



The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society presents

Hail Mary



Friday, Dec. 12, 1997, 8 p.m.
Eastern Mennonite University

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Lehman Auditorium, Eastern Mennonite University

The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society and Orchestra
Scott Williamson, Music Director
Amy Robertson, Accompanist

with *Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir*
Julia J. White, Artistic Director

THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY CHORAL SOCIETY has brought exciting concerts of fine choral music to Shenandoah audiences since 1970. Formed to sing the Beethoven *Ninth Symphony* with the Shenandoah Valley Music Festival Orchestra in a concert honoring the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth, the Choral Society soon became a permanently organized chorus, presenting its own concerts, many with instrumentalists from the Shenandoah Valley area as well as with the Richmond Symphony and the Fairfax Symphony. The Choral Society usually offers concerts each year during the Christmas season, in the spring, and during the summer. Its repertoire ranges from large classical works to the music of Broadway.

Some singers are professionally trained and music is their vocation, but most are amateurs whose various occupations reflect the community at large. All sing for the joy of it.

The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, Ltd., is a nonprofit membership corporation. Contributions are gratefully received and are tax deductible. The Choral Society has received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

For information about Choral Society activities, write P.O. Box 454, Harrisonburg, VA 22801 or telephone (540) 564-2700.

Program

Vespro della beata Vergine

(Vespers of the Blessed Virgin)
Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

I. Deus in adiutorium

XI. Ave Maris Stella

Antiphon: There is no Rose

Gail Purvis, reader

XII. Sonata Sopra Sancta Maria

XIII. Magnificat

Tracy Sonafelt, Kathryn Thomas-Moyer, soprano
Jennifer Gutshall, Susan Gutshall, alto
John Little, Curtis Nolley, tenor
Alex Cheney, Jim Sluder, baritone
The Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir
Julia J. White, Artistic Director

Marie

Novallis (1772-1801)
Richard Forbes, reader

Ave Maria

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

Salve Regina

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Bogoroditse Devo

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

INTERMISSION

Magnificat

Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)
John Fast, organ

Geburt Mariae (The Birth of Mary)

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)
Scott Williamson, reader

A Virgin Most Pure

arr. Charles Wood (1866-1926)

O Magnum Mysterium

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

Sussex Carol

arr. David Willcocks

Away in the Manger The First Nowell

Translations

I. Deus in Adjutorium

(Tenor)

O God make speed to save me.

(Chorus)

O Lord make haste to helm me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning,

now and for ever,

world without end. Amen. Alleluia.

XI. Ave Maris Stella

(Chorus 1 and 2)

Hail, star of the sea,
life-giving mother of God
and perpetual virgin,
happy gate of heaven.

(Chorus 1)

Receiving that "ave"
from the mouth of Gabriel,
keep us in peace,
reversing the name "Eva."

(Chorus 2)

Loosen the chains from the guilty,
bring forth the light to the blind,
drive out our ills,
ask for blessings for all.

(Soprano and Alto 1)

Show yourself to be his mother:
may he receive through you our prayers
who, born for us,
deigned to be yours.

(Soprano and Alto 2)

Peerless virgin,
gentle above all others,
when we are pardoned for our sins,
make us gentle and pure.

(Tenor and Bass)

Grant us a pure life,
prepare a safe journey,
so that seeing Jesus
we may rejoice for ever.

(Chorus 1 and 2)

Praise be to God the Father,
glory to Christ most high,
and to the Holy Spirit,
triple honour in one. Amen

Antiphon: There is No Rose

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space,
Res miranda.

By that rose we may well see

There be one God in persons three,
Pares forma.

The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis, gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gadeamus.

Leave we all this worldly mirth,
and follow we this joyful birth
Transeamus.

XII. Sonata Sopra Sancta Maria

(Treble Chorus)

Holy Mary, pray for us.

XIII. Magnificat

(Chorus)

My soul doth magnify the Lord

(Tenor 1 and 2)

and my spirit hath rejoiced
in God my savior.

(Tenor 1)

For he hath regarded the lowliness
of his handmaiden, for behold from
henceforth all generations shall call
me blessed.

(Bass 1 and 2)

For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his name.

(Chorus)

And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.

(Alto)

He hath shewed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts.

(Tenor 2)

He hath put down the mighty from
their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

(Soprano 1 and 2)

He hath filled the hungry
with good things
and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy

hath holpen

his servant Israel

(Alto)

as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed forever.

(Tenor 1 and 2)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost.

(Chorus)

As is was in the beginning, is now and
ever shall be world without end.
Amen

Reading: Marie

I see you in a thousand pictures,
Mary, sweetly portrayed;
Yet none of them can depict you
As my soul has been you.

I only know that since then
The world's tumult has drifted away
from me like a dream,
And an ineffably sweet heaven
Is forever in my heart.

Ave Maria

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is
with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen

Salve Regina (Hail Queen)

Hail, O Queen, Mother of mercy;
our life, our sweetness, and our hope:
hail!
To thee we cry, poor banished
children of Eve.
To thee we send up our sighs,
groaning and weeping in this
valley of tears.
Hasten therefore, our Advocate,
and turn your merciful eyes toward us.
And show us Jesus, the blessed fruit
of your womb, after this exile.
O merciful, O pious,
O sweet virgin Mary.

Bogoroditse Devo

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos,
Mary full of grace.
The Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art Thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of Thy womb,
For Thou has borne the Saviour
of our souls.

Reading: Geburt Marie (The Birth of Mary)

Oh, what restraint it must have
cost the angels
not to burst suddenly into song,
as one bursts into tears,
because of their knowing:
that this very night
will witness the birth of the Mother,
she who is destined
to bring forth the son, the Savior,
who shall appear.

Soaring aloft together they silently
pointed the way
where, hidden and isolated,
the farm of Joachim lay.
Oh, how they felt within and around
them the mounting tension,
so great, they longed to attend! But
none was allowed to descend.

Since by this time both were exhausted
from making preparations.
A neighbor's wife came by and was
full of suggestions, but proved
of little help, while aged Joachim,
cautiously, entered
the darkened stable to calm a restless
cow from mooing.
For there had never been a night like this.

O Magnum Mysterium

O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see
the new-born Lord,
lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

*The audience is invited to
join in the singing of the
last verses of these carols.*

Sussex Carol

Verse 4:

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and for evermore. Amen."

Away in a Manger

Verse 3:

Be near me, Lord Jesus;
I ask thee to stay
Close by me for ever,
and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven,
to live with thee there.

The First Nowell

Verse 4:

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth
of nought,
And with his blood mankind
hath bought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!