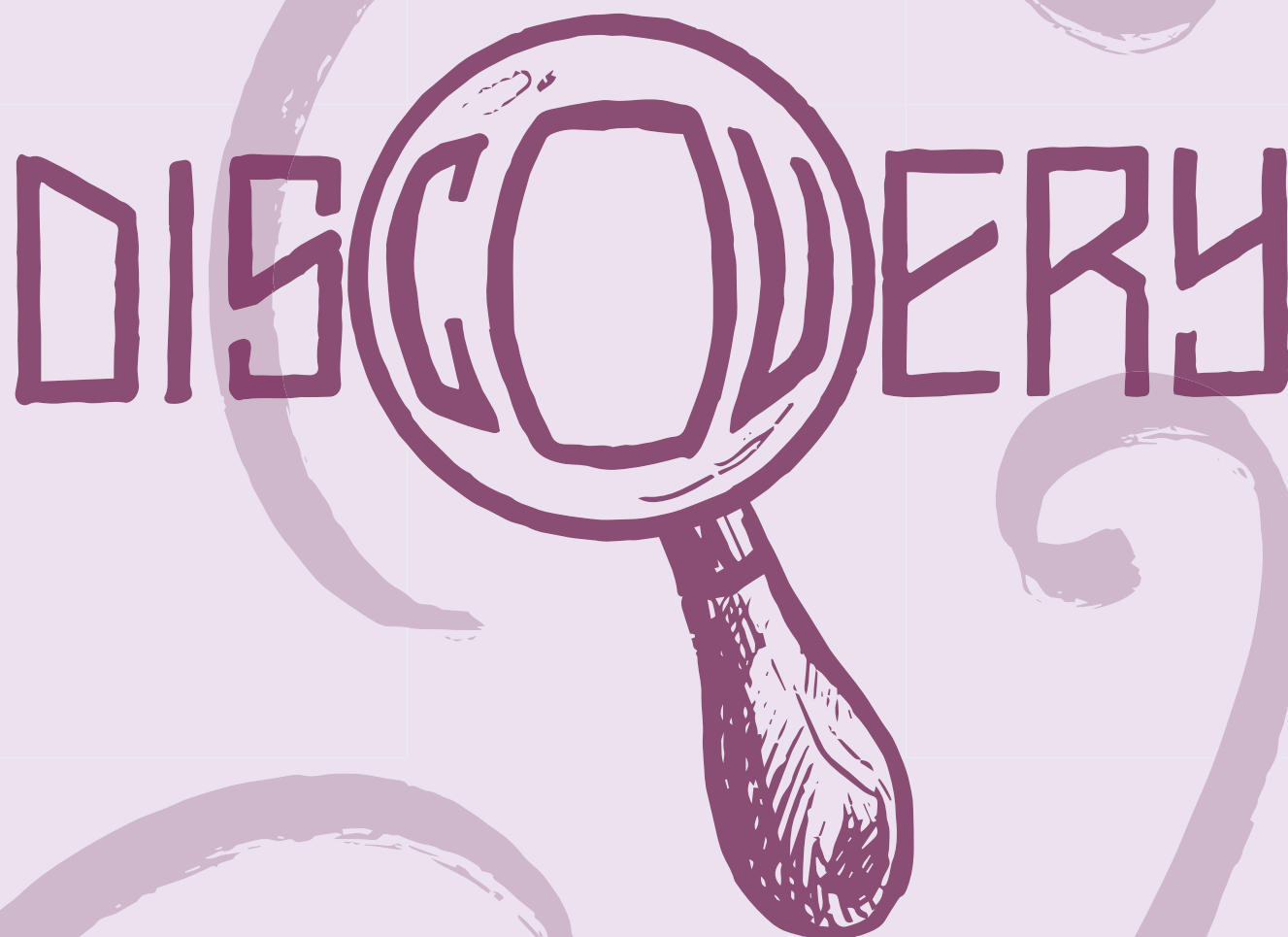


**Summer Choral Intensive
2025**



 **SCI@SDSU**

July 12, 2025 at 6PM

MEET THE CONDUCTORS



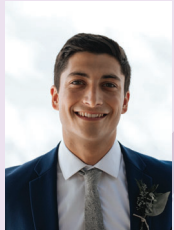
JUAN CARLOS ACOSTA - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, SACRA/PROFANA

