



Hallelujah, Praise!

Saturday, May 10, 2025

**Farewell Concerts for Gail Suderman, Artistic & Executive Director
Crystal Hicks & Warren Dean Flandez, Guest Artists
with Guest Community Vocalists**

Programme

We're Blessed

Soloist: Timothy Fuller

Written by Fred Hammond and Tommie Walker

Souled Out

Written by Nathan McNair and Ernest Bullock

Chasing Me Down

Written by Israel Houghton, Meleasa Houghton, Aaron Lindsey

Higher Love

Soloist: Adrienne Sweat

Written by Steve Winwood and Will Jennings

Victory

Soloist: Crystal Hicks

Written by Gregory Curtis

I Love the Lord

Soloist: Crystal Hicks

Written by Richard Smallwood

Today I'm Gonna Try and Change the World

Soloist: Gail Suderman

Written by Johnny Reid and Brent Maher

I Can Make It!

Written by Bryan Popin

Joy

Soloist: Warren Dean Flandez

Written by Warren Flandez, Karoline Volbek and Jamie Kuse

Love's In Need of Love Today

Soloist, Warren Dean Flandez

Written by Stevie Wonder

Good Noise Vancouver Gospel Choir and Guest Community Vocalists

Bridge Over Troubled Water

Soloists: Crystal Hicks and Gail Suderman

Written by Paul Simon

Jesus Be A Fence

Soloist: Crystal Hicks

Written by Sam Cooke

Put a Little Love In Your Heart

Soloists: Crystal Hicks and Warren Dean Flandez

Written by Jackie DeShannon, Randy Myers and Jimmy Holiday

Oh Happy Day

Soloists: Crystal Hicks and Warren Dean Flandez

Written by Edwin Hawkins

Thank You's

Christ Church Cathedral, Clergy and Staff | Front of House Manager, Josée Smith

Front of House Volunteers | Sound Engineer, Dylan Walmsley

Good Noise Vancouver Gospel Choir acknowledges the land on which we gather is the unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the

xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish),

Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Crystal Hicks, Guest Artist



Crystal was born into a musical family and grew up singing gospel music in choirs at church. Her mother and aunts sang and recorded gospel music and her father was a choir director and pastor of the First Baptist Church in Freeport, Bahamas for many years. Crystal's talent was evident early in her life, singing her first solo outside of the church at age 12 and taking 1st place in high school talent shows and vocal competitions. As a teenager, Crystal was asked to record two songs for a popular Bahamian songwriter and recording artist. One of the two songs, "It's Better in the Bahamas" won Crystal the award for Best Female Recording Artist and Best Overall Recording at age 17.

Crystal has recorded a gospel CD and has appeared with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, performed with the Toronto Mass Gospel Choir and the Canadian Tenors and appeared as guest artist on several television shows. Internationally, Crystal has performed throughout Canada, the United States, the Caribbean and the Philippines. Currently Crystal is a member of an 8-piece band called Horizon, performing a wide range of music from gospel and country to R&B, Jazz and Blues and continues as Music/Worship Director at "Life Centre", a multi-cultural church. Crystal has performed with Good Noise Vancouver Gospel Choir as Artist in Residence and most recently as featured soloist on two concert videos with the choir.

Warren Dean Flandez – Guest Artist



Warren Dean Flandez is a multi-award-winning, two-time JUNO-nominated recording artist, producer, director, educator, and philanthropist. Describing his music simply as "songs with purpose," Warren blends a soulfully charged, gospel-infused sound that can resonate with anyone with a heartbeat. Born in Yellowknife and calling Vancouver home, his artistry has led him to stages across the globe.

Throughout his career, Warren has earned eight Gospel Music Awards and two Western Canadian Music Awards, receiving accolades that include Best Gospel Album, Pop Album, Urban Album and Inspirational Album of the Year. His latest release, Love Song, was recognized with a Leo Award for Best Music Video, further cementing his impact in both music and visual storytelling.

Flandez is founding director of the Top Line Vocal Collective, a community vocal ensemble he has led for nearly a decade. This high-energy performance choir has played an instrumental role in raising hundreds of thousands of dollars for local charities, proving that music can be a powerful force for good. A devoted philanthropist, Warren has been actively involved with charities such as Canuck Place Children's Hospice, WarChild Canada, and The Kelty Foundation, using his platform to advocate for causes close to his heart.

Beyond music, Warren is a dedicated educator and University Instructor, committed to mentoring and shaping the next generation of artists and industry leaders. His passion for education extends into his work as founder of Studio Cloud 30, a Vancouver-based multidisciplinary artist development studio with multiple locations across Metro Vancouver, that provides hands-on training and professional development for emerging talent.

Through his many initiatives, including The Harmony Initiative Society (THIS) and The Clear Umbrella (TCU), Warren continues to champion artistic development, promoting harmony, belonging and wellness through music and education.

Gail Suderman
Artistic & Executive Director

As retiring Artistic & Executive Director of Good Noise Vancouver Gospel Choir, Gail Suderman has been at the helm since the choir's inception, directing the choir for 21 years. Through her visionary leadership, Gail has cultivated a vibrant choir known for its unmatched spirit of joy and deep-rooted connections, leaving an indelible mark on both the choir and broader community.

Throughout her tenure as director, Gail's commitment to inclusivity opened doors to individuals from diverse backgrounds to join in the exhilarating experience of singing gospel music. She built a choir recognized for its high-caliber

performances, dynamic audience engagement, active support of young people in their musical education via the creation of the Good Noise Young Artists Program and created opportunities for community members to experience the excitement of singing in a gospel choir through workshops and performances.

Under Gail's direction, the choir received several accolades and awards, repeatedly voted #1 favourite Choral/Opera group in the Vancouver Courier "Stars of Vancouver" Reader's Choice awards, and two nominations for the Canadian gospel music "Coventant" awards for the CD's she produced – the choir's Christmas CD, "Glory to the Newborn King" and gospel CD, "Shine the Light." In addition to countless sold-out concerts, Good Noise performed with Barbra Streisand, David Foster, Josh Groban, Holly Cole, Jim Byrnes, and been featured in appearances on CBC TV, CBC Radio, Global TV, CityTV, Bravo, Knowledge Network and Vision TV, and two nationally televised concert performances, one on the "Gospel To Go" gospel music series for Vision TV, and the second, "Tell It On The Mountain" for Bravo network.

As director, Suderman not only worked to create the powerful and compelling vocal sound of Good Noise, but also created the "Good Noise Gospel Band" – bringing together four esteemed musicians: Mike Kalanj (Hammond B3), Laurence Mollerup (Bass), Elliot Polsky (Drums) and Ingrid Stitt (Saxophones), who, along with Gail at the piano, packed a powerful and artistic musical punch as they accompanied the choir's signature sound.

Nominated for the YWCA Women of Distinction award in Arts and Culture and recognized for her contributions to the vibrant music scene throughout the Metro Vancouver region, Gail Suderman has been performing and teaching music for over three decades in both the classical and popular music worlds. Known both for her classical music career as a professor of voice, opera, and choral music and her vocal and piano skills as a Pop/R&B/Gospel musician, Gail has been as much at home directing a gospel choir as she is conducting orchestras and choruses in concert.

Never one to fully retire, Gail continues to be in demand as a voice teacher, pianist, conductor and workshop clinician and has recently created the community-based "Langley Christmas Choir." Gail is currently Music Director at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Langley, B.C.

GOOD NOISE GOSPEL BAND

Elliot Polsky – Drums

Vancouver-based since 1989, Elliot's unique approach sets him apart in the Vancouver music scene. His incredibly versatile and intuitive playing fits comfortably into a myriad of musical situations, both live and in the studio. Polsky has performed with countless groups and music artists including 2002 Juno Award winners Zubot and Dawson, Kelly-Joe Phelps, Jim Byrnes Acoustic Band, Colleen Sexton, Karin Plato, Pacifika, and Mariam Matossian, to name a few. Elliot travels extensively and has performed in various jazz and folk music festivals and venues in North America, Europe and Central America.

Michael Kalanj – Hammond B3

"Mike Kalanj's Hammond organ oozes sweetness." Read reviews of Mike's mastery on the Hammond B3 and you'll read of a musician who stands out in the musical world of the Blues, Gospel and R&B. His understanding and knowledge of the music and how to bring it to life on the one of a kind Hammond B3 keeps him in constant demand. Mike plays for the Powder Blues Band, Jim Byrnes and played for the late Long John Baldry as well as countless other musicians on stage and in the studio.

Laurence Mollerup – Bass

A mainstay of the West Coast Music Scene, Mollerup's versatility on both Electric Bass and Double Bass has him active in a wide variety of fields, including Classical, Jazz, Latin, and World Music. Laurence has performed with many symphony orchestras and choirs, including the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Victoria Symphony, and Vancouver Opera, and his jazz credits include work with Herb Ellis, Louis Bellson, Alan Matheson and Bud Shank/Phil Woods, Charlie Byrd, NOW Orchestra, Asza, Christine Duncan, and his own jazz quartet. He can be heard on CBC radio and at jazz and folk festivals across the country.

Ingrid Stitt – Alto & Soprano Saxophones

A native of Dauphin, Manitoba, Ingrid Stitt earned a BMus at McGill University in 1983 and went on to become one of the most sought after session and touring musicians in Montreal and Toronto. She has performed with the top freelance musicians in the country and several well-known recording artists such as Corey Hart, Rita McNeil, Tommy Banks, Jan McShann, Fraser MacPherson, Jake Hanna, Bo Diddley and Tom Scott. Since moving to Vancouver in 1995, she has pursued a teaching career, retired, and then returned to her teaching career, and continues to perform throughout the Metro Vancouver region, most recently at the Arts Club Theatre, playing in the pit band.

FOLLOW THE CHOIR

Website: www.goodnoisevgc.com

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Good Noise Vancouver Gospel Choir Board of Directors

President: Betty Nobel

Vice President: Irving Lau

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Treasurer: Kirk Mitchell

Members at Large: Adrienne Sweat, Gordon Li, Michelle Chin, Jennifer Higgin,
Pat Marilley-Bodner, Jameson Kelly

Choir Manager: Christine Jackson Spencer

Contact: info@goodnoisevgc.com



Good Noise
Vancouver
Gospel Choir