MEMORIAL CONCERT

HONOURING

Ellen Wang

AUGUST 25, 2018

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
VANCOUVER, BC
Ellen Ay-Laung Wang was an extraordinary daughter, wife, mother, sister, musician, educator, and friend to many. All of us who knew Ellen can remember the kind and cheerful energy that poured from her heart and uplifted the spirits of others. We can remember the warmth of her captivating smile, and her ability to lighten the mood at any moment, regardless of the time or place.

My mom was only 48 when she suddenly passed away on August 25th, 2017. This loss was unbearable, and I thought to myself that my life would be nothing without her by my side. I struggled with the reality of no longer being able to see her bright smile or hear her beautiful laugh, and couldn't imagine mornings without being woken up by her practicing on her organ. Months of anxiety, pain, and struggle passed before I was able to understand that even though my mom was now physically gone, her beautiful spirit truly was still with me. In the times that I felt the most empty, I was always reminded that she was still there with me, and would continue to be forever.

If I had to use one word to describe my mom, I would say that the word “powerful” captures so much of who she was. Her gentleness was powerful. Her smile was powerful. Her kindness was powerful. There was power in her generosity, energy, humour, radiance, and ultimately, in her soul. After she passed away, so many people who knew my mom reached out to me, sharing with me the beautiful memories that they shared with her, and it has been so touching to see just how much of a positive impact her kindness and energy had on the lives of those who knew and loved her. My mom was and is so loved and valued, and knowing this brings so much joy to my family. I know that my mom will live through me as I move forward in life, applying the valuable things she taught me in all that I do. Her joy carries on in each of us, and I hope that we can all reflect on what we were able to learn from her in our time with her, allowing this to inspire us to accomplish more in her memory. I know that all of us who spent time with Ellen have a number of things in common. We admire the ability she had to cheer any person up. We are amazed by the musical talent, passion, and dedication that she had. We remember her love for ice cream of any kind. We can all be grateful for how much she loved to take selfies, as probably every single one of us has a picture with her from some point in time, where she most likely pulled out her selfie stick with excitement and made us take ten too many selfies with her. Ultimately, we can all look back on our times with her and feel joy, comfort, and peace, simply for the fact that we were so blessed to be part of such a beautiful life.

I hope that all of us who knew Ellen have had time to acknowledge the joy in the gift that her life was to all of us, as well as the pain that her passing has brought. In sharing the joy and the pain together, may the painful feelings be diminished and may we remember more clearly the joy, as she was always able to bring joy to others. It is so important to be quick to love, and to be slow to anger. It is my wish that we would always make sure to check up on our loved ones, to hold them close, and to treat them with unconditional love and care. It is truly the people around Ellen that made her so happy and filled her heart with endless love, so thank you all for being a part of Ellen’s life and for loving her. May we remember her for her beauty and for how special of a person she was, is, and always will be.

- Kaitlyn Schlappner and family
Memorial Concert Honouring Ellen Wang

Prelude "Nimrod" from Enigma Variations by Edward Elgar
Edward Norman, organ

Welcome & Prayer
Rev. Andrea Tisher

Congregational Hymn "All People That On Earth Do Dwell"
Led by Dr. Herbert Tsang

1. All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the
2. Know that the Lord is God indeed; He formed us
3. Because the Lord our God is good, His mercy
4. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all

Lord with cheerful voice. Serve Him with joy. His
all without our aid. We are the flock He
is forever sure. His faithfulness at
creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye

praises tell, come now before Him and rejoice!
comes to feed, the sheep who by His hand were made,
all times stood and shall from age to age endure.
heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Laudate Dominum by W. A. Mozart
  Robyn Dreidger-Klassen, solo,  Alessandra Reddekopp, violin
First Baptist Church Choir
  Roger Grose, conductor
Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace arr. MacDonald
  Jane Kim, piano

Heart Broken Flower by Yu-Hsien Deng, arr. Che-yi Lee
  Egret Music Centre
  (Taiwanese folksong 碎心花 鄧雨賢曲 李哲藝編曲)
  Ruth Huang, 1st violin
  Herbert Tsang, 2nd violin
  Angela Chen, viola
  Luke Kim, cello

Trusting in the Lord by Mu-shiang Wu
  Chinese Christian Church Choir of BC
  (倚靠主 劉麗紅詞 吳慕鄉曲)
  Frederick Ting, conductor
His Love Will Follow Me Forever by Mu-shiang Wu
  (慈愛永相隨 吳慕鄉曲)
  Lily Yew, pianist

Elegie by Marcus Petrunia
  Marcus Petrunia, piano

She is Our Precious by Min-chang Chen
  Vancouver Formosan Singers
  (伊是咱的寶貝 陳明章詞曲)
  Zoe Tsai, piano
You Raise Me Up arr. Roger Emerson
  Chor Leoni Men's Choir
  Erick Lichte, Artistic Director
  Ken Cormier, piano

