The Choral Foundation in the Midwest Presents the

INAUGURAL CONCERT

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: MISSA BREVIS IN D, K194, Classics & Spirituals

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit & Chamber Orchestra

Lynn Swanson & William O. Baker, DMA, Music Directors Steven McDonald, DMA, Organist

> Christine Freeman, soprano Jamea Sale, alto David White, tenor Michael Carter, bass

Sunday Afternoon, 27 July 2014 St. Paul's Episcopal Church Lee's Summit, Missouri

www.FestivalSingers.org

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit

William O. Baker, DMA

Co-Music Director, Lee's Summit Founder of the Choral Foundation

Lynn Swanson

Co-Music Director, Lee's Summit Executive Associate of the Choral Foundation

Christine Freeman

Associate Music Director/Senior Vocal Coach

Scott C. Smith

Choral Associate & Administrator, Atlanta

Jamea Sale

Choral Assistant, Kansas City

Charles Nelson

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Amy Thropp

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Thomas Sheets

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The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit



The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit was created in June 2014. Today's performance marks the inaugural public appearance of the Choral Foundation's newest ensemble.

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit continues the tradition that was called "the very best of amateur music-making..." by Pierre Ruhe of *The Atlanta Constitution*. Beginning with the original Summer Singers of Atlanta in 1990, the Choral Foundation has created five summer choruses that have involved over 400 participants from six states in 2014.

No audition is required for membership in the Summer Singers. All adults and mature youth from the age of 16 are invited to participate. Weekly rehearsals begin each June and culminate in performances with distinguished soloists and professional orchestras at the end of the summer. Past performances by Summer Singers choruses have included Beethoven: Symphony No. 9, Choral Fantasy & Mass in C, Mendelsohn's Elijah, Haydn's The Creation and Lord Nelson Mass, the Requiems of Brahms, Mozart, Durufle and Rutter, among many, many other masterworks. The 2015 2nd Summer Singers of Lee's Summit and Chamber Orchestra will perform the Requiem of Gabriel Faure and short-form works by French composers. Registration opens March 1, 2015. For information, please call the Choral Foundation at 913-403-9223, or email Mail@FestivalSingers.org.

The William Baker Choral Foundation, headquartered in Roeland Park, Kansas, supports choral ensembles based in Georgia, Kansas and Missouri. These include The William Baker Festival Singers and The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, semi-professional ensembles that have distinguished themselves in concerts, recordings, broadcasts and tours across the South, Midwest and Northeast. The newest ventures of the organization are the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit in the Missouri suburbs of Kansas City, and Zimria Festivale Atlanta, a chamber chorus celebrating the music of the Jewish heritage and works of Jewish composers, based in suburban Atlanta.



The Choral Foundation's continuing education program includes opportunities for Student Interns at the Master's level and Choral Scholars at the doctoral level. Thirty alumni of the program now serve in significant church, school and professional choral leadership positions across the nation. The Choral Foundation is the sponsor for Amber Waves Music Publishing, (www.AmberWavesPublishing.com) a creative house with over 50 titles by up and coming composers and arrangers.



Lynn Swanson, Music Director and Conductor, is a native of Atlanta, and an active leader in the musical arts there for nearly 30 years. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from Shorter University in Rome, Georgia, and has completed coursework for the Master of Music Education in Choral Pedagogy at the University of Kansas. She studied conducting with Dr. William Baker, Dr. James Daugherty, and Alexander Mickelthwaite. She has served as Music Director for several Greater Atlanta churches, building strong and diverse music programs in each. She was appointed Music Director & Organist for the St. Benedict's Episcopal Church in Smyrna,

Georgia in August 2011. In less than six months she created a children's music ministry in the young and rapidly growing congregation, and led an acclaimed performance of Handel's *Messiah* with the 70-voice choir and chamber orchestra before a standing-room-only audience from the parish and the wider community.

