

Samantics
presents

In Paradisum

world premiere performances
of a new work by Sam Schieber

Friday, April 15, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.
Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre
Vacaville

Saturday, April 16 - 7:00 p.m.
St. Clement's Episcopal Church
Berkeley

Sunday, April 17 - 4:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
Sacramento

An Interview with the Composer

Q: Why?

A: Why not?

Q: Okay, let's try again. What led you to write this music *now*?

A: A milestone birthday last year made me realize that if I was going to complete any of the multitude of projects running around in my brain, I'd better get to it.

Q: Weren't you a bit intimidated to take on such a big project?

A: Only a fool wouldn't be. No, not all.

Q: What background do you have that qualifies you to attempt a piece like this?

A: I know a whole lot of really bad music.

Q: And that applies how?

A: Well, if other people can write, perform and record bad music, why can't I?

Q: Are you saying "In Paradisum" is bad?

A: Modesty prevents my answering that. I'll leave it to others to say it's bad.

Q: How did you talk your chorus into this project?

A: I don't recall asking them.

Q: But this isn't the normal type of concert for Samantics, is it?

A: I don't know that I've ever heard the word "normal" applied to Samantics.

Q: I understand some of the music is complicated with a lot of different voices going on at the same time.

A: Should you spend any time with our singers, I think you would also find them complicated with a lot of different voices going on at the same time.

Q: And you were able to bring in hot shot soloists for this concert?

A: If you live long enough, the remaining few friends you have not alienated over the years may have a bit of free time on their hands, too. And never discount the value of blackmail.

Q: I'm going to give you once more chance. Do you have anything serious to share with the audience about "In Paradisum"?

A: I seriously hope several people will stay until the end.

Q: Ahem.

A: This piece is a coming together of many facets of my life: music, theatre, family, friends, joys, loss. I have been surrounded by music since infancy. My parents both sang and they enjoyed a wide range of musical taste—my mother leaning toward the higher end of the scale, as it were, and my father more toward Spike Jones. They were truly wonderful people and lived good lives. "In Paradisum" is, in great part, a tribute to my parents, and I think they may hear themselves in various parts of the music while listening in Paradisum tonight.

John G. Schieber, August 8, 1919 - April 14, 2004
June C. Schieber, June 19, 1923 - October 10, 2004

George Herbert

(1593-1633) was an English poet and Anglican priest who wrote to explore his relationship to God—whom he saw as not only his Lord, but also his friend. In Herbert's own words, his poems are "a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed between God and my soul." In his collection of religious poems, *The Temple*, Herbert explores his soul's inner architecture, which he called a "temple within the human heart." He believed that God's art—especially the language and symbols of the Bible—was intertwined with his soul.

Herbert's poetry comes across as deceptively simple, yet it is infused with self-irony and artistry, especially in the ways he constructs his poems and carefully chooses his words. Unlike his older friend and mentor, John Donne, Herbert voiced very few fears about his salvation or his sins, and was optimistic and confident in his faith. A favorite strategy was to explore theology through dialogue poems, where Herbert would have God appear, answer questions, resolve dilemmas, and offer reassurance.

In 1630, at the age of 37, Herbert took on the duties of a priest at the small village church of Bemerton, near Salisbury. There, in addition to his parish duties he revised his poems, played music, and participated in the services at the cathedral. In chronic bad health, Herbert lived only three more years.

The Voices of Samantics

Dorothy Bench ✦ Onalee Castelan ✦ Heather Clark
Sydney Christoffersen ✦ Jessica Futrell ✦ Christie Damm
Luther Hanson ✦ Anne Henly ✦ Carol Hoover
Natalie Jones ✦ Gary Levy ✦ Trella Malato
Autumn Malone ✦ Roy Mattice ✦ Christine Nicholson
Chris O'Banks ✦ Robert Rennicks ✦ Ryan Ritter
John Reilly Saunders ✦ Lisa Singh ✦ Ayana Smith
Quin Smith ✦ Sara Smith ✦ Lisa Snow ✦ Ian Staples
Mary Taloff ✦ Matt Van Zandt ✦ Orlanda Van Zandt
Quinten Voyce ✦ Eddie Voyce ✦ LoAn Wade
Jill Wagoner ✦ Kristi Webb ✦ Madeleine Wieland
Carolyn Wilson ✦ Barbara Zettel ✦ Jackie Zipp

