# ALL VOICES

## UUCC CHOIR

## PRESENTS

# WAILS

## songs for Grief

## Wednesday, NOVEMBER 18th

## 7:00PM

~$5-25 LOVE OFFERING~

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF COLUMBIA
2615 SHEPARD BLVD. • COLUMBIA, MO



# ALL VOICES:

Amanda Smith
Victoria Joy
Jim Fitzmaurice
Judith Davis
Robyn Allen
Christy Hutton
Lynn Rossy
Kyra Fogle
Katie Chancey
Claire Keeler
Lindsay Picht
Barbara Stone
Aaryn Johns
Stephen Mudrick
Joan Mudrick
Chris Mefford
Onyx Smith
Mary Beth Buffaloe
Jeff Ordway
Connie Ordway
Carol Snively
Arthur Smith
Megan Cates
Jim Borwick
Katherine Stone Underwood

**DIRECTED BY:**
Violet Vonder Haar

**INSTRUMENTAL SUPPORT BY:**
Victoria Joy
Sarah Davis
Erica Kallis
Sam Shin
Tony Lotven
Sam Buffaloe

**PASTORAL CARE BY:**
Molly Housh Gordon
Dottie Mathews

**LIGHTING BY:**
Jonathan Asher
Devin Goins



**SCAN TO MAKE A DIGITAL LOVE OFFERING**
(Select MUSIC in the drop down menu)

DONATIONS WILL HELP SUPPORT OUR MUSICIANS
AND THE WORK OF AHLAY BLAKELY

I. **DIVE** *ft. Violet Vonder Haar*
MY DARLING
EVERYTHING YOU LOVE
YOU WILL LOSE
YOU MAY ACCEPT THIS
OR YOU WON'T
YOU CHOOSE
EVERYTHING'S A GIFT
YET NOTHING LASTS AT ALL
THIS IS A PAINFUL TRUTH

**II. OPEN**

**III. WAILS** *ft. Connie Ordway, Lindsay Picht, Aaryn Johns, Jeff Ordway, Megan Kates, Katie Chancey, Kyra Fogle & Kat Stone Underwood*
COME STRANGER
WE DON'T NEED
TO KNOW EACH OTHER
BEFORE WE GRIEVE.
THIS GRIEF WILL LEAD
EXACTLY WHERE WE'RE MEANT
TO SEE ONE ANOTHER.
AND I WON'T TRY, I WON'T TRY
TO FIX YOU, FIX YOU, FIX YOU.
WILL YOU GO, WILL YOU GO
WILL YOU GO, WILL YOU GO
WILL YOU GO THERE
WITH ME?

**IV. BLOODLINES** *ft. Lindsay Picht, Connie Ordway & Aaryn Johns*
THERE ARE SONGS SINGING IN MY BONES
I CAN BARELY HEAR THE NOTES
THEY ARE OLDER THAN I KNOW

THEY SOUND LIKE
THE ONES I'VE NOT BROUGHT HOME YET
THE ONES I'VE NOT YET NAMED
THE ONES I'VE PUSHED AWAY

HOW CAN I BE WHOLE UNTIL ALL OF YOU...
ALL OF YOU I HAVE CLAIMED?
WHY DENY THIS LINEAGE?
IT'S WHY I AM ALIVE

## V. EVERYTHING IS CHANGE *ft. Katie Chancey & Kat Stone Underwood*

TO LOVE WHAT DEATH WILL TOUCH
TO LOVE WHAT COULD ABANDON US
IS TO ACCEPT THESE RITES OF GRIEF
IS TO OPEN UP TO VULNERABILITY
NOTHING EVER STAYS THE SAME
NOTHING EVER STAYS THE SAME
NOTHING EVER STAYS THE SAME
EVERYTHING IS CHANGE
EVERYTHING IS CHANGE

## VI. INITIATIONS *ft. Megan Cates, Connie Ordway, Onyx Smith, Kat Stone Underwood, & Jeff Ordway*

OH HONEY YOU'RE NOT LOST
YOU'RE WANDERING
WONDERING WHERE THE ELDERS HAVE GONE
OH HONEY YOU'RE NOT LOST
YOU'RE WANDERING
TO REMEMBER WHAT WAS MEANT TO BE FORGOTTEN

FROM THE VILLAGE WE'VE BECOME ISOLATED
STILL THE SOUL SEEKS TO BE INITIATED

WHAT MEDICINE IS THE DEEPEST WOUND SO HUNGRY
TO DEVOUR?
WAITING TO BE
ALCHEMIZED IN
OUR GREATEST POWER

## VII. SHAME SONG



IF I'M GONNA FALL
AND IF I'M GONNA CHANGE
MAY IT SERVE THE WHOLE
MAY IT TURN A PAGE

AND IF I'M GONNA FAIL
AND IF I'M GONNA LEARN
MAY IT SERVE THE WHOLE
MAY IT SERVE THE FUTURE ONES

I TOO DESERVE BELONGING
I TOO DESERVE TO HEAL
I TOO DESERVE ALIVENESS
I DESERVE TO COURT THE SHADOWS HERE

**VIII. ONE BODY** *ft. Jeff Ordway & Kyra Fogle*
I DON'T KNOW
IF WE WERE MEANT TO CARRY
SO MUCH GRIEF
IN ONE BODY

YET
WE ARE NOT ALONE
YET

**IX. APPRENTICE**
I TRUST THIS GRIEF TO
RETURN ME
AGAIN AGAIN AGAIN

THIS WORK IS HOLY
SOUL CLEANSING SLOWLY
AGAIN AGAIN AGAIN

**X. EMERGE**
NOTHING EVER STAYS THE SAME!
EVERYTHING IS CHANGE
EVERYTHING! EVERYTHING!

**XI. CLOSE**

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WAILS is a concept album by ahlay Blakely (recorded with 200 voices) entirely dedicated to grief inspired by Whales. This album is meant to be like sitting in a circle, a ceremony if you will, to honor grief in a culture that is grief-illiterate & grief phobic.
for... the Whales.



# ABOUT THE ARTIST

ahlay (Alexandra Blakely) is a mother, Whale dreamer, artist, and community organizer. Descended from Scandinavian and Ashkenazi folk, her work is shaped by Baltic and Arctic waters, generations of Brooklynites, and a second upbringing in Mexico. Her commitment is to breaking cycles of intergenerational trauma both caused and endured by her ancestors.