Ms. Swanson is the Founder of the Northside Young Singers, the Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, and the Cobb Summer Singers, in addition to her service as Associate Director and Vocal Coach of the William Baker Festival Singers in Atlanta. She serves as Executive Associate Music Director of the William Baker Choral Foundation. Recent choral/orchestral masterworks have included Handel's Messiah; Mozart's Solemn Vespers; Faure's Requiem; Schubert's Mass in G; Haydn's Te Deum, Beethoven's Mass in C, Vivaldi's Beatus Vir, in addition to Bernstein: Chichester Psalms & Missa Brevis; Handel: Dettingen Te Deum & Water Music Suite, Mozart: Exsultate Jubilate, Eine kleine Nachtmusik and Coronation Mass; Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F, Cantata No. 51 "Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen," and Magnificat. Her choral ensembles have been featured recently as headline performers at the Marietta Festival of Music, the Christmas Atlanta Festival, Arts International, and appear regularly at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival.

Dr. William O. Baker, Founder of the Choral Foundation



William O. Baker has earned a reputation as an entrepreneurial conductor and creator of choral organizations. He founded the DeKalb Choral Guild in 1978 at the age of 19. By the age of 21 he had conducted Brahms' German Requiem, Vivaldi's Gloria, Schubert's Mass in G, and Handel's Messiah with professional orchestras, launching a career of ambitious artistic leadership that now has extended over thirty-seven years. In the last few years he has conducted the St. Matthew Passion and the Mass in B minor of Bach, and the Sacred Service of Ernest Bloch, at the time of performances the only Kansas City-based conductor to lead the works in over a quarter-century.

Baker created the Atlanta-based William Baker Festival Singers, originally called "Gwinnett" Festival Singers, in 1985, and established the William Baker Choral Foundation in 1990. In 1998 the conductor moved his home to the Kansas City area and created the Kansas City ensemble of the Festival Singers. The Choral Foundation has created over a dozen ensembles based in three states, involving hundreds of singers in the course of any year. His choirs have performed for numerous conventions of the American Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the American Guild of Organists, in addition to the 1982 World's Fair and music festivals in the United States and Great Britain, most notably annual appearances before capacity audiences at Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival since 1989. He has led the Festival Singers in the production of 19 nationally released recordings, and in television and radio appearances across the nation, including *The First Art*, *The Sounds of Majesty* and National Public Radio's *Performance Today*.

No stranger to the orchestral podium, William Baker created the Mountain Park Wind Symphony in 1994, and the Kansas City Wind Symphony in 1998. Recent orchestral performances have included Vivaldi: *The Seasons*, Sibelius: *Finlandia*, Bach: *Brandenburg Concerto No. 2*, Bizet: *Suite L'Alesienne*, Haydn: *Symphony No. 59 "Fire*," Mozart: *Symphony No. 41*, Beethoven: *Symphony No. 7* and *Symphony No. 9*. Choral collaborations have included projects with members of the Kansas City Symphony, the Kazanetti Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra, the Kansas City Civic Orchestra, the Baton Rouge Symphony, the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra, and the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. He is Founder & Music Director of the Atlanta-based Orchestra of the American Heartland.

Dr. Baker served as Minister of Music for a number of significant Lutheran, Presbyterian and United Methodist congregations across the South and the Midwest. Major appointments have included the historic Grace United Methodist Church in Midtown Atlanta and The Village Church in suburban Kansas City, the nation's second largest Presbyterian congregation. Presently, he serves as director of The Cathedral Chorale, the choir for Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City's 8:00 AM Eucharist. He is the author of Hearts & Hands & Voices: Weekly Reflections on Music and the Church, published by Amber Waves Music.

An Atlanta native, Dr. Baker studied voice and choral conducting at Mercer University and the University of Georgia before culminating his formal education at the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago where he earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting. He holds the position of Associate Professor of Music at the Conservatory where he teaches applied conducting and choral methods. The Baker family makes their home in northeastern Kansas. Dr. Baker commutes weekly to serve conducting responsibilities in Georgia, Kansas and Missouri. His accomplishments have been recognized in his native state through proclamations by two Georgia Governors, Joe Frank Harris and Sonny Purdue, and United States Congressman Phil Gingrey. In 2012 he was honored for his lifetime contributions to the cultural life of his hometown by the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta.

THE WILLIAM BAKER FESTIVAL SINGERS

Dr. William O. Baker, Music Director & Conductor Christine Freeman, Associate Music Director & Vocal Coach Jamea Sale, Choral Assistant Dr. O. Wayne Smith, Organist

AUDITIONS



The William Baker Festival Singers has delighted audiences from Chicago to Atlanta and from New York to Texas since coming to Kansas City in 1998.