Guest Soloists

✦ Mark Beams ✦ Kate Campbell ✦
✦ Natasha Collier ✦ Lesley Hamilton ✦
✦ Maureen Mette ✦ Betty Schneider ✦

Samantics Solists

✦ Sydney Christoffersen ✦ Robert Rennicks ✦ Lisa Singh ✦
✦ Quin Smith ✦ Lisa Snow ✦ Eddie Voyce ✦
✦ Quinten Voyce ✦ Madeleine Wieland ✦

Rehearsal Soloists

✦ Onalee Castelan ✦ Jessica Futrell ✦ Natalie Jones ✦
✦ Ayana Smith ✦ Jill Wagoner ✦

Mark Beams

is delighted to be part of the premiere of this wonderful work. He spent his career in international tax law and policy, first at the US Treasury Department, and later with General Electric Co. He still found time for some singing, including solo work with the Connecticut Chorale and the Connecticut Master Chorale, and in local performances of *La Traviata* and *Rigoletto*. While at Dartmouth College he sang with an a cappella group called the Aires, through which treasured friendships with Bob Rennicks and later Sam Schieber formed that now connect him to Samantics. Mark lives in Hanover, NH with his wife Ann, a retired Presbyterian minister.

Kate Campbell

made her recording debut in 1995 with the heart-rending *Songs From The Levee*. Since then, singer/songwriter Kate's a body of work has been matched by no one for its sheer display of broad-based, intimate artfulness. Campbell has performed at esteemed venues such as the Cambridge Folk Festival, Merlefest, Philadelphia Folk Festival, Port Fairy Folk Festival, Timpanogos Storytelling Festival and the National Storytelling Festival and has been featured on NPR's *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered* and *The Bob Edwards Show*. Her quirky song "When Panthers Roamed In Arkansas" appeared in the debut issue of The Oxford American's ultra-hip Southern Music series. katecampbell.com

Katasha Golier

is a student of the Victorino Studio and has performed in many different regional companies in the greater Sacramento area. She has been seen as the female lead in *The Tsar's Bride*, *La Boheme*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Suor Angelica*, *Otello*, *The Merry Widow*, *The Count of Luxembourg* and *Orpheus in the Underworld*. She has also performed as a soloist in Bach's *Magnificat*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Handel's *Creation* and *Messiah*. She is a fluent Russian speaker and resides in Sacramento with her husband, Christopher, and their doggie family.

Lesley Hamilton

is thrilled to be a part of the premier of *In Paradisium*. Before relocating to the East Coast, Lesley enjoyed a busy performing career in the greater Bay Area. She has collaborated with Sam on several projects, including "There's Always One You Can't Forget" - *The Songs of Alan Jay Lerner* at San Francisco's famed Plush Room and "You're Gonna Hear from Me" - *Songs from André Previn's Hollywood Years* at Sacramento's Geery Theatre (also featuring Brad Bong). Lesley performed the role of Helen Lawson in Samantics' legendary *Valley of the Dolls*. She recently appeared in *SCKBSTD*, written by Bruce Hornsby, at Signature Theatre in Washington D.C.

Maureen Mette

has appeared to critical acclaim at Opera San Jose, Sacramento Opera, West Bay Opera and Townsend Opera in such roles as Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni*), Lucia (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), Violetta (*La Traviata*), Königin der Nacht (*Die Zauberflöte*), *Curly's Wife* (*Of Mice and Men*) and *Musetta* (*La Bohème*). Equally at home in concert repertoire, she has appeared as soloist for the Sacramento Choral Society, Tahoe Music Festival, Music in the Mountains, The Sacramento Youth and Auburn Symphonies. Maureen recorded lead roles for composer Alva Henderson's *Far From the Madding Crowd* and Herve Kieffel's *Requiem*. She maintains a thriving vocal studio in Sacramento.