Juan Carlos Acosta is a critically acclaimed American conductor specializing in contemporary vocal music who has led world and regional premieres of choral works by Anthony Davis, Saunder Choi, Sarah Kirkland Snider, Kim André Arnesen, Brandon Waddles, and others. He served as chorus master for the live world premiere of the film *Star Trek: Beyond* (Michael Giacchino), and the live premiere of music from the television series *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power* (Bear McCreary). In addition to contemporary works, Juan Carlos has conducted nearly twenty different masterworks for choir and orchestra, and served as musical director and conductor for six productions of *All Is Calm: the Christmas Truce of 1914*, including San Diego Opera's award-winning production, which was hailed as "excellent" by *Broadway World*, "masterfully conducted" by the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, and "nothing short of amazing" by *OperaWire*. Juan Carlos has made conducting appearances with the New York City Opera, Vancouver Chamber Choir, San Diego Opera, Bodhi Tree Concerts, and the Los Angeles Choral Lab. In addition to his role as Artistic Director, Juan Carlos serves as the Director of Worship at the Village Community Presbyterian Church, where he directs the Chancel Choir, Village Community Chorale, and Youth Choir.



KEITH PEDERSEN - PROFESSOR OF MUSIC, DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS, PLNU

Dr. Keith Pedersen is in his twenty-fifth year on the faculty of Point Loma Nazarene University. After graduating from Northwest Nazarene University, he returned to his native Canada to direct high school choirs for six years. While earning graduate degrees in choral conducting from Temple University and the University of Illinois, he also directed church and community choirs and conducted several orchestras. At PLNU he is the conductor of the Point Loma Singers, a chamber choir; the Choral Union, a 150+ voice choir of students and community musicians that sings choral masterworks with orchestra; and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble program. In addition to his conducting responsibilities, he has taught courses in music history, conducting, and voice. He has been a choral clinician on both the east and west coasts. Dr. Pedersen has also served as the Director of Choral Ministries at La Jolla Presbyterian Church for the last 21 years.



AARON BURGETT - ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR, SACRA/PROFANA

Aaron Burgett—an active director, composer, and performer—received his Bachelor's degree in Music Composition from PLNU, his Master's degree in Choral Conducting from SDSU, and now enjoys teaching and performing in a variety of styles. He has taught at schools and churches throughout San Diego County, working with students anywhere from the age of five to eighty-five. Currently, Aaron is the Director of Worship Arts at Solana Beach Presbyterian Church, as well as the Assistant Conductor of SACRA/PROFANA. When not making music, Aaron can be found filming weddings with his wife (Madeleine), playing fetch with their dog, or enjoying the Southern California sun on various outdoor adventures.

SUMMER CHORAL INTENSIVE 2025



JULY 12th, 2025 at 6PM
SDSU Main Stage Theater

SCI Choir

- Measure Me, Sky!.....Elaine Hagenberg
- April is in My Mistress' Face.....Thomas Morley
- Gnothi Safton (Know Thyself).....Jim Popoulis
- Hymn of Axiom.....Vienna Tang, arr. Robin Salkeld

