

SACRA/PROFANA
presents



L.O.S.T.

Sat. October 18, 2025 7PM
San Dieguito United Methodist Church

A NOTE FROM THE COMPOSER

In this rare interwoven performance, Thomas Tallis' Lamentations of Jeremiah and Jason Carl Rosenberg's L.O.S.T. become a single architecture of mourning and remembrance. Across five alternating sections, reflections on loss from the 16th and 21st centuries inhabit the same sacred space—echoing, refracting, and completing one another.

Like its model, L.O.S.T. takes its structure from the Hebrew Bible's penitential "Book of Lamentations," which chronicles an attempt to understand and cope with a devastating loss—in particular, the sacking of Jerusalem. The Book of Lamentations is divided into 5 chapters; each chapter consists of 22-line acrostic poems, whereby each line begins with a different letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This is why Renaissance composers like Tallis always set to music Hebrew letters along with the Latin text. Likewise, the English language lyrics created for L.O.S.T. by Dr. Rosenberg contain 22 lines, each beginning with a different letter of the English alphabet. The four letters omitted from the list are, in alphabetical order: L, O, S, and T.

What emerges is not imitation but resonance—Tallis' lament, reframed through the prism of modern harmony and psychological depth. Together, these twin works offer a continuous reflection on devastation and hope, ancient faith and present grief, bound by the enduring human search for understanding.

– Jason Carl Rosenberg

JUAN CARLOS ACOSTA - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



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.

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The Lamentations of Jeremiah
Thomas Tallis

L.O.S.T.
Jason Carl Rosenberg

I. ALEPH

I. DENIAL

BETH

II. ANGER

II. GHIMEL

III. BARGAINING

DALETH

IV. DEPRESSION

HE

V. ACCEPTANCE

TONIGHT'S PERFORMERS

SOPRANOS

Justine Hansen
Katie Hickey+
Shannon Murray+
Hannah Park
Becca Ung

ALTOS

Sonja Brun
Sonja Hershkowitz
Leslie Leytham+
Ellie Mout
Michelle Risling

TENORS

Andrew Bearden+
Adam Ferrara*
Brad Fox
Cory Hibbs
Sloan Quessenberry
John Yokoyama

BASSES

Aaron Bullard+
Adam Davis^+
Thomas Lokensgard+
Angel Mannion
Sean Smith

*Rehearsal Accompanist

^Assistant Conductor

+Soloist

THE LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH

I. Incipit lamentatio Ieremiae prophetae:

ALEPH. Quomodo sedet sola civitas plena populo: facta est quasi vidua domina gentium, princeps provinciarum facta est sub tributo.

BETH. Plorans ploravit in nocte, et lacrimae eius in maxillis ejus: non est qui consoletur eam ex omnibus caris eius: omnes amici eius spreverunt eam, et facti sunt ei inimici. Ierusalem, Ierusalem, convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum.

II. De lamentatione Ieremiae prophetae:

GHIMEL. Migravit Iuda propter afflictionem ac multitudinem servitutis, habitavit inter gentes, nec invenit requiem.

DALETH. Omnes persecutores eius apprehenderunt eam inter angustias. Lugent, eo quod non sint qui veniant ad solemnitatem. Omnes portae ejus destructae, sacerdotes eius gementes, virgines eius squalidae, et ipsa oppressa amaritudine.

HE. Facti sunt hostes eius in capite, inimici illius locupletati sunt; quia Dominus locutus est super eam propter multitudinem iniquitatum eius: parvuli eius ducti sunt captivi ante faciem tribulantis. Ierusalem, Ierusalem, convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum.

I. Here beginneth the lament of Jeremiah the prophet:

1. How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people! How is she become as a widow! She that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces, how is she become a tributary!

2. She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers she hath none to comfort her. All her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they are become her enemies. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

II. From the lament of Jeremiah the prophet:

3. Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude; she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest.

4. All her persecutors overtook her within the straits. They mourn, because none comes to the solemn assembly. All her gates are desolate, her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she herself is in bitterness.

5. Her adversaries are become the head, her enemies prosper; for the Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions; her children are gone into captivity before the enemy. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

Ruben Valenzuela, Artistic Director

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L.O.S.T.

Text by
Jason Carl Rosenberg

DENIAL

Amaranthine walls cannot be breached
Boundless air within our lungs
Chimeras don't cloud the reality
Deathless fire on our tongues

Aleph
Beth
Gimel
Daleth

ANGER

Eviscerate the enemy
Fight and torment
Gorge on revenge 'til teeth are stained in blood
Hostility's the remedy
Incite and/the lament

He
Waw
Zayin
Heth
Teth

BARGAINING

Justice, can you spare me?
Know that I faithfully plead
Measure out my fate kindly?
Nullify my every misdeed?

Yodh
Kaph
Lamed
Mem

DEPRESSION

Pallbearers pull my broken heart
Quietly to a quarantined grave
Resigned to a life of a ragpicker
Unhinged, unhappy, unable to restart
Voided, vulnerable, unable to be saved

Nun
Samekh
Ayin
Pe
Sadhe

ACCEPTANCE

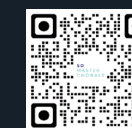
With due time we'll accept
Xanadu has run its course
Yes, we have wept
Zero remorse

Qoph
Resh
Shin
Taw



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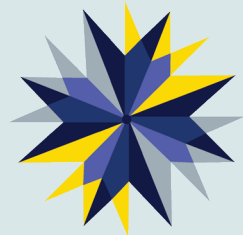
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ABOUT SACRA/PROFANA

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 2024, 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.

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- KRISHAN OBEROI- *Founding Director*
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