

*The
Shenandoah Valley
Choral Society*



*2001-2002
Season*



PROGRAM NOTES

Messe Solennelle de Saint Cecilia - Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

French composer Camille Saint-Saens wrote that the ultimate fame of Charles Gounod would rest above all on his religious music. This prediction has yet to be fulfilled. For us, Gounod is essentially a musician of the theater, composer of *Faust* and *Romeo and Juliet*. But few remember that he composed no fewer than sixteen masses.

When Gounod undertook the composition of his *Saint Cecilia Mass* in the summer of 1855, he was above all concerned to render its spirit in a manner that did honor to the patron saint of music: "There is only one difficulty", he wrote. "It is to match in music the demands of this incomprehensible and inexhaustible subject: The Mass!...In music!...by a paltry man!...My God, take pity on me!... ." It was in the church of Saint-Eustache, where he had performed his first mass sixteen years before to the day, that the new *Messe Solennelle* de Saint Cecilia was performed, on 22 November 1855.

Carl de Nys

Melodious Accord - Alice Parker

This "Concert of Praise" is entirely based upon hymn tunes and texts found in the first five editions of a shape-note hymnal entitled *Harmonia Sacra: A Compilation of Genuine Church Music*, published in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The first edition appeared in 1832, and the fifth twenty years later. There have been no fewer than twenty-four editions since the first printing. The editor was Joseph Funk, a Mennonite farmer, schoolmaster and musician, who resided in Singers Glen, a small town just north of Harrisonburg.

This cantata is divided into four movements: *Welcome, Old Testament, New Testament*, and *Farewells* (the Promised Land), with the hymn *Union* as a fitting conclusion. May its performance remind us of the riches of our newly-discovered heritage of folk hymns, and serve to unite us with *Melodious Accord* in His praise.

Melodious Accord was commissioned by the Franconia and Lancaster Choral Singers and first performed by them on 18 May 1974 in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Alice Parker

**The Shenandoah Valley Choral Society gratefully acknowledges
the Harrisonburg First Church of the Brethren
for rehearsal facilities,
the Bridgewater College Music Department for music stands,
and the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren
for this performance facility.**

Messe Solennelle (St. Cecilia)

Charles Gounod

Lucille McDaniel, Organist

I. Kyrie

Soli and Chorus

*Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.*

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

II. Gloria in Excelsis

Soli and Chorus

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.
et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.*

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace
to all those of good will.
We praise thee. We bless thee.
We worship thee. We glorify thee.

*Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.*

We give thanks to thee
according to thy great glory.
Lord God, Heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.

*Domine fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris.*

Lord Jesus Christ, the only
begotten Son.
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

Thou who takest away the sins of
the world,
have mercy upon us.

miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,

Thou who takest away the sins of
the world,
receive our prayer.

suscipe deprecationem nostram.

*Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.*

Thou who sittest at the right hand
of the Father, have mercy upon us.

*Quoniam Tu solus sanctus.
Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.*

For Thou alone art holy.
Thou alone art the Lord.
Thou alone art the most high, Jesus
Christ.

*Cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.*

With the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

III. Credo

*Credo in unum Deum,
Patrem omnipotentem,
factorem coeli et terra,
visibilium omnium, et
invisibilium.
Et in unum Domine
Jesum Christum,
Filium Dei unigenitum,
et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula.
Deum de Deo, Lumen de Lumine,
Deum verum de Deo vero.
Genitum, non factum,
consubstantiali Patri,
per quem omnia facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines,
et propter nostram salutem
descendit de caelis.*

*Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto
ex Maria Virgine.
Et homo factus est.
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis
sub Pontio Pilato:
passus, et sepultus est.*

*Et resurrexit tertia die,
secundum Scripturas.
Et ascendit in caelum,
sedet ad dexteram Patris.*

*Et iterum venturus est cum gloria,
iudicare vivos et mortuos:
cujus regni non erit finis.*

*Et in Spiritum Sanctum
Dominum, et vivificantem:
qui ex Patre Filio que procedit*

qui cum Patre, et Filio

Soli and Chorus

I believe in one God,
The Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and
invisible.
And I believe 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 substance with the Father
by whom all things were made.
Who for us
and for our salvation
came down from heaven.

And was incarnate by the Holy
Spirit
of the Virgin Mary.
And was made man.
Crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered, and was buried.

And on the third day he rose again,
according to the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and
he sits at the right hand of the
Father.
He shall come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead;
and of his kingdom there will be no
end.

