

MAURA TUFFY CONDUCTS JOBY TALBOT'S

PATH OF MIRACLES

April 14, 2024, 4:15 PM

St. James' in-the-City Episcopal Church,
Los Angeles



GREAT MUSIC AT SAINT JAMES

presents

JOBY TALBOT'S PATH OF MIRACLES

Maura Tuffy, conductor

PROGRAM

Path of Miracles

Joby Talbot
(b. 1971)

I. Roncesvalles II. Burgos III. León IV. Santiago

Path of Miracles will be performed without intermission
Please hold your applause until the end of the performance.

"I only went out for a walk and ... going out, I found, was really going in."
- John Muir, famous naturalist and conservationist

A walk isn't just a physical act. And the Camino de Santiago de Compostela isn't just a 500-mile path beginning at the Pyrenees Mountains and going through the Spanish countryside. This pilgrimage to Santiago—the town where the remains of the Apostle James are said to rest—is a physical, emotional, and spiritual journey. That path is the subject of British composer Joby Talbot's *Path of Miracles*, a work for 17 singers and percussion, with music set to text by Robert Dickinson. The piece's four movements trace the principal stops on the Camino: Roncesvalles, Burgos, León, and Santiago itself.

I. Roncesvalles. At the foot of the Spanish side of the Pyrenees mountains, where many pilgrims begin their walk. Talbot's music starts with chaotic overtones, eventually converging in piercing harmony.

II. Burgos. The great cathedral city of Castille, where many pilgrims feel weary and fatigued after long travels... Still, the path is only halfway done...

III. León. The seat of a medieval kingdom and a cathedral where light streams through stained-glass windows. Talbot spins a 6-note ostinato (loop) in the sopranos into a shimmering movement of illumination and hope.

IV. Santiago. The final destination of the path brings these words: "Santiago, Defender of pilgrims, warrior for truth... take from our backs the burdens of this life." As you listen to this work, allow your mind to wander, to walk for just a little while. What is it that you are walking towards in your own life? What are the obstacles that you will encounter, and what is it in your spirit that will help you overcome them?

—Program note by Suraj Partha, on-air host at Classical California KUSC

PATH OF MIRACLES

Texts and Translations

1. Roncesvalles

<i>Herr Santiago</i>	(Holy St. James
<i>Grot Sanctiagu</i>	Great St. James
<i>Eultreya esuseya</i>	God help us now
<i>Deius aia nos.</i>	and evermore.)

κατ εκεινον δε τον καιρον επεβαλεν ηρωδης ο βασιλευς τας χειρας κακωσαι
τινας των απο της εκκλησιας
ανειλεν δε ιακωβον τον αδελφον ιωαννου μαχαιρα

(James, son of Zebedee, brother of John, at that time preached in Spain
and the Western places. –*Breviarium apostolorum*, 8th century
He was the first to preach in Galicia. –*Mirages de Santiago*)

Eode-m autore tempore misit Herodes rex manus ut adfligeret quosdam de
ecclesia occidit autem Iacobum fratrem Iohannis gladio.

En aquel mismo tiempo el rey Herodes echó mano a algunos de la iglesia para
maltratarles. Y mató a espada a Jacobo, hermano de Juan.

Aldi hartan, Herodes erregea eliz elkarteko batzuei gogor erasotzen hasi zen.
Santiago, Joanen anaia, ezpataz hilarazi zuen.

Ver ce temps-là, le roi Hérode se mit à persécuter quelques-un de membres de
l'Église. Il fit mourir par l'épée Jacques, frère de Jean.

Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.
And he killed James, the brother of John,
with the sword.

Um dieselbige Zeit legte der König Herodes die Hände an, etliche von der
Gemeinde, sie zu peinigen. Er tötete aber Jakobus, den Bruder des Johannes,
mit dem Schwert.

Before this death the Apostle journeyed, / preaching the word to unbelievers.
Returning, unheeded, / to die in Jerusalem –
a truth beyond Gospel.

*Jacobus, filius Zebedaei, frate Iohannis, Hic Spaniae et occidentalia loca praedicat,
foy el o primeiro que preegou en Galizia.*

Herod rots on a borrowed throne,
while the saint is translated / to Heaven and Spain,
the body taken at night from the tomb,
the stone of the tomb becoming the boat
that carries him back *ad extremis terrarum*,
back to the land that denied him in life.

*Huius beatissimi apostoli
sacra ossa ad Hispanias translata;*

*Et despois que o rrey Erodes mãdou matar en Iherusalem, trouxerõ o corpo del os
diçipolos por mar a Galiz.*

(After King Herod killed him in Jerusalem, his disciples took the body by sea to Galicia.)