Betty Schneider

has been a friend of Samantics since its inception and had solo shows at both of its Cabaret Festivals. She has performed as a cabaret headliner to sold-out houses at San Francisco's Plush Room, and is known for being a dynamic musical theatre performer. She has held leading roles in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Cabaret*, *Grand Hotel*, *Nine*, *Sunday in the Park with George* and classically in *Dido and Aeneas*. Betty is a dedicated performing arts teacher and director who has served on the faculty of American Conservatory Theatre, The Performing Arts Project, Broadway Theatre Project and most recently as the Artistic Director for ArtsBridge Summer, San Francisco Regional Edition. bettyschneider.com

In Paradisum

Requiem Aeternam

Kyrie

Natasha Collier

Hostias

Pie Jesu

Lesley Hamilton, Betty Schneider

Psalms 130

Gloria

Betty Schneider

Antiphon

Natasha Collier, Lesley Hamilton, Betty Schneider
Kate Campbell, Mark Beams, Quinten Voyce

Sanctus

Robert Rennicks, Maureen Mette
Lesley Hamilton, Betty Schneider, Mark Beams, Quinten Voyce

Virtue

Sidney Christoffersen, Lesley Hamilton
Mark Beams, Quin Smith

Pie Jesu

Natasha Collier

Lacrimosa

Maureen Mette, Lisa Singh

Agnus Dei

Lesley Hamilton, Betty Schneider
Lisa Singh, Madeleine Wieland

The 23 Psalm

The Lost Sheep

Kate Campbell, Lisa Snow

Gloria Aeterna

Recordare

Natasha Collier

A Dialogue - Anthem - Christian/Death

Madeleine Wieland

Gentle Jesus

Kate Campbell
Natasha Collier, Lesley Hamilton, Betty Schneider

Liberate Me

Maureen Mette, Mark Beams

In Paradisum

Mark Beams, Robert Rennicks, Eddie Voyce

Requiem Aeternam

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.
Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,
Et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.
Exaudi orationem meam.

Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord.
A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Zion,
And a vow shall be paid to thee in Jerusalem.
Hear my prayer.

Kyrie

Kyrie, eleison!
Christe, eleison!
Kyrie, eleison!

Lord, have mercy!
Christ, have mercy!
Lord, have mercy!

Hostias

Hostias et preces tibi, Domine
laudis offerimus
tu suscipe pro animabus illis,
quarum hodie memoriam facimus
Fac eas, Domine, de morte
transire ad vitam.
Quam olim Abrahae promisisti
et semine eius.

We offer sacrifices and prayers of praise to you, Lord,
Accept them on behalf of those souls
whom we remember this day:
permit them, Lord,
to pass from death to life,
as once you promised to Abraham
and to his seed.

Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Gentle Jesus, Lord, grant them rest.
Gentle Jesus, Lord, grant them eternal rest.

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I cried to thee, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears attentive be to the voice of my supplication. If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquity, Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared. I waited for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning. Let us hope in the LORD: with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is redemption. And he shall redeem us from our iniquity. Out of the depths have I cried to thee, O LORD.

Pie

George Herbert

I made a posie, while the day ran by:
Here will I smell my remnant out, and tie
 My life within this band.
But time did beckon to the flowers, and they
By noon most cunningly did steal away,
 And wither'd in my hand.
My hand was next to them, and then my heart:
I took, without more thinking, in good part
 Times gentle admonition:
Who did so sweetly deaths sad taste convey,
Making my minde to smell my fatal day,
 Yet sugring the suspicion.
Farewell deare flowers, sweetly your time ye spent,
Fit, while ye liv'd, for smell or ornament,
 And after death for cures.
I follow straight without complaints or grief,
Since, if my scent be good, I care not if
 It be as short as yours.

