Stratford Concert Choir
sharing great choral music
Alexander Cann, Artistic Director

Messiah Soloists

Alasdair Campbell

Bass



Toronto-born baritone Alasdair Campbell's musical life began quite young when he joined the Choir at St James Anglican Cathedral. Having a licentiate in voice at McGill, Alasdair also holds a B.Sc. (Chemistry) from Carleton University. Alasdair has been a chorister with the Studio de Musique Ancienne de Montréal, the Ottawa Bach Choir, Temps Fort, and Ensemble ArtChorale.

Alasdair portrayed the Vicar in Britten's *Albert Herring* at McGill in fall 2018 and Papageno in spring 2019, a role he reprised with Allegra Chamber Music. In fall 2019 he performed as baritone soloist in Handel's *Messiah* with the Durham Community Choir and in Haydn's *Paukenmesse* with the Stewart Hall Singers. In spring 2021 he interpreted Belfiore in Verdi's *Un Giorno di Regno* at McGill. In fall 2021 he portrayed Halim with Chants Libres in the world premiere of Zad Moultaka's *L'Orangeraie*.

Other roles include Il Conte Robinson in Cimarosa's *Il Matrimonio Segreto* with OperOttawa, George Wilson in the premiere of Andrew Ager's *The Great Gatsby* in 2024 and the villainous Adolf in Dvořák's *Jakobîn* with Opera by Request. He also created Role 3 in the musical-poetic work *Songs of the Drowning* in October 2025 with Chants Libres in Montreal and sang Achille in *Giulio Cesare* with OperOttawa in November.

Allana Stevenson

Soprano



Allana is thrilled to be returning after her Stratford Concert Choir debut last season. She has been the choral scholar at Melrose United Church since 2014, under the direction of Alexander Cann, and was also the recipient of the Bach Elgar Choir's choral scholarship in the 2017-2018 season. As a gold medal winning pedagogue, Allana operates a piano and voice studio from her home in Hamilton. She has studied with notable vocal coaches Lita Classen, Tina Torlone, Michael Warren, and Ivan Jovanovic. Allana's most recent solo appearances include Handel's *Messiah* with the Bach Elgar Choir and the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, and the role of Marietta in the Stratford Concert Choir's *Sing Operetta* concert.

Celine Cascanette

Mezzo soprano



Celine is a passionate vocalist, songwriter, and voice teacher in Hamilton, Ontario. After completing her undergraduate degree in vocal performance at McGill University in Montréal, Celine acquired a master's degree in vocal pedagogy at the University of Toronto under the supervision of Professor Lorna MacDonald. Described as a "warm and lovely mezzo", Celine specialises in Western Classical concert music while also performing in contemporary genres, such as jazz, rock, country, folk, and more. She is as comfortable singing with her guitar as she is in a gown. In the concert world, Celine has performed with Chorus Hamilton, the Bach Elgar Choir, the Masterworks of Oakville Choir & Orchestra, the Hamilton Children's Choir, and regularly with Whispering River Music in her hometown of Parry Sound. Currently Celine runs a private voice studio in Hamilton while also being a voice instructor at Redeemer University for the "Music and Worship" program. Check out Celine's website to learn more: www.celinesings.com

Marcel van Helden

Tenor



Praised for his compelling stage presence and richly dynamic voice, Marcel van Helden brings both dramatic depth and vocal brilliance to a wide-ranging repertoire spanning opera and oratorio. He has portrayed major roles such as Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, Peter Quint and the Prologue in *The Turn of the Screw*, and the title role in *Idomeneo*.

As a sought-after soloist, Marcel has collaborated with numerous choirs and orchestras throughout southern Ontario, performing cornerstone works including Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the Rose Orchestra, Puccini's *Messa di Gloria* with Chorus Hamilton, and multiple productions of Handel's *Messiah* across the province. A graduate of Western University, he holds both a Master's degree and an Artist Diploma in vocal performance.

In addition to his artistic pursuits, Marcel holds an undergraduate degree in physics and works at the University of Guelph's NMR Centre. He also serves as chair of the board of directors for Grand River Opera, an opera company in Kitchener-Waterloo with a focus on community opera and hiring local artists.