From Jerusalem to Finisterre, / from the heart of the world
to the end of the land / in a boat made of stone,
without rudder or sail. / Guided by grace to the Galician shore.

abandonnant à la Providence la soin de la sepulture.
(Abandoning to Providence the care of the tomb. –*Legenda* (Fr.))

O ajutor omnium seculorum, / O decus apostollorum,
O lus clara galicianorum, / O avocate peregrinorum,
Jacobe, suplantatur viciorum / Solve nostrum
Cathenes delitorum / E duc a salutem portum.

O judge of all the world, / O glory of the apostles,
O clear light of Galicia, / O defender of pilgrims,
James, destroyer of sins, / deliver us from evil and lead us to safe harbour.

At night on Lebredon / by Iria Flavia
the hermit Pelayo / at prayer and alone
saw in the heavens / a ring of bright stars
shining like beacons / over the plain
and as in Bethlehem / the Magi were guided

the hermit was led / by this holy sign
for this was the time / given to Spain
for St. James to be found / after eight hundred years
in Compostella, by the field of stars.

*Herr Santiago
Grot Sanctiagu
Eultreya esuseya
Deius aia nos.*

2. Burgos

*Innkeepers cheat us, the English steal,
The devil waits at the side of the road.
We trust in words and remnants, prayers and bones.*

We know that the world is a lesson
As the carved apostles in the Puerta Alta
Dividing the damned and the saved are a lesson.
We beat our hands against the walls of heaven.
St. Julian of Cuenca, / Santa Casilda, pray for us.
Remember the pilgrim robbed in Pamplona,
Cheated of silver the night his wife died;
Remember the son of the German pilgrim
Hanged as a thief at the gates of the town,
Hanged at the word of an innkeeper's daughter.

*Innkeepers cheat us, the English steal,
The devil waits at the side of the road.
We trust in words and remnants, prayers and bones.*

Santiago Peregrino:

His arm is in England, his jaw in Italy, / And yet he works wonders.
The widower, the boy on the gallows – / He did not fail them.

One given a horse on the road by a stranger,
One kept alive for twenty-six days,
Unhurt on a gallows for twenty-six days.
His jaw is in Italy, yet he speaks.
The widower robbed in Pamplona:
Told by the Saint how the thief
Fell from the roof of a house to his death.
His arm is in England, yet the boy,
The pilgrim's son they hanged in Toulouse
Was borne on the gallows for twenty-six days
And called to his father: Do not mourn,
For all this time the Saint has been with me.

O beate Jacobe.

*Innkeepers cheat us, the English steal.
We are sick of body, worthy of hell.*

The apostles in the Puerta Alta / Have seen a thousand wonders;

The stone floor is worn with tears, / With ecstasies and lamentations.
We beat our hands against the walls of heaven.

Santiago Peregrino:

The devil waits in a turn in the wind / In a closing door in an empty room.
A voice at night, a waking dream.

Traveller, be wary of strangers,
Sometimes the Saint takes the form of a pilgrim,
Sometimes the devil the form of a saint.
Pray to the Saints and the Virgen del Camino,
To save you as she saved the man from Lyon
Who was tricked on the road by the deceiver,
Tricked by the devil in the form of St. James
And who killed himself from fear of hell;

The devil cried out and claimed his soul.
Weeping, his companions prayed.
Saint and Virgin heard the prayer
And turned his wound into a scar,
From mercy they gave the dead man life.

*Innkeepers cheat us, the English steal, / We are sick
of body, worthy of hell.*

We beat our hands against the walls of heaven / And are not heard.
We pray for miracles and are given stories; / Bread, and are given stones.
We write our sins on parchment / To cast upon his shrine
In hope they will burn.

We pray to St. Julian of Cuenca, / To St. Amaro the Pilgrim,
To Santa Casilda, / To San Millan and the Virgin of the Road.
We pray to Santiago.

We know that the world is a lesson / As the carved apostles in the Puerta Alta
Dividing the damned and the saved are a lesson.
We pray the watching saints will help us learn.

*Ora pro nobis, Jacobe,
A finibus terrae ad te clamavi.
(From the end of the earth I cry to you. –Psalm 61)*

3. León

*Li soleus qui en moi luist est mes deduis,
Et Dieus est mon conduis.*

(The sun that shines within me is my joy, and God
is my guide. –Anon, 13th cen.)

We have walked / In Jakobsland:
Over river and sheep track, / By hospice and hermit's cave.

We sleep on the earth and dream of the road,
We wake to the road and we walk.

Wind from the hills / Dry as the road,
Sun overhead, / Too bright for the eye.