Antiphon

George Herbert

Chorus Praised be the God of love,
Men Here below,
Angels And here above:
Chorus Who hath dealt his mercies so,
Angels To his friend,
Men And to his foe;

Chorus That both grace and glorie tend
Angels Us of old,
Men And us in th' end.
Chorus The great shepherd of the fold
Angels Us did make,
Men For us was sold.

Chorus He our foes in pieces brake;
Angels Him we touch;
Men And him we take.
Chorus Wherefore since that he is such,
Angels We adore,
Men And we do crouch.

Chorus Lord, thy praises should be more.
Men We have none,
Angels And we no store.
Chorus Praised be the God alone,
Who hath made of two folds one.

Sanctus

Revelation 4 and 5

After this I looked, and behold, a door was opened, opened in Heaven; and behold a throne was set in Heaven, and one sat on the throne. And before the throne there were four beasts, like a lion, a calf, a man, and an eagle. And they rest not day and night, saying:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,
which was and is and is to come.

And I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and beasts and elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying,

Blessing, honor and glory and power
Unto Him upon the throne

And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them heard I saying,

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus!

And they fell down and worshiped Him that liveth for ever and ever.

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus!

Dominus Deus Sabaoth!

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis!

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God of hosts!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Virtue

George Herbert

Sweet day, so cool, so calm, so bright,
The bridall of the earth and skie;
The dew shall weep thy fall to-night;
For thou must die.

Sweet rose, whose hue angrie and brave
Bids the rash gazer wipe his eye;
Thy root is ever in its grave,
And thou must die.

Sweet spring, full of sweet dayes and roses,
A box where sweets compacted lie;
My music shows ye have your closes,
And all must die.

Only a sweet and virtuous soul,
Like season'd timber, never gives;
But though the whole world turn to coal,
Then chiefly lives.

Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pie Jesu, Domine, dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Gentle Jesus, Lord, grant them rest.
Gentle Jesus, Lord, grant them eternal rest.

Lacrimosa

Lacrimosa dies illa, That day will be one of weeping,
Qua resurget ex favilla when the guilty man will rise again from
Judicandus homo reus. the ashes in order to be to be judged.

Huic ergo parce, Deus: Therefore spare this one, O God,
Pie Jesu Domine: gentle Lord Jesus:
Dona eis requiem. Amen. Give them rest. Amen.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi
dona eis requiem.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
give them rest.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
give them rest everlasting.

The 23 Psalm

George Herbert

The God of love my shepherd is,
And he that doth me feed:
While he is mine, and I am his,
What can I want or need?

He leads me to the tender grasse,
Where I both feed and rest;
Then to the streams that gently passe:
In both I have the best.

Or if I stray, he doth convert
And bring my minde in frame:
And all this not for my desert,
But for his holy name.

Yea, in deaths shady black abode
Well may I walk, not fear:
For thou art with me; and thy rod
To guide, thy staffe to bear.

Nay, thou dost make me sit and dine,
Ev'n in my enemies sight:
My head with oyl, my cup with wine
Runnes over day and night.

Surely thy sweet and wondrous love
Shall measure all my dayes;
And as it never shall remove,
So neither shall my praise.

The Lost Sheep

Luke 15:3-7

Well, his day's been easy and the grazing clear,
but the shepherd's weary as the night comes near,
and he whistles slowly and the dogs appear
to drive the flock to the fold.

