

Valérie Sainte-Agathe

**Valérie Sainte-Agathe, Artistic Director,** has prepared and conducted the San Francisco Girls Chorus since 2013, including performances with renowned ensembles throughout the United States and beyond. Through transformative choral music training, education, and performance, Ms. Sainte-Agathe empowers young women and champions the music of today throughout the choral world.

She most recently joined forces with The King’s Singers and Roomful of Teeth to further SFGC’s creative energy during the COVID-19 pandemic with several unique video and audio projects that were released in spring 2021. This season, Ms. Sainte-Agathe welcomes legendary American folk-jazz vocalist Bobby McFerrin as SFGC Artist-in-Residence.

Other recent highlights include her Carnegie Hall and Barbican Center debuts with the Philip Glass Ensemble, conducting with Michael Riesman in Glass’s Music with Changing Parts; conducting SFGC for the New York Philharmonic Biennial Festival at Lincoln Center; and collaborating with The Knights for the SHIFT Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. Her first recording as SFGC’s Music Director, Final Answer, was released on Orange Mountain Music in February 2018, and her second recording, My Outstretched Hand, was released in July 2019. She also served as Choir Master with Taylor Mac, recipient of MacArthur Foundation's "Genius Grant," for the "Holiday Sauce" production at the Curran Theater in December 2018.

Ms. Sainte-Agathe served as Music Director for the Young Singers program of the Montpellier National Symphony and Opera in France from 1998-2011, and participated in eight recordings with the Montpellier National Orchestra and The Radio France Festival.

In the 2021-2022 season, Ms. Sainte-Agathe will join forces with GRAMMY Award-winning Kronos Quartet and conduct the world premiere of *At War With Ourselves* by Michael Abels throughout the U.S. She will also serve as Artist in Residence in Choral Conducting at the University of the Pacific’s Conservatory of Music in Stockton, CA.