*Li soleus qui en moi luist est mes deduis,
Et Dieus est mon conduis.*

Rumours of grace on the road, / Of wonders:
The miracles of Villasirga, / The Virgin in the apple tree.
The Apostle on horseback – / A journey of days in one night.
God knows we have walked / In Jakobsland:
Through the Gothic Fields, / From Castrogeriz to Calzadilla,
Calzadilla to Sahagun, / Each day the same road, the same sun.

Quam dilecta tabernacula tua, Dominum virtutem.
(How admirable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts. –Psalm 84)

Here is a miracle. / That we are here is a miracle.
Here daylight gives an image of / The heaven promised by His love.

*Beate, qui habitant in domo tua,
Domine; In saecula saeculorum laudabant te.*
(Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will still be praising be. –Psalm 84)

We pause, as at the heart of a sun / That dazzles and does not burn.

4. Santiago

The road climbs through changing land.
Northern rains fall / On the deepening green of the slopes of the valley,
Storms break the summer's heat;
At Foncebadon a pass can be lost, / In one night, to the snow.

The road climbs for days through the highlands / of Bierzo,
to the grassland and rocks / of the Valcarce valley.
White broom and scrub-oak, / Laburnum and gorse
Mark the bare hills / Beside the road.

At O Cebreiro, mountains.
The road follows the ridgetop / By meadows of fern, by fields of rye.
By Fonfria del Camino, by Triacastela.
Towns are shadows / The road leaves behind.
It moves over the slate hills / Palas do Rei. Potomarin.
The names are shadows.

Then, from the stream at Lavacolla / To the foot of Monte de Gozo,
A morning;
From the foot of Monte de Gozo / To the summit of Monte de Gozo
The road climbs, / Before the longed-for final descent
To Santiago.

Herr Santiagu
Grot Sanctiagu
Eultreya esuseya
Deius aia nos.

Ver redit optatum / Cum gaudio,
Flore decoratum / Purpureo;
Aves edunt cantus / Quam dulciter,
Cantus est amoenus / Totaliter.
(Longed-for spring returns, with joy, adorned with shining flowers. The birds sing
so sweetly, the woods burst into leaf, there is pleasant song on every side. –*Carmina Burana*)

Jacobo dat parium / Omnis mundus gratis
Ob cuius remedium / Miles pietatis
Cunctorum presidium / Est ad vota satis.
(The whole world freely gives thanks to James; through his sacrifice, he, the warrior
of godliness, is a great defense to all through their prayers. –*Dum pater familias*)

O beate Jacobe / Virtus nostra vere
Nobis hostes remove / Tuos ac tuere
Ac devotos adibe / Nos tibi placer
(O blessed James, truly our strength, take our enemies from us and protect
your people, and cause us, your faithful servants, to please you.)

Jacobo propicio / Veniam speramus
Et quas ex obsequio / Merito debemus
Patri tam eximio / Dignes laudes demus.

(James, let us hope for pardon through your favor, and let us give the worthy praise, which we rightfully owe to so excellent a father.)

At the Western edge of the world / We pray for our sins to fall from us
As chains from the limbs of penitents.

We have walked out of the lives we had / And will return to nothing, if we live,
Changed by the journey, face and soul alike.

We have walked out of our lives
To come to where the walls of heaven
Are thin as a curtain, transparent as glass,
Where the Apostle spoke the holy words,
Where in death he returned, where God is close,
Where saints and martyrs mark the road.
Santiago, *primus ex apostolis*,
Defender of pilgrims, warrior for truth,
Take from our backs the burdens of this life,

What we have done, who we have been;
Take them as fire takes the cloth
They cast into the sea at Finisterre.

Holy St James, great St. James
God help us now and evermore.

—Robert Dickinson

About the artists . . .

Praised for her ability to produce "monumental" work (*New Classic LA*), conductor and soprano **Maura Tuffy** has established herself as a dynamic artistic leader. Maura currently serves as the Assistant Choral Director at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts and, in 2023, taught choral conducting at Cal State LA. From 2021-22, she served as the Principal Assistant Conductor for the Yale Camerata and as guest conductor/vocalist for New Music New Haven. She has worked with a breadth of conductors such as Masaaki Suzuki (Bach Collegium Japan), Marcus Creed (Danish National Vocal Ensemble), and Simon Carrington (Norfolk Chamber Music Festival). An avid ensemble singer, Maura has appeared with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Conspirare, Bach Collegium San Diego, Ensemble Altera, Cincinnati Vocal Arts Ensemble, Yale Choral Artists, Bach Vespers NYC, and the Choir of St. James' in-the-City. She has sung as a soloist under the batons of Masaaki Suzuki, Gabriel Crouch, and David Hill. Maura holds two Master's degrees in Choral Conducting from the Yale School of Music and Bachelor's degrees in Vocal Arts and Choral Music from the USC Thornton School of Music. www.mauratuffyartist.com