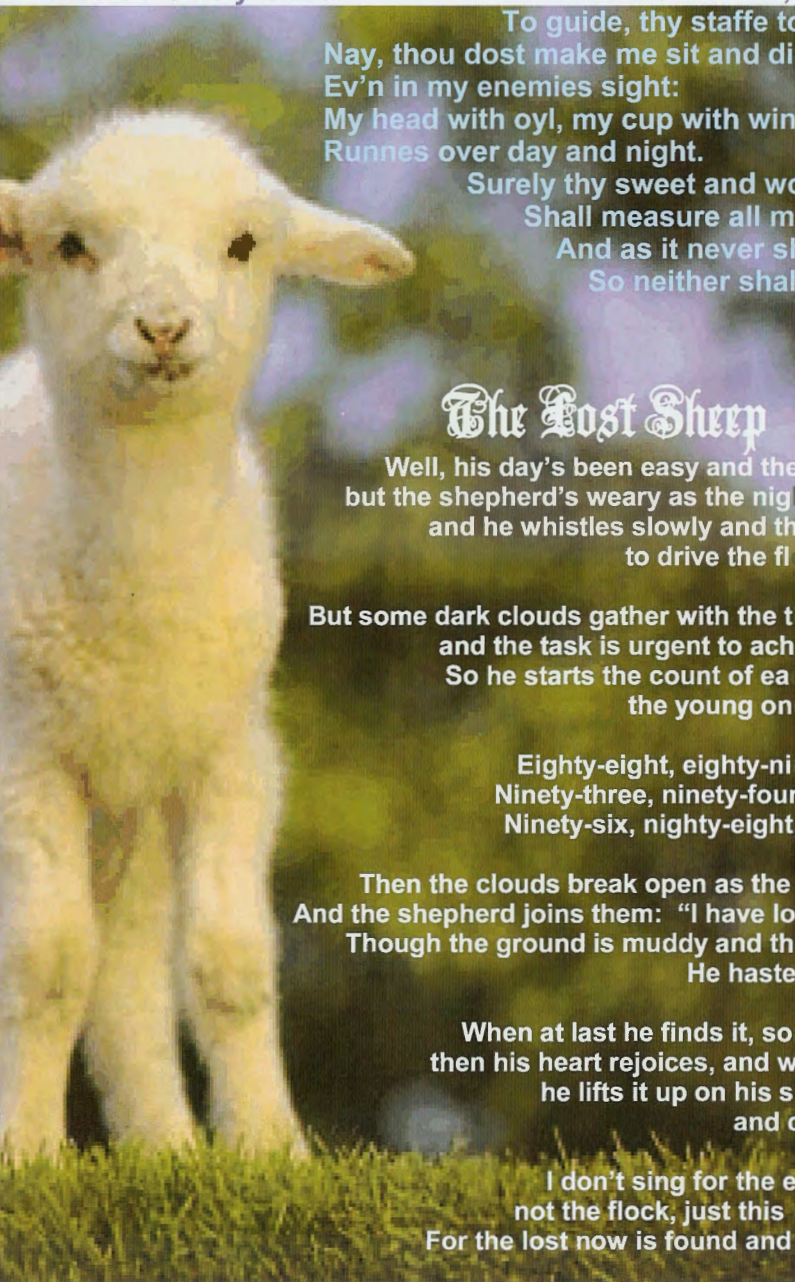
But some dark clouds gather with the threat of storm,
and the task is urgent to achieve the warm.
So he starts the count of each woolly form:
the young ones and the old.

Eighty-eight, eighty-nine, ninety-one,
Ninety-three, ninety-four, almost done;
Ninety-six, ninety-eight, ninety-nine ...

Then the clouds break open as the heavens weep
And the shepherd joins them: "I have lost one sheep."
Though the ground is muddy and the path is steep
He hastens on his way.

When at last he finds it, soaked and bare,
then his heart rejoices, and with gentle care
he lifts it up on his shoulders there
and carries it away.

I don't sing for the ewe or the ram,
not the flock, just this one little lamb.
For the lost now is found and I am rejoicing.



Lux Aeterna

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine.
Let everlasting light shine upon them, Lord.

Recordare, Jesu Pie

Recordare, Jesu pie;
Quod sum causa tuae viae;
Ne me perdas illa die.

Remember, gentle Jesus,
that I am the reason for your time on earth;
do not cast me out on that day.

Quaerens me, sedisti, lassus;
Redemisti crucem passus;
Tantus labor non sit cassus.

Seeking me, you sank down wearily,
you saved me by enduring the cross;
such travail must not be in vain.