The Festival Singers' signature programming includes short-form sacred a cappella classics and spirituals in addition to masterworks of Brahms & Mozart in local concerts, a 2014 return engagement in Helzberg Hall, and Convocation 2015 in Atlanta.

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The Inaugural Concert Program

Sunday Afternoon, 27 July 2014 at 3:00 PM, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lee's Summit, Missouri

I

HEAVENLY LIGHT

Alexander KOPYLOV, 1854-1911 Carl Fischer Music 27966-3

Sent from heaven,

Thy rays were given on great and small to shine,

O Light Divine! May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly light.

Thou blessing to all creation, lead us to our salvation.

All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar.

O shine from above, Divine Light of Love!

Show us the way unto our God, we pray.

Thou, our Beacon and Guide, shalt be.

Light Divine, we praise Thee!

-From the Liturgy of the Russian Orthodox Church

Lynn Swanson, conducting

SICUT CERVUS

Giovanni Pierluigi da PALESTRINA, c1525-1594 The Choral Public Domain Library

Sung in Latin

As the deer longs for running water, So my soul longs for Thee, O Lord.

-Psalm 47

Ms. Swanson, conducting

П

HE WATCHING OVER ISRAEL

From the Oratorio "Elijah" Felix MENDELSSOHN, 1809-1847 The Choral Public Domain Library

He watching over Israel slumbers not, nor sleeps; Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, He will quicken thee. -Psalm 121:4

William Baker, conducting Steven McDonald, organ

THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING

From the Oratorio "The Creation" Franz Josef HAYDN, 1732-1809 The Choral Public Domain Library

The heavens are telling the glory of God, With wonders of His work resounds the firmament. Revealed are His ways by day unto day, The night that is gone to following night. In every land is known the Word, Every ear will hearken, never tongue be dumb.

-After Psalm 19:1-6

Christine Freeman, soprano David White, tenor Michael Carter, bass Dr. Baker, conducting Dr. McDonald, organ

Ш

MISSA BREVIS IN D, K194

Wolfgang Amadeus MOZART, 1756-1791 The Choral Public Domain Library

Composed 8 August 1774 for Salzburg Cathedral First WBCF performance: 1993 Summer Singers of Atlanta Most Recent WBCF Performance: 2008-2009 William Baker Festival Singers

Sung in Latin

Kyrie

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Gloria

Glory be to God on high And peace on earth to men of good will. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, We worship Thee, we glorify Thee,

We give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,

Have mercy upon us,

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer, Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

Have mercy upon us,

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high, In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Credo

I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth,

And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God. Born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God. Begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

By Whom all things were made.

Who for us and for our salvation came down from Heaven. He became Incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made Man.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified for us, And was buried.

On the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the

Right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Who together with the Father and the Son is

Worshiped and glorified,

And Who has spoken through the Prophets.

I believe in one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

I await the Resurrection of the dead and the life of the World to come. Amen.

Sanctus et Benedictus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might, Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, Have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world, Grant us your peace.

Christine Freeman, soprano Jamea Sale, alto David White, tenor Michael Carter, bass

Lisa Jackson & Noemi Miloradovic, violin Kent Brauninger, viola John Eadie, cello Kenneth Mitchell, bass Dr. McDonald, organ

Ms. Swanson, conducting

IV

O THOU IN WHOSE PRESENCE

American Traditional arranged by Alice Parker Lawson Gould Music 917

O Thou in Whose presence my soul takes delight, On Whom in affliction I call, My comfort by day and my song in the night, My hope, my salvation, my all.

Ye daughters of Zion, declare have ye seen The star that on Israel shone? Say, if in your tents my Beloved has been, And where with His flock He is gone?

This is my Beloved: His form is divine, His vestments shine odors around. The locks on His head are as grapes on the vine, When autumn with plenty is crowned.

Dr. Baker, conducting

THE HEBREW CHILDREN

American Traditional arranged by Alice Parker Lawson Gould Music 51323

Where now are the Hebrew children? Safe in the Promised Land: Though the furnace flamed around them, God while in their troubles found them, He with love and mercy bound them Safe in the Promised Land.