We Rise Again arr. Stephen Smith

Canticle for An Angel by Michael Conway Baker
  Michael Conway Baker, piano

What A Friend We Have in Jesus by Tyzen Hsiao
  Vancouver Formosan Oratorio Society
  (至好朋友就是耶穌 蕭泰山曲)
  Cecilia Chueh, conductor
Let's Sing A New Song to the Lord by Fu-Yu Lin
  (向主耶和華唱新的歌 林福裕曲)
  Kunal Moorjani, piano
Toccata on "Kelvingrove" by Richard Elliott
(written in memory of Ellen Wang)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

text: John L. Bell ©1987 Iona Community
tune: KELVINGROVE

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Restore My Soul by Pepper Choplin
Vancouver Oratorio Society
Kemuel Wong, conductor
Danielle Lee, piano

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross by Lowell Mason, arr. G.M. Martin
David Poon, organ

Prayer of St. Gregory by Alan Hovhaness
Marcus Goddard, trumpet
Edward Norman, organ
Congregational Hymn  "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty"  Edward Norman, organ

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;

mer-ciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

falling down before thee, who wert and art and evermore shalt be.

there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love, and purity.

mer-ciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place by Johannes Brahms

(4th Mov. from Ein Deutsches Requiem)

members of:
- Vancouver Bach Choir
- TWU Masterworks Chorus
- Vancouver Oratorio Society
- Leslie Dala, conductor
- Stephen Smith, piano

Closing Words

Kontakion by Rupert Lang

Chor Leoni Men's Choir
- Erick Lichte, Artistic Director
- Edward Norman, organ

For you, God only are immortal, the creator and the maker of all;
and we are mortal, formed of the earth,
and to earth we shall return. Refrain.

For so did you ordain when you created me, saying,
“You are dust, and to dust you shall return.”
All of us go down to the dust;
yet even at the grave we make our song:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Refrain.
Ellen is deeply missed by her mother, husband, son, daughter, and all of her family. Through everything, they continue to find comfort and peace in their joyful memories shared with Ellen, many of which have been captured in photos. Ellen’s warm, giving heart never failed to shine through her smile and brighten any picture.
Words of tribute & remembrance

Ellen Ay-Laung Wang was part of the First Baptist Community for more than 20 years, on staff as our primary organist, and more recently as our choir accompanist as well. Her life brought much light, creativity and beauty. We are deeply honoured to host this event and to participate in it as a way to honour her life and to grieve her death with the wider community of people who knew and loved her.

-First Baptist Church, Vancouver

Since 2004, the Vancouver Bach Choir enjoyed working with Ellen for our annual Christmas concerts at the Orpheum Theatre. Ellen was always a pleasure to work with, being the perfect model of professionalism and kindness. Many of our young singers were charmed each year by her beautiful outfits and glamorous presence. Our musicians were charmed by her ease and facility with the challenging Wurlitzer organ present in the Orpheum. She was always bright, warm, enthusiastic and often came bearing chocolates. Ellen will be dearly missed by our members and often thought of.

- Vancouver Bach Choir

As part of VOS’ tradition, guest conductors have at times been invited to join us for extending our music horizon. In 2010 when Ellen was first introduced to us, she gained everyone’s attention by her exceptional talents, her devotion to high level music and her unfailing confidence in training us. Her witty sharing combined with her vivid facial expressions brought out most bountiful messages beyond speaking. With her broad perspectives, Ellen led VOS to explore a diverse spectrum of repertoires. Under her leadership and inspiration, we experienced music of vastly different cultures and genres, from Latin American to folk music, classical oratorio to modern, western to eastern; and from traditional instrumentals to pipe and drum. All the opportunities to accomplish challenging music performances were made possible pursuant to her passion to empower VOS with a new breeze of music that we were always strived to attain. Since 2013, we were blessed that Ellen had served as our Artistic Advisor/Conductor and organist. The beautiful memories of our wonderful time together with her smiles will stay in our hearts forever.

- Vancouver Oratorio Society

The Vancouver Formosan Singers were founded in June 1990 by a group of Taiwanese music lovers. Ellen, a very experienced and talented musician, was our conductor from 1998 to 2001. No matter what type of songs we sang- Chinese songs, Taiwanese folk songs, classical, or popular songs from other countries in different languages- she was able to use her magic and we would be able to pick it up right away. Those years were remarkable in our history. Our choir grew to include 98 members- the largest number in Formosan Singers history. Our choir’s biggest event is our annual concert. This year, on September 22nd, we would like to dedicate our 28th annual concert to Ellen. We all miss you, Ellen! And we are going to sing for you. We are sure you will be hearing us.
We love you, Ellen!

- Vancouver Formosan Singers

Ellen (王愛倫) was our honour and pride for her distinguished musicianship. She was respected and loved by so many who got to know her over her 30 years in Vancouver. We treasured the time working with her to support visiting musicians and musical groups from Taiwan, as well as serving the community through music. Ellen, you will be dearly missed!

- Egret Music Centre, resource centre of Taiwanese music in Vancouver