Ingemisco tamquam reus,
Culpa rubet vultus meus;
Supplicanti parce, Deus.

I groan as one guilty,
with guilt my face blushes;
spare the suppliant, O God.

Rex tremendae majestatis--
qui salvandos salvas gratis;
salve me, fons pietatis.

King of awful majesty--
You freely save those worthy of salvation;
Save me, fount of pity.

Confutatis maledictis
Flammis acribus addictis,
Voca me cum benedictis.

When the damned are confounded
and consigned to keen flames,
call me with the blessed.

Oro supplex et acclinis,
Cor contritum quasi cinis,
Gere curam mei finis.

I pray, suppliant and kneeling,
a heart as contrite as ashes;
take care of my ending.

A Dialogue-Anthem

George Herbert

Alas, poore Death! Where is thy glorie?
Where is thy famous force, thy ancient sting?
Alas, poore mortall, void of storie!
Go spell and reade how I have kill'd thy King.
Poore Death! And who was hurt thereby?
Thy curse being laid on Him makes thee accurst.
Let losers talk: yet thou shalt die;
These arms shall crush thee,

Spare not, do thy worst.
I shall be one day better than before;
Thou so much worse, that thou shalt be no more.

Gentle Jesus

Gentle Jesus, gentle Lord, lead them to their just reward.
Give them everlasting rest, by your love caressed.
Bless them with eternal peace, from the cares of earth release.
Show them mercy without cease, gentle Lord Jesus.

Libera Me

Libera me, Domine, de morte aeterna in die illa tremenda
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra,
dum veneris judicare saeculum per ignem.
Tremens factus sum ego et timeo.

*Deliver me, O Lord, from eternal death on that awful day
when the heavens and earth shall be shaken
and you shall come to judge the world by fire.
I am seized with fear and trembling.*

In Paradisum

In paradisum deducant angeli:
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat
et cum Lazaro, quondam paupere,
aeternam habeas requiem.
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyrus
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.

*May the angels lead you into paradise;
and lead you into the holy city of Jerusalem.
May the Chorus of angels welcome you
and with Lazarus, once poor,
may you have eternal rest.*

*At your coming may the martyrs welcome you
and lead you into the holy city of Jerusalem.*

BIG
DAY OF GIVING
MAY 3

24 HOURS TO GIVE
WHERE YOUR HEART IS

bigdayofgiving.org

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016

Samantics has joined hundreds of other local groups for the annual Big Day of Giving, a regional effort to benefit local nonprofit groups. This May 3rd marks the third Big Day of Giving, and you can help Samantics with a BIG project!

We are recording the world premiere of "In Paradisum" to produce a CD of this concert, our first!

To help with this project, join us for an evening of *Samantics* at:

THE SATURDAY CLUB
125 W. Kendal Street
Vacaville
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Food, entertainment, raffles, prizes and lots of fun!

And here's how it will work: The minimum donation set by the Big Day of Giving is \$25 (more is always welcome, of course!). For that \$25 donation to Samantics, you will receive a copy of our "In Paradisum" CD as soon as it comes off the press! You will also play a big part in supporting Samantics' 2016-2017 season, our 8th!

Bonus awards are given to some participating groups for achievement in such ways as how many donors contribute to them in one hour. We have chosen 7:00-8:00 as our hour to try for this bonus donation that comes from corporate sponsors of the Big Day of Giving. **If you plan to donate for Samantics on May 3, but cannot join us in Vacaville, we ask that you make your donation online between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m.**

bigdayofgiving.org

THANKS for considering helping us with this BIG project!

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the generous support of these Friends of Samantics

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SAMANTICS

presents

Kate Campbell



"Her literate songs artfully skirt the border between country and rock with a few blues twists ... simplicity, sincerity, and sophistication run rampant here."

BOSTON GLOBE

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Arden Christian Church

4300 Las Cruces Way

Sacramento

TICKETS \$20 at the door

www.samanticschoir.org