Where now are the twelve apostles? Safe in the Promised Land: They went through the flaming fire Trusting in the Great Messiah; Holy grace did raise them higher Safe in the Promised Land.

Where now are the holy martyrs, Safe in the Promised Land: Those who washed their robes, and made them White and spotless, pure, and laid them Where no earthly stain could fade them, Safe in the Promised Land.

Where now are the holy Christians, Safe in the Promised Land: There our souls will join the chorus, Saints and angels sing before us, While all heaven is beaming o'er us, Safe in the Promised Land!

THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD

Spiritual arranged by William Dawson Tuskegee Institute Press

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole, There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work in vain, But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul, You can tell the love of Jesus, and say He died for all.

Christine Freeman, soloist

RIDE THE CHARIOT

Spiritual arranged by William Henry Smith Neil A. Kjos Music 1015

I'm gonna ride in the chariot in the morning Lord, I'm gettin' ready for the Judgement Day!

Are you ready, my brother? Oh, yes!
Are you ready for the journey? Oh, yes!
Do you want to see your Jesus? Oh, yes!
I'm waitin' for the chariot, 'cause I'm ready to go.

Are you ready, my sister? Oh, yes!
Are you ready for the journey? Oh, yes!
Do you want to see your Jesus? Oh, yes!
I'm waitin' for the chariot, 'cause I'm ready to go.

Melissa VanHousen, soloist

The William Baker Choral Foundation and The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Lee's Summit, the Reverend Mark McGuire, Rector

For Graciously Providing a Rehearsal and Concert Home for the 2014 Summer Singers!

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The Summer Singers of Kansas City & Symphony Orchestra

Georg Friedrich Händel

Dr. William Baker Music Director

Jamea Sale Choral Assistant

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Dr. Wayne Smith Organist

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For additional information, call 913-403-9223 or email Mail@FestivalSingers.org

CHRISTINE FREEMAN, KC Associate Music Director & Soprano Soloist

Christine Freeman was appointed Associate Music Director of Kansas City ensembles and Senior Vocal Coach for the William Baker Choral Foundation in August 2011. She is a native of Topeka, Kansas. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education, emphasis Voice, and a Master of Music in Choral Pedagogy from the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She was appointed to membership in The William Baker Festival Singers in 2006, and served as Student Intern for the Choral Foundation in the 2007-2008 season, where she conducted Foundation ensembles in Kansas City, Atlanta, and at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston. She has conducted the Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City, along with members of the Kansas City Symphony, in performances of Vivaldi Beatus Vir, Haydn Te Deum, and Mozart Regina Coeli. She appears conducting selections on two Festival Singers recordings: A Festival for Christmas and Promised Land.

Ms. Freeman has been a clinician for honor choirs in Kansas and Missouri. In addition to her work with the Choral Foundation, Mrs. Freeman is a Music Educator and is beginning her second year in the Blue Valley School District instructing middle school choral music. She previously taught elementary and middle school music for eight years in the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas. Mrs. Freeman was recently nominated by her colleagues, and named runnerup, for the Kansas Choral Directors Association "Outstanding Young Choral Director Award." She is currently the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Children's Choirs with KCDA and has organized the Statewide Treble Honor Choir from 2012-2014. With her husband Daniel Freeman, a member of the Festival Singers, she makes her home in Overland Park, Kansas.



JAMEA SALE, KC Choral Assistant & Alto Soloist

Jamea Sale, Choral Assistant, is a native of Colby, Kansas. She graduated from Kansas State University in Manhattan in 1987 with a Bachelor of Music in Voice and Instrumental Music Education, and in 2012 she completed the Master of Music in Vocal/Choral Pedagogy at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. She met rigorous requirements for membership to the International Voice Care Network at St. John's University in 2010. Other memberships include ACDA, NAfME, NATS, and Olathe Music Teachers Association.

Jamea has been a member and soloist with the William Baker Festival Singers and the Summer Singers of Kansas City since 2002, and served as Student Intern for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 concert seasons. She was appointed as Choral Assistant in Kansas City in August 2012.

With a certification in Preschool Musikgarten Education, Jamea led experiential music programs for parents and toddlers for five years. She served as Assistant Choral Director and Vocal Coach at St. James Academy High School in Lenexa, Kansas, for 3 years and has taught Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade music in the Olathe School District. Presently she serves as the Vocal Coach and Choral Assistant for Allegro con Brio & Allegro con Moto. In her Olathe, KS studio, Ms. Sale's clients include students of voice & saxophone, and singers recovering from hoarseness, tension, limited range, or other health problems that affect the singing voice.