SCI Faculty Choir

- I am a Voice that Sings.....Michael Bussewitz-Quarm

SCI Treble Choir

- O Antiqui Sancti.....Hildegard von Bingen, arr. Michael Engelhardt

SCI Tenor Bass Choir

- Veritas et Virtus.....Jacob Narverud

SACRA/PROFANA

- There is That in Me.....Ivo Antognini
- They are Mother.....Jennifer Lucy Cook

Combined Choir

- The Heavens are Telling.....F.J. Haydn

TONIGHT'S PERFORMERS

SUMMER CHORAL INTENSIVE CHOIR

SOPRANOS

Bailey Boltz
Macy Bourda
Jillian Bulat
Amanda Clifford*
Viktoryia Famina
Marlie Graham
Lavender Hartzell
Clara Kelly
Elsie Krotosky
Sophia Lunardi
Sonia Melvin
Eriyana Palacios
Hopelyn Southcombe
Rose Staples
Lucia Stezano
Elizabeth Tovey
Mariam Tovey
Abbey Treiber
Sarina Turk

ALTOS

Addison Bain
Leilani Goodman
Olivia Hibshman
Gracie Jacobs
Emma Kao
Alice Kim
Ashley Kim
Audrianna Leung
Sierra Liu
Maya McGreevy
Merille Joie Medina
Alexis Olaes*
Diya Ratnakumar
Phoebe Robinson
Genevieve Snyder

TENORS

Elisha Abraham
Timothy Chu
Michael Mansfield
Brynn Tyler
Korbin Werner*

BASSES

Joshua Le
Phoenix Nguyen*
Macksyn Peterson*
Brodie Rudolph
Artemis Valenti*

ACCOMPANIST

Jennifer Opdahl

* SCI Intern

SACRA/PROFANA

SOPRANOS

Justine Hansen
Jade Popper Loveless
Shannon Murray
Rebecca Ung
Libby Weber

ALTOS

Sonja Brun
Vanessa Dinning
Danielle Perrault
Michelle Risling
Elly Roseberry

TENORS

Aaron Burgett
Samuel Stephen Buse
Cole Tornberg
Sloan Quessenberry
Kurt Wong

BASSES

Uriah Brown
Adam Davis
Thomas Lokensgard
Kevin Martin
Jonathan Nussman

ACCOMPANIST

Paul Holtz

TEXT & TRANSLATIONS

MEASURE ME, SKY!

Measure me, sky!
Tell me I reach by a song
Nearer the stars;
I have been little so long.

Horizon, reach out!
Catch at my hands, stretch me taut,
Rim of the world:
Widen my eyes by a thought.

Sky, be my depth,
Wind, be my width and my height,
World, my heart's span;
Loveliness, wings for my flight.

APRIL IS IN MY MISTRESS' FACE

April is in my mistress' face,
and July in her eyes hath place,
within her bosom is September,
but in her heart a cold December.

GNOTHI SAFTON (KNOW THYSELF)

γνώθι σεαυτόν
ζωή
ευδαιμονία
γεια γνώση.
γεια σοφία
ομορφιά
αγιότητα, σύνεση,
θάρρος
ηθική αρετή
δικαιοσύνη
ξέρω Είμαι ζωντανός
δώσε μου δικαιοσύνη.
δώσε μου ζωή

Know thyself
life
bliss
hello knowledge
hello wisdom
beauty
holiness, prudence
courage
moral virtue
justice
I know I am alive
give me justice,
give me life

HYMN OF ACXIOM

Somebody hears you
You know that inside
Someone is learning the colours
of all your moods
Say just the right thing
and show that you're understood

Here you're known
Leave your life open
You don't have to hide

Someone is gathering every crumb you drop
These mindless decisions
and moments long forgot

Keep them all
Let our formulas find your soul
We will divine your artesian source in your mind
Marshal feed and force
Our machines will design you a perfect love
Better still, a perfect lust

Glorious! Glorious!
A brand new need is born
Now we possess you
You'll own that in time
Now we will build you an endlessly upward world
Reach in your pocket,
embrace you for all you're worth
Is that wrong? Isn't this what you want?
Amen

I AM A VOICE THAT SINGS

In the dark of night
In shades of fear
I'll reach within
Deep in my soul
To find the promised light
A dream to keep in sight
I am a voice that sings!

