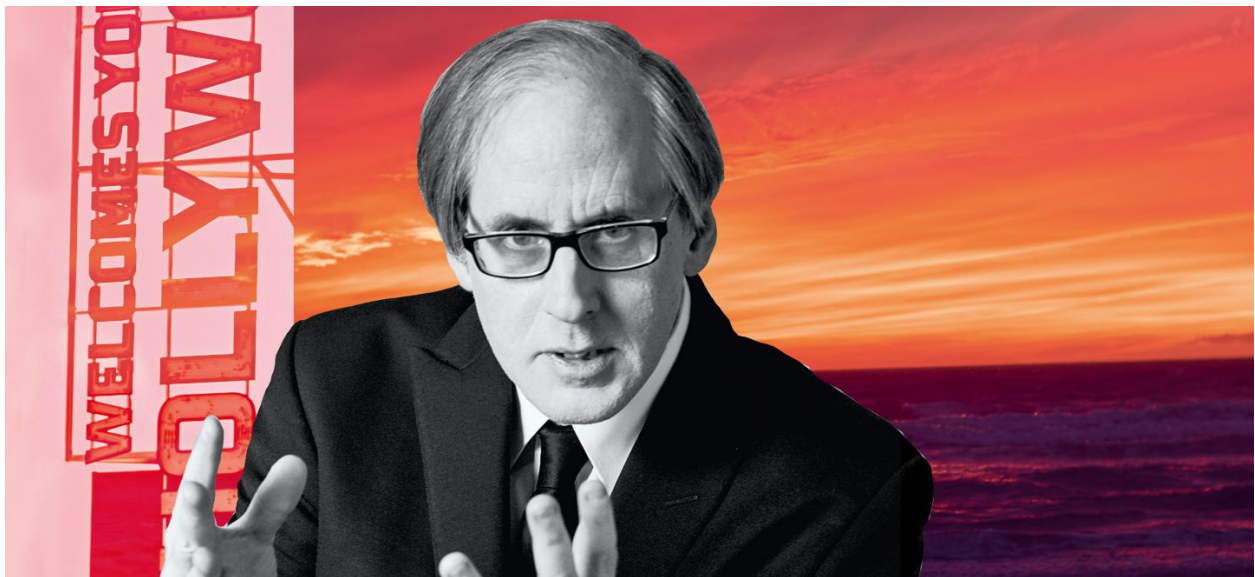


L O S A N G E L E S

MASTER CHORALE

**LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE TO PREMIERE
NEW SCORE BY COMPOSER JEFF BEAL FOR
SUNRISE: A SONG OF TWO HUMANS
IN LIVE-TO-PICTURE PERFORMANCE**



**Sunday, January 26, 2019 at 7:00pm
at Walt Disney Concert Hall**

LOS ANGELES (January 9, 2020) – The [Los Angeles Master Chorale](#), led by Grant Gershon, Kiki & David Gindler Artistic Director, presents the world-premiere live-to-picture performance of Emmy Award-winning composer [Jeff Beal](#)'s new score for F.W. Murnau's iconic silent film *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans* on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 7:00 pm at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Widely considered by many film critics and historians to be one of the greatest films ever made, *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*, starring George O'Brien, Janet Gaynor, and Margaret Livingstone, won the Unique and Artistic Picture award at the very first Academy Awards ceremony in 1929. It also won the award for Best Cinematography for Charles Rosher and Karl

Struss and Best Actress in a Leading Role for Janet Gaynor. For many of the film's admirers, the only flaw has been its soundtrack. Although one of the first-ever films with a synchronized musical score and sound effects, the music was drawn from various sources and not created for the picture. For this world premiere presentation, Jeff Beal (*House of Cards*) has created a new score for choir and chamber orchestra, bringing a human touch to the monochrome melodrama and reaffirming the Master Chorale's long association with the film industry so prominent in its home city. Most recently, the Master Chorale was invited by John Williams to record the soundtrack for *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*.

