing in the chorus, and serve as an alternate in the symphony for piano and celesta. He is a charter member of the SF Chorale Artists and has sung with Berkeley Sacred and Profane. Bill has recorded for Pacifica's Reference Recording, RCA, Sony, and is published in Hal Leonard of Chicago. He is the first pianist engaged by Windham Hill Recordings that included a tour to Japan.

**BARBARA RICCARDI** (violin) graduated *magna cum laude* from Vassar College where she studied with Russian violinist Boris Koutzen and Casals disciple Luis Garcia-Renart both who kindled her love of chamber music. This inspiration led to a mentorship with the Guarneri String Quartet and its first violinist Arnold Steinhardt who became her sole teacher for many years. She joined the San Francisco Symphony under Seiji Ozawa and subsequently the San Francisco Opera Orchestra where the vocal masters continue to inspire. Ms. Riccardi is a founding member of the Temescal String Quartet as well as the Nipper Piano Trio and performs throughout the Bay Area.

**JONNA HERVIG** (viola) studied at the University of Iowa with William Preucil and later in New York City with Lillian Fuchs at Manhattan School of Music and with William Lincer at the Julliard School. Her chamber music studies took place with Lennox String Quartet, Julliard Quartet, and Guarneri Quartet. Ms. Hervig has played in festival orchestras of Aspen and Grand Teton and currently is a member of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra and violist of Temescal String Quartet.

**NANCY BIEN** (cello) obtained a Bachelor of Art degree from California State University at Hayward and Master of Art in music performance from the University of Iowa. After several years playing and teaching on the East Coast, she returned to the Bay Area where she has been an active freelance musician for many years. Nancy is assistant principal cellist of the Marin Symphony, is a member of the Berkeley and Vallejo Symphonies, and is the cellist of the Resonance Jazz Ensemble, a Bay Area jazz octet, and Temescal String Quartet.

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Johann Sebastian Bach** (1685-1750) is a German composer who had 20 children between two wives. He was equally prolific in music composition. Among his 1000+ works, one will find choral preludes written for church services.

**Thomas Wiggins** (1849-1908) was a 19<sup>th</sup> century mega star who had many different names but was best known as **Blind Tom**. He was a musical prodigy on the piano. Born into slavery, he showed an early interest in the piano by the age of four. Thomas composed prodigiously and carried a reported 7,000 pieces of all types of other composers committed to memory. Blind Tom, indeed, was not only one of the best-known African American performers of his time, but he was

also an American phenomenon and one of the top-grossing performers in the world. He rarely ever saw a penny of his earnings. Earnings were enjoyed by his legal guardians, the General James Neil Bethune family who originally purchased the Wiggins family and later granted them freedom.

**Ernest Chausson** (1855-1899) is a French composer who gave up a career of law practice (his father's choice), writing and painting to become a full-time composer. Unlike Bach whose creative output numbers 1000+ works, Chausson output was not prolific, numbering 39 published works partly due to his premature death at the age of 44 by a bicycle accident. Nevertheless, his compositions are of superior quality. Unjustifiably ignored, the piano quartet is a sublime composition that represents one of Chausson's great achievements. The first movement is brilliant and ebullient, exposing the composer's gift for melodic invention, ingratiating harmonies, and skillful craftsmanship. The second movement is one of the most moving slow movements of chamber music repertoire. The third movement is a dance-like and folk tune-like melody that is simple with balletic grace. The final movement is imbued with an anxious and anguished character contrasted with serene moments. In the end, themes from previous movements are recalled (recycled) and brought to a radiant culmination.

**COVID protocols will be followed**