When all hope seems gone
On your path unknown
Feeling alone
I'll keep right on
And blend my voice with yours
To lift and reassure
I am a voice that sings!

I'm resolved to love
To be a force for change
My hand will hold
Your tender wounds
Together we will find
Something of grace and peace
I am a voice that sings!

When the flowers fade
When the stars grow dim
When the smile leaves
And tears appear
From deep within the heart
The song of life draws near
I am a voice that sings!
I am a voice that sings!
Together we will sing!

O ANTIQUI SANCTI

*O antiqui sancti,
quid admiramini in nobis?
Verbum dei clarescit
in forma hominis,
et ideo fulgemus cum illo,
edificantes membra sui
pulchri corporis.*

O ancient holy ones,
why do you marvel at us?
The Word of God gleams
brightly in human form
therefore we shine with him,
enhancing the parts
of his beautiful body.

VERITAS ET VIRTUS

*A solis ortu usque
ad occasum
veritas et virtus vincunt
Basis virtutum constantia,
et ipsa quidem virtus
pretium sibi.
Solo virtus invicta
est incendit vires
Veritas et Virtus!
Quaere verum:
res, non verba.
Fortis est veritas,
magna est veritas
et praeaevallebit.
Omnia vincit
Consilio manuq; abeunt
studia in mores.
Dura usu molliora
et usus promptos facit.
Empta dolore
docet experientia;
Labore dulcedo.
Aude aliquid dignum;
Aude sapere.
Aude acerbus et ingens.
Nitamur semper ad optima
et respice finem!*

From the rising to
the setting of the sun
truth and virtue conquer all
Constancy is the foundation
of virtue, and virtue
is its own reward.
Virtue alone is invincible-
it kindles one's strength.
Truth and Virtue!
Seek after truth:
facts, not words.
Truth is strong,
it is mighty,
and will prevail.
Truth conquers all things.
By work and wisdom
pursuits become habits
Difficult things become easier
and practice makes one ready
Experience out of pain
teaches;
Pleasures arise from labor.
Dare something worthy;
Dare to be wise.
Dare to be fierce and mighty.
Always strive for the best
and look to the final goal!

THERE IS THAT IN ME *Walt Whitman*

There is that in me—I do not know what it is—
but I know it is in me.
Wrench'd and sweaty— calm and cool
then my body becomes,
I sleep— I sleep long.
I do not know it— it is without name— it is a word unsaid,
It is not in any dictionary, utterance, symbol.
Something it swings on more than the earth I swing on,
To it the creation is the friend whose embracing awakes me
Perhaps I might tell more. Outlines!
I plead for my brothers and sisters.
Do you see O my brothers and sisters?
It is not chaos or death— it is form, union, plan—
it is eternal life— it is Happiness.

THEY ARE MOTHER

What shall I call this force I know
Who do I come to when I wonder
The space that holds me when I'm low
More than a parent, friend, or lover
They are Mover, they are Maker,
They are Mother.

They are the breath I see in cold
the ready muscle in the sprinter
They are the glitter and the gold,
the steady heat lamp in the winter
They are Mover, they are Maker,
They are Mother

They nod and know
They need nothing
They're god and grow
They bleed blessings
They are solitude
They are multitude
They are gratitude

Laugh lines around the all-seeing eye
And I can lean up into the sky

THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING

The heavens are telling
the glory of God
the wonder of his work
displays the firmament.

Today that is coming speaks it the day,
the night that is gone to following night.

In all the lands resounds the word,
never unperceived, ever understood.

ABOUT SACRA/PROFANA

SACRA/PROFANA redefines choral music by combining technical mastery with a dedication to diversity and inclusion in choral repertoire, and an eye toward social justice. The ensemble is acclaimed for its musical diversity; merging pop, classical, and contemporary music with its commitment to amplify the artistic voices of women and individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds, alongside traditional works.