And 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

*simul adoratur, et con glorificatur,
qui locutus est per Prophetas.*

*Et unam, sanctam, Catholicam
et Apostolicam Ecclesiam.*

*Confiteor unum baptisma
in remissionem peccatorum.*

*Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum,
et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.*

IV. Offertory

V. Sanctus

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeli et terra
gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis. Amen.*

VI. Benedictus

*Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini,
Hosanna in excelsis.*

VII. Agnus Dei

*Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,*

miserere nobis.

*Agnus Dei
qui tollis peccata mundi,*

dona nobis pacem. Amen.

is adored and glorified,
who spoke to us through the
Prophets.

And I believe in one, holy, catholic
and Apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism
for the remission of sins.

I await the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Organ

Tenor Solo and Chorus

Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full
of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Amen.

Soprano Solo and Chorus

Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.

Soli and Chorus

Lamb of God,
who takest away the sins of the
world,
have mercy upon us.

Lamb of God,
who takest away the sins of the
world,
grant us peace. Amen.

Intermission

Melodious Accord

Alice Parker

Aimee DeSotel, harp

Chuck Dotas, trumpet

James Kluesner, trumpet

Andrew Lankford, trombone

T.J. Miles, trombone

I. Welcome

1. House of our God (*Zion*)
2. Lord, I approach thy mercy seat (*Burford*)
3. Come, ye disconsolate

II. Old Testament

4. Be joyful in God
5. The voice of my beloved sounds (*Spring*)
6. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah (*Tamworth*)

III. New Testament

7. When I survey the wondrous Cross (*Retirement*)
8. Come, O thou traveler unknown (*Vernon*)
9. O how happy are they (*New Concord*)

IV. Farewells

10. That glorious day is drawing nigh (*Zion's Light*)
11. How sweet to reflect (*Eden of Love*)
12. How pleasant thus to dwell below (*The Parting Hymn*)
13. God moves in a mysterious way (*Union*)

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**Anne Wick, soprano.** Anne's performing spans the world of music from opera to cabaret. She has been the *Messiah* soloist with the Staunton Ovation Singers for the past ten years. Guest soloist appearances include Fine Arts in Rockbridge, Chamber Choir and Arts Chorale of the University of Michigan, and many area churches. She has performed with Wolf Trap Opera and Ash-Lawn Opera and has been in numerous local musical productions with Blue Ridge Theater Festival, ShenanArts, Oak Grove Theater, and Waynesboro Players. Appearing

under the name of "Broadway and Beyond" she has performed for numerous groups including Community Concert programs in North Carolina, Northern Virginia, and Maryland. She holds degrees in music from Converse College and the University of Michigan and currently teaches voice at Mary Baldwin College, Stuart Hall School, and her home studio.

**Beth Harter, contralto.** Native to Harrisonburg, Beth graduated from James Madison University in 1977 with a Bachelor of Music Education degree, concentrating in voice. In 1991, she received a Master of Education degree from the University of Virginia with an emphasis in Educational Psychology/Gifted Education. Currently she teaches general music at Elkton Elementary School. Beth has held a variety of offices in state and local educational organizations. She often adjudicates at district and state choral functions and serves on writing and revision teams for the Virginia Standards of Learning for Music and local music curriculum.

When possible, Beth sings! She enjoys singing with the Shenandoah Valley Choral Society, the Bach Festival, at area churches, and every day in front of her students. Beth resides in Port Republic, Virginia with her husband Stuart and her daughter Margot.

**Les Helmuth, tenor.** Les received his music degree from Eastern Mennonite University in 1978. He has appeared with the Shenandoah Valley Choral Society in Haydn's *The Creation*, and Vaughn Williams' *Serenade to Music* and previous performances of Handel's *Messiah*. He has also appeared with the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival in Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, and Schubert's *Mass in E flat Major*, a premier performance of *The Other Itinerary* (a collection of Bach arias, duets, and quartets) and is the cantor for the Sunday morning Leipzig service of the Bach Festival. Mr. Helmuth has appeared with the EMU Chamber Singers and the Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir in concert, most recently in the Chamber Singers' performance of Britten's *St. Nicholas*. He has distinguished himself in a number of operatic roles as King Kaspar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Frederic in *Pirates of Penzance*, The Defendant in *Trial by Jury*, and Timothy in Alice Parker's *Singer's Glen*. A certified fund-raising executive, Mr. Helmuth is the director of development at Eastern Mennonite High School in Harrisonburg.

**Jim Harman, bass.** Jim is a native of Winchester, Virginia and graduated from Shenandoah College and Conservatory of Music. He received his Master in Music degree in Music History and Literature from George Washington University and a Certificate in School Administration from George Mason University. Currently, Jim is enrolled in the doctoral program at Shenandoah University. He has taught public school music in Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Newport News, and Winchester, where he was choir director at John Handley High School for fourteen years. For the last two years, he has served as Supervisor of Music for Loudoun County Public Schools. Over the years, he has