DAVID WHITE, Tenor Soloist

David White, Tenor, is a native of Massillon, Ohio. He holds the Bachelor of Arts from Kent State University, where he studied voice with Margaret Palmieri. In Kansas City he was student of the late Thilda Beuing, and presently studies with Arnold Epley. He has been featured by numerous symphony orchestras in oratorio roles in Ohio and Missouri. His passion, however, is the performance and interpretation of art song and German lieder, especially the works of Brahms, Beethoven, Wolf, Vaughan Williams, Gurney, and Britten. He has frequently collaborated with John Schaefer, Canon Musician of the Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. He is a former member of the Trinity Choir. He has appeared in Haydn: *The Creation* and Helvering: *Te Deum* with Dr. William Baker and the Choir of the Faith Lutheran Church in Prairie Village, Kansas. His first appearance with the ensemble of the Choral Foundation was in the 2011 performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with Dr. Baker and the Summer Singers of Kansas City.



MICHAEL CARTER, Bass Soloist

Michael Carter, bass, is a lifelong resident of Overland Park. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and a minor in Spanish from Kansas State University where he sang with four different choirs. He appreciates performing a wide variety of musical styles, from Classical to Modern to the great American Spirituals. Michael has been singing with the William Baker Festival Singers of Kansas City since 2006, and has been featured with them in numerous solo roles.

Michael works as the Director of Missional Life at Christ Church Anglican where he gets to help people find ways to use their gifts and talents to serve others in our city and the world. Michael is passionate about mentoring and tutoring suburban kids as well as Bhutanese refugees trying to make a life for them here in Kansas City. Michael believes that ultimate Frisbee is the greatest sport ever invented by man and tries to play as much as he can.



Steven McDonald, Organist & Accompanist



Steven McDonald joined the staff of the Choral Foundation with the creation of the Summer Singers of Lee's Summit in 2014. Dr. McDonald holds degrees in organ and conducting from the Boston University School for the Arts, the Sweelinck Conservatorium in Amsterdam, and the Doctor of Musical Arts from University of Kansas in Lawrence. He is presently Assistant Professor of Music at Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kansas, and serves as Music Director & Conductor of the Ottawa University Orchestra. He is the former conductor of the Lawrence Chamber Orchestra. Previous positions have included Music Director for the University of Kansas Camerata, the University of Kansas Opera, The Westford Chorus (Massachusetts), the MIT Chamber Orchestra (Massachusetts), and Musica Modus Vivendi at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Church positions have included Church of the Good Shepherd in Reading, Massachusetts, St. Luke's Church in Amsterdam, St. Joseph Church in Wakefield, Massachusetts, St. Michael's Church in Marblehead, Massachusetts, Colonial Church in

Kansas City, and Cherokee Christian Church and Faith Lutheran Church, both in Prairie Village. Dr. McDonald presently serves as Organist for the Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church in Overland Park. He makes his home in Lawrence, Kansas.

The William Baker Choral Foundation

5450 Buena Vista Street, Suite 100, Roeland Park, KS 66205 Kansas City/Lee's Summit: 913.403.9223 Atlanta: 404.909.8357 Cobb/Cartersville: 678-787-9189

The William Baker Festival Singers, Midtown Atlanta, 1985, and Prairie Village, Kansas, 1998 Created in 1985 by William O. Baker and Janis M. Lane as The Gwinnett Festival Singers

> The Summer Singers of Atlanta, Midtown Atlanta, 1990 William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Cobb Summer Singers, Smyrna, Georgia, 2006
The Lynn Swanson Festival Singers, Smyrna, Georgia, 2009
Lynn Swanson, Music Director & Conductor

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The Summer Singers of Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri, 1999 William O. Baker, DMA, Music Director & Conductor

The Summer Singers of Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit, Missouri, 2014 Lynn Swanson & William O. Baker, DMA, Co-Music Directors

The Northwest Georgia Summer Singers, Cartersville, Georgia, 2010, 2014 Charles Nelson, Music Director & Conductor

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