As a nonprofit organization, SACRA/PROFANA is committed to innovative choral programming, renewed collaborations with local and regional artists/groups, and service to the surrounding community through unforgettable performances and education programs that change choral students' lives.

SACRA/PROFANA has accomplished remarkable things in 16 previous seasons, including numerous world and U.S. premieres and collaborations with leading regional arts organizations: San Diego Symphony, Art of Elan, San Diego Opera, California Ballet, and many more.

SACRA/PROFANA has also performed with many artists of worldwide renown, including the legendary Irish band the Chieftains, Producer Carlton Cuse (of ABC's hit show *Lost*), composer Michael Giacchino (*Star Trek*), and composer Alan Menken and Lyricist Stephen Schwartz in the development of Disney Theatrical's "*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*" at La Jolla Playhouse. Some recent highlights include performing the trailer for Amazon Pictures' "*Lord of the Rings: Rings of Power*" at Comic-Con 2022, and presenting the world premiere performance of the complete song cycle of Amy Gordon's "*Songs of Hope in Strange Times*." SACRA/PROFANA was also honored to receive the 2023 Chorus America Education and Community Engagement Award.

A debut album, "*Elegies & Ecstasies*," was released in 2012, and in 2014 SACRA/PROFANA produced the world premiere recording of "when we were children" by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer David Lang, available on the Cantaloupe Music record label. Their second album, "*A Longing for Christmas*" was released in 2021.

STAFF

JUAN CARLOS ACOSTA— Artistic Director
KRISHAN OBEROI— Founding Director
AARON BURGETT— Assistant Conductor
REBECCA UNG— Chorus Manager
JAMIE SWANN BEARDEN— Operations Assistant
JASPER SUSSMAN— Education Outreach Coordinator
ADAM DAVIS— Graphic Designer

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SUMMER CHORAL INTENSIVE STAFF

STAFF

DR. KEITH PEDERSEN– Director
JUAN CARLOS ACOSTA– Director
DR. ARIAN KHAEFI– Director of Choral Activity, SDSU
REBECCA UNG– Program Manager/Recruitment Coordinator
JENNIFER OPDAHL– Pianist
JASPER SUSSMAN– Soprano Section Leader/Recruitment Coordinator
ELLY ROSEBERRY– Alto Section Leader
AARON BURGETT– Tenor Section Leader
ADAM DAVIS– Bass Section Leader

INTERNS

AMANDA CLIFFORD
PHOENIX NGUYEN
ALEXIS OLAES
MACKSYN PETERSON
ARTEMIS VALENTI
KORBIN WERNER

SAVE THE DATES FOR SEASON 17 VALUE: UNKNOWN

SATURDAY, OCT 18, 2025
L.O.S.T.

Featuring Jason Carl Rosenberg's L.O.S.T. alongside Thomas Tallis' Lamentations of Jeremiah
San Dieguito United Methodist Church, 7PM

FRIDAY, DEC 12, 2025
Immeasurably Bright
Holiday Concert

St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 7PM

SATURDAY, FEB 28, 2026

The Infinite (and the Divine)

San Dieguito United Methodist Church, 7PM

SATURDAY, APR 25, 2026

Where the Sea Meets the Sky

Featuring guest conductor Saunder Choi
Chula Vista First United Methodist Church, 7PM

MANY THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Financial support for SCI is provided by the San Diego County Employees' Charitable Organization and the Arthur P. Pratt & Jeanette G. Pratt Memorial Fund. Support for our season is provided by the City of San Diego, and our many generous donors like you!

SPECIAL THANKS TO

DR. ARIAN KHAEFI
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
WENDY NAYLOR–*Volunteer Usher Coordinator*
ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH–
Rehearsal Home of SACRA/PROFANA

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SAN DIEGO, CA 92171-2049



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