

I Pressed On

An A Cappella Vocal Experience

Conducted by Nathan Bootsma

Saturday February 1 @ 7 P.M.

Southgate Alliance Church

3916 107 St NW, Edmonton

Tickets: \$20 (General), \$10 (Students)

www.ETownVMS.com

Concert Program

Mad World

Arranged by Elle Salvalaggio & Caleb Nelson - Written by Roland Orzabal

Crazy

Arranged By Caleb Nelson
Written by Brian Burton, Thomas Callaway and Gian Franco Reverberi

Lovely

Arranged by Jane Berry
Written By Billie Eilish, Finneas O'Connell & Khalid Robinson

Kiss

Arranged by Geoff Castellucci - Written by Prince

Roxanne's Havana Nights

Arranged by Jane Berry
Written by Camilla Cabello, Sting and Andrew Lloyd Webber

Run to You

Arranged by The Pentatonix

Intermission

And So it Goes

Arranged by Bob Chilcott

Man in the Mirror

Arranged by Caleb Nelson - Written by Glen Ballard & Siedah Garret

You've Got A Friend

Originally Performed by Carole King

Ahead By a Century

Arranged by Jane Berry - Written by The Tragically Hip

Hello

Arranged by Caleb Nelson

I Pressed On

From the Director

The inspiration for this program came from a topic that has been close to my heart in the last few years, and that is mental illness. I have had the distinct displeasure of entering into the journey of discovery, acceptance, and seeking help for my own mental illness; specifically depression and anxiety. It has been an incredibly rough road through this tunnel of darkness, and I am only now starting to be able to see a glimmer light off in the distance. I have family and friends, that are also on the same journey, who have been unbelievably supportive of me, and I couldn't be any more grateful. So, I wanted to perform a program that deals with this journey in some way.

The title of the concert "I Pressed On" is powerful on its own when read in the context of mental illness, but becomes even more powerful when you consider that "I Pressed On" is an anagram for the word "depression". In other words: if you take the word "depression" and change around the order of the letters you get the title of our concert.

Depression

Seed Prison

Dis Reopens

Sir Ed Peons

Presides On

I Pressed On

The idea of starting with depression and ending up with the words I Pressed On felt like the perfect parallel to the journey that I and so many others have been struggling with. So, the program we will be performing is exactly that: the arc of someone discovering and accepting what they are going through, then realizing they have people around them that love and support them, and ending with a mashup of songs who's titles imply an introduction of sorts. Ending with a mashup of songs with the word hello in the title may seem counter-intuitive, but in my experience when living with mental illness you have to continuously take time to check in with yourself and say "hello" so that you can be more aware of what you are feeling and in doing so become better equipt to move towards the light at the end of the tunnel instead of further into the darkness.

I would like to dedicate this concert to the person in my life who has been there for me at every bump and pothole of this journey, and who has been an incredible inspiration for me: my amazing wife, Arielle. She has been on her own journey through mental illness, all the while supporting me in pursuing my dream of a career in music, and loving me unconditionally as I poorly navigate my way through my own mental health journey. It was (and still is) rough for her, but *nevertheless she persisted*. Arielle, you are an absolute inspiration for me, and I am so grateful for your love and support. You never judge me for my bad days, you walk me through panic attacks, you encourage me to be more mindful of whats going on in my head, and all the while you never stop loving me. Words can't express how much you mean to me. I love you.

Now, without further ado, I Pressed On.

Nathan Bootsma
ETown Augmented Director

From the Board

We are thrilled to present our first concert of the 2019/2020 season! The beginning of this season has been an exciting time, marked by the welcoming of a new director, as well as the addition of some new faces to our coaching staff. This season we are excited to have elevated Nathan Bootsma to the position of ETown Augmented director. Joining him this cycle is returning coach and ETown Minors director Jane Berry, along with new coaches, Andrew Malcom, Jessica Heine and Chris Friesen. These new staff members have been a wonderful fit for our organization, and we are so happy they have chosen to be part of the ETown family. As a society we are also working to expand our reach into the community and continue to share our love of A Cappella music. We are so thankful that you have chosen to spend your evening with us tonight and hope you enjoy this celebration of A Cappella music!

Adrianna Scharmann
ETown Vocal Music Society Board Chair

ETown Staff

Nathan Bootsma

ETown Augmented Director



Nathan Bootsma is a multi-faceted freelance musician who enjoys wearing many different musical hats. He is the Director of Music Ministries at The Christian Reformed Church of St. Albert, where he is able to extensively use his passion for music and music education, and loves being able to contribute to the building of the music community. He is also the director of ETown Augmented, an un-auditioned adult acapella community pop/rock/jazz/etc. choir in Edmonton, and the Assistant Conductor of Ante Meridiem.

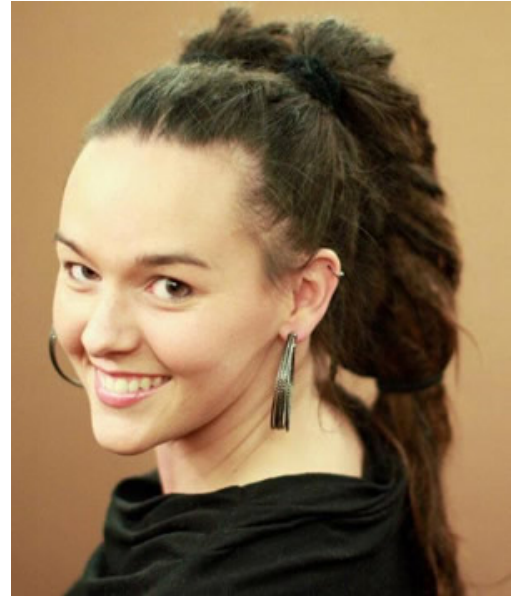
Nathan graduated from The King's University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music, which is where he caught the choral bug and became a huge music nerd. He now gigs all over the place, and is a founding member of The Copper Coins. Nathan is also a multi-instrumentalist as well as being an accomplished singer. He has sung extensively with Chronos Vocal Ensemble, was the Tenor representative for Alberta in the 2018 National Youth Choir, and sings in the professional choir Pro Coro Canada.

When he's not in some sort of rehearsal Nathan would like to be found on the golf course, where he, sadly, can't be found as often as he would like.

Jane Berry

ETown Minors Director/Alto Vocal Coach

Jane Berry is thrilled to have taken on the role of directing the Etown Minors this season. Jane comes from a diverse background of musical experience; she grew up singing in choirs from an early age, performing in both jazz and classical settings before eventually going on to begin her music studies at Acadia University where she completed a BMUS in Composition. She then continued to complete an MA at the University of Ottawa and came to Edmonton to pursue her PhD at the University of Alberta. She sings professionally with ProCoro Canada as well as with the new music group, Damn Magpies, and serves as section lead for ETown Augmented. Jane enjoys teaching at the University and is the proud mother of her beautiful daughter, Piper. When not singing, teaching, or spending time with Piper, Jane can be found composing & arranging music, painting, volunteering, and on the volleyball courts both competing and coaching.



Chris Friesen

Tenor Vocal Coach



Chris Friesen is an Edmonton-based tenor, composer, and alumni of the University of Alberta's Bachelor of Music program. As a musician, Chris is always striving to connect with others, exploring the complex worlds of mental health and hope through the lens of music. His music has been described as containing "a simple beauty that naturally expresses emotion in a deep and meaningful way".

He has written music for choirs throughout Canada with recent performances by the Kokopelli Choir Association, Winnipeg New Music Festival, and Mysterious Barricades: a cross-Canada concert series for suicide awareness, prevention, and hope. In 2019, Chris is looking forward to the premiere of his composition "Our Last Conversation" by The Organics, and the premiere of his "Yeats" song cycle for soprano and piano in Spring 2020.

An active vocalist in Edmonton's choral music scene, Chris currently sings with Òran, Pro Coro Canada, The Organics, and as McDougall United Church Choir's tenor section leader. He is excited to be joining the ETown Vocal Music Society as their tenor vocal coach for the 2019-2020 season!

Jessica Heine

Soprano Vocal Coach

Singer and songwriter Jessica Heine (Hi-na) charms audiences with her songwriting and dynamic voice. A fine arts graduate with a BMus in vocal performance, she revels in singing classical music, but her real passion is folk music and storytelling through song. This summer, she is releasing her first new album in almost 10 years, *Goodbye Party*; a record that explores farewells, some of them incredibly hard, others providing new opportunities and beginnings. In this new music is an optimism that showcases a hopeful strength of spirit that Heine breathes not only into her music, but her life as well.



Andrew Malcolm

Bass Vocal Coach

Andrew Malcolm has been involved with the Edmonton choral scene for over twenty years. A mechanical engineer by day, he spends much of his free time singing across the city. He has sung in numerous choirs and ensembles including Kokopelli, 'Nuf Sed, and Chronos Vocal Ensemble, among others. Andrew is currently an associate member of Pro Coro Canada and is a founding member of Edmonton-based vocal group 6 Minute Warning.

Over the course of his musical career he has had the pleasure to work with a variety of artists including Darmon Meader, Alvin Chea, Ben Folds, and Glass Tiger. He is delighted to be part of the ETown Vocal Music Society team!

Elle Salvaggio

Artistic Coordinator/Soprano Vocal Coach

Elle Salvaggio was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta. She moved to Winnipeg in 2008 to complete her Bachelor of Music from the University of Manitoba. While in Winnipeg, Elle was a member of two professional choirs. Elle currently sings with Chronos Vocal Ensemble and is an associate member of Pro Coro Canada. She does a variety of gigs in the Edmonton area and is very excited to be working with ETown Vocal Music Society. Elle's passion is singing, making music with others and has a love for early music!



Members of ETown Augmented

Sopranos

Alayne Bradley
Leanne Cairns
Laura Ferguson
Carrie Forrester
Deanna Halls
Jessica Heine
Ruth Gilliland
Kelsey Jasa
Sheryl Mayko
Debbie Nelson
Kim O'Leary
Anna Ramage
Kim Stubbs

Basses

Alex Cairns
Andrew Malcolm
Gerard Masse
Stephen Olesen

Altos

Kelly Burns
Gilian Daley-deGroot
Shani Gamble
Crystin Kilmarnock
Laura Kurylo
Theresa Laville
Robyn Patterson
Debbie Quast
Michele Sagert
Adrianna Scharmann

Tenors

Glynnis Dugan
Chris Friesen
Cassie House
Chris Moore
Darcy Morin
Craig Sagert

ETown Vocal Music Society

Board of Directors

Adrianna Scharmann - Chair
Craig Sagert - Vice-Chair
Cassie House - Treasurer
Robyn Patterson - Secretary
Alex Cairns - Director at Large
Leanne Cairns - Director at Large
Debbie Nelson - Director at Large

Acknowledgments



ETown Vocal Music Society is supported by the Edmonton Arts Council



We acknowledge the support of the province of Alberta through the Alberta Foundation for the Arts



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If you are interested in sponsoring the ETown Vocal Music Society and helping us to continue promoting a love for A Cappella Music in Edmonton please contact us today!