"Composer Jeff Beal breathes new life into *Sunrise*, and illuminates its timeless story of temptation, forgiveness and redemption with his powerful new score that masterfully unites the worlds of choral music and film scoring," says Jean Davidson, President and CEO, Los Angeles Master Chorale. "The beauty of this project is that it appeals to all. First timers and aficionados alike are in for a special experience."

"The opportunity to work with the superb Los Angeles Master Chorale to reimagine *Sunrise* with a new score is a particularly special experience," says Beal. "My wife Joan was once an ensemble member, and we have been regular attendees at Master Chorale performances for quite some time. The human voice is an extremely powerful and nimble instrument that brings an evocative sense of depth to the drama that unfolds in this timeless film."

Joining the Master Chorale for this world premiere performance are soloists Holly Sedillos, soprano, Suzanne Waters, soprano, and Dermot Kiernan, tenor. There will be a *Listen Up!* pre-concert conversation with Jeff Beal, Grant Gershon and Classical KUSC Radio Host Alan Chapman at 6:00 pm. Please visit <https://lamasterchorale.org/listen-up> for more information.

On Sun. Jan. 19 at 7:00 pm. the Master Chorale will host a panel discussion with Jeff and Joan Beal, Peter Golub, director of the Sundance Institute Film Music Program, and Janet Bergstrom, professor of cinema and media studies at the UCLA School of Theatre, Film, and Television, in Chorale Hall at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Please email events@lamasterchorale.org to make a reservation.

This program is made possible with generous support from donors to the Artistic Innovation Fund: Leeba R. Lessin, Philip A. Swan, and Priscilla and Curtis Tamkin; the National Endowment for the Arts; and Paul Lazarus and Kitty McNamee.

[ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE'S 2019-20 SEASON](#)

[ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE](#)

ABOUT JEFF BEAL

Jeff Beal is a composer for visual media and the concert hall. With musical beginnings as a jazz trumpeter and recording artist, his works are infused with an understanding of rhythm and spontaneity. Steven Schneider (The New York Times) proclaimed "the richness of Beal's musical thinking...his compositions often capture the liveliness and unpredictability of the best improvisation." His first critical notice came for his score to Ed Harris' theatrical release *Pollock*. Recent projects include the documentaries *The Biggest Little Farm*, *Blackfish*, *An Inconvenient Sequel* and *The Price of Everything*. Beal has received 18 prime-time Emmy nominations and won five statues for his music, including Netflix *House of Cards*, and HBO's *Rome* and *Carnivale*. Commissioned works for 2019-20 include a symphonic song cycle for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and a new ballet for the Buglisi Dance Theatre. Other recent works are a

Concerto for flutist Sharon Bezaly and the Minnesota Orchestra, "Six Sixteen Concerto" for guitarist Jason Vieaux, "Salvage Men" for the Los Angeles Master Chorale, "The Great Circle" symphony for the New West Orchestra, and "Oasis" for Smuin Ballet. Beal's music has been performed and recorded by the Boston Symphony Orchestra (Beal conducting), The National Symphony Orchestra (Beal), St. Louis (Marin Alsop), Pacific (Carl St. Clair), Berkeley (Kent Nagano) and Detroit (Neeme Jaarvi). A graduate of the Eastman School of Music, he and his wife Joan recently endowed and established the Beal Institute at their alma mater, to promote the study of film and contemporary media music creation.

CALENDAR EDITORS:

WHAT: [*Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*](#)

TICKETS: Tickets start at \$29 and are available by phone, 213-972-7282, or online at lamasterchorale.org.

WHEN & WHERE:

Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 7:00pm
Walt Disney Concert Hall
111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90012

DIRECTIONS & PARKING: Please visit <https://lamasterchorale.org/directions> for directions and parking information. Parking is available directly beneath Walt Disney Concert Hall. Enter on Second Street or Lower Grand Avenue. Regular parking costs \$9 beginning at 4:30 p.m. for evening concerts.

LOS ANGELES MASTER CHORALE MEDIA CONTACT:

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