Kiyono McDaniel, Project Manager for tonight's performance, graduated magna cum laude from Chapman University in 2022, earning a B.A. in Psychology with a minor in music. Currently serving as the Membership Associate for the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Kiyono manages the annual fund and oversees the membership program Friends of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Additionally, her commitment to fostering the arts is further demonstrated through her involvement in Chorus Management for the Los Angeles Children's Chorus, where she brings a decade of experience as a former chorister. Her role extends to being the Project Manager for all *Path of Miracles* performances, showcasing her talent for fundraising and arts management. Kiyono's journey is a testament to her dedication to the world of choral music. With each career endeavor, Kiyono reaffirms her commitment to fostering creativity, community engagement, and the enduring power of the arts.

Ensemble

Sopranos: Addy Sterrett, Tamara Bevard, Claire Fedoruk, Rebecca Tomasko, Mingjia Chen

Altos: Sarah Lynch, Genie Hossain, Molly Yuko McGuire, Day Yang

Tenors: Pablo Corá, Michael Jones, Matthew Brown, Dermot Kiernan

Basses: Theo Trevisan, Matthew Nielsen, Brett McDermid, Ben Lin

Percussion: Lauren Kosty

A note from the Conductor and Project Manager . . .

We would like to take a moment to express our gratitude for your presence here today for this performance of Joby Talbot's *Path of Miracles*. Your support and enthusiasm mean the world to us, and we are honored to have the opportunity to share this music with you. As artists and arts advocates, we know that the energy and connection we feel with our audience is what makes each performance memorable.

Tonight, we embark on a collective pilgrimage through Talbot's gorgeous score. We are profoundly grateful to Canon James Buonemani and The Rev. Dr. Kate Cress for inviting us to perform this concert to help raise funds for Adullam House – a parish supported ministry that provides shelter, food, supervision, and transportation for elderly persons in Koreatown. To make a donation to help support this ministry, please scan the QR code, click "Get tickets" and scroll down to "Donation to Support Adullam House." Thank you!



Future events . . .

Please join us next Sunday, April 21 at 6 PM when *Classical Sundays at Six* presents pianist Andrew Brownell in a program of works by Rameau (*Entrée de Polimnie*), Schumann (*Davidsbündlertänze*) and Granados (*Valses poéticas*). On April 28 at 6 PM, the Los Angeles Symphonic Winds, conducted by Stephen Piazza, will perform Mozart's "Gran Partita" Serenade No. 10 in B-flat.

Please visit GreatMusicLA.org for a listing of our 2023/24 season of free concerts and other musical events.

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2023

October 8 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

October 15 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Martin Glicklich, flute & Friends

October 22 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Michele Zukovsky, clarinet &
The Capitol Ensemble

October 29 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
International Laureates Organ Series
Thomas Ospital

November 5 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

November 12 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Phillip Levy, violin
Tae Yeon Lim, piano

November 19 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Althea Waites, piano

November 26 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
YuEun Kim, violin &
Sung Chang, piano

December 3 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Samuel Nebyu, violin &
Jacopo Giacomuzzi, piano

December 10 | 4:15 PM
Advent Service of
Lessons and Carols
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

December 17 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Cristina Montes Mateo, harp &
Friends

2024

January 7 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Los Angeles Virtuosi Orchestra
Carlo Ponti, conductor

January 14 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

January 21 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
International Laureates Organ Series
Ryan Chan

January 28 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Tae Yeon Lim, piano

February 4 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Emerging Artists Series
Crossroads School
EMMI Chamber Orchestra
Alexander Treger, conductor

February 11 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

February 18 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Daniel Schlosberg &
Inna Faliks, duo pianists

February 25 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Duo Syncopa
Yue Qian, violin &
Tomomi Sato, piano

March 3 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Emerging Artists Series
Colburn Sinfonietta
Maxim Eshkenazy, conductor

March 10 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

March 17 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
International Laureates Organ Series
Nicole Keller

March 24 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
ICantori of Walla Walla University
Kraig Scott, conductor

April 7 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
International Laureates Organ Series
Adam Brakel

April 14 | 4:15 PM
Joby Talbot's
Path of Miracles
Members of the
Choir of Saint James & guests
Maura Tuffy, conductor

April 21 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Andrew Brownell, piano

April 28 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Los Angeles Symphonic Winds
Stephen Piazza, conductor

May 5 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Emerging Artists Series
Honors Ensembles from
The Colburn School

May 12 | 4:15 PM
Solemn Evensong
Choir of Saint James
James Buonemani, conductor

May 19 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
Pacific Trio

May 26 | 6:00 PM
Classical Sundays at Six
International Laureates
Organ Series